

State of Alaska  
Office of History and Archaeology  
Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRs)  
Introductory Presentation



# AHRS Staff



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# What is the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS)

The AHRS is a cultural resources data repository with information on almost 48,000 reported cultural resources (archaeological sites, buildings, structures, objects or locations, etc.), from prehistoric to modern, and some paleontological sites within the State of Alaska.

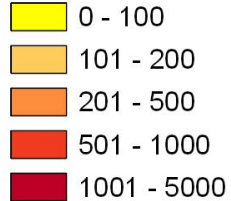
Office of History and Archaeology (OHA)  
on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor of the Atwood Building,  
Anchorage.



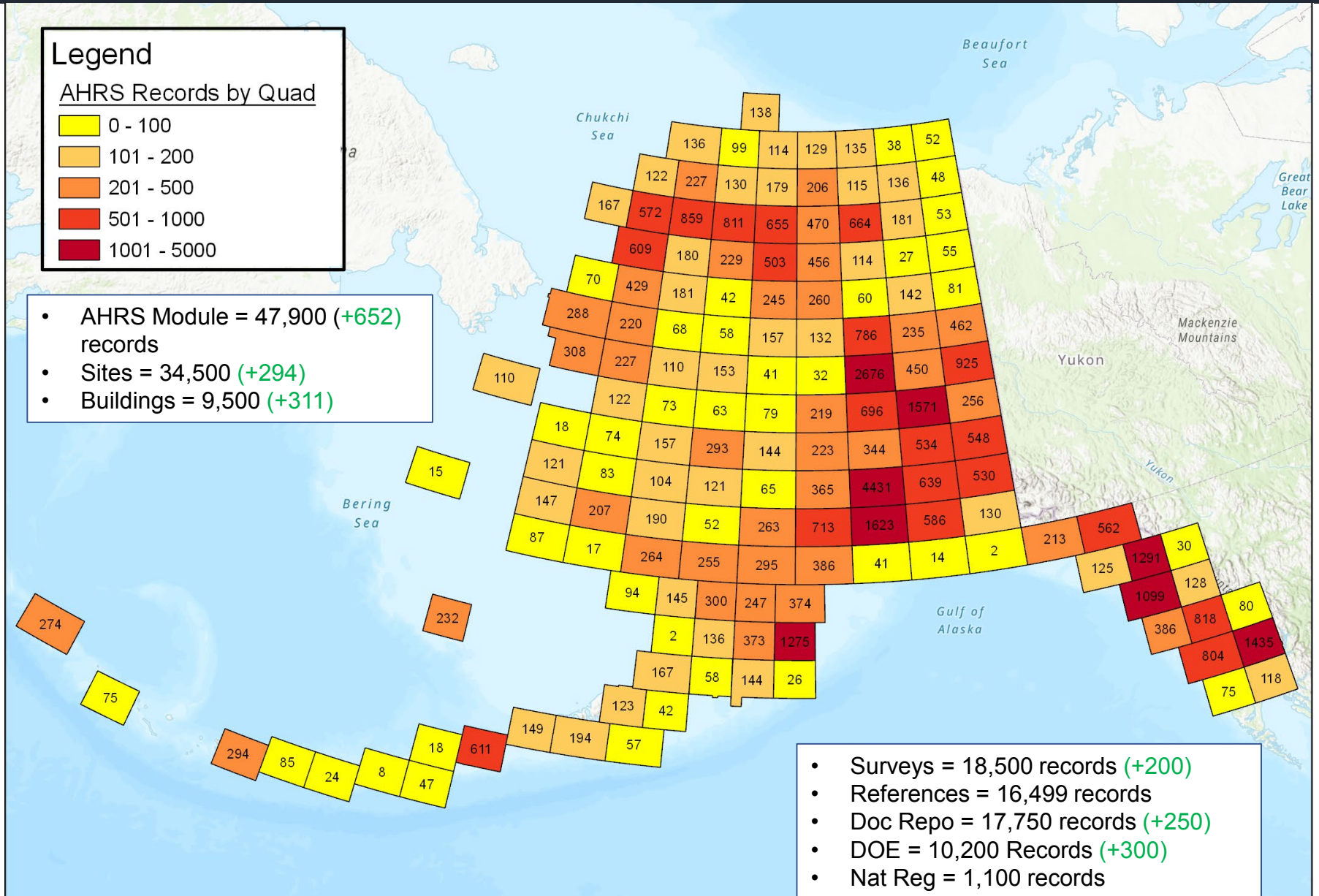
# AHRS Module Record Density Map

## Legend

### AHRS Records by Quad



- AHRS Module = 47,900 (+652) records
- Sites = 34,500 (+294)
- Buildings = 9,500 (+311)



- Surveys = 18,500 records (+200)
- References = 16,499 records
- Doc Repo = 17,750 records (+250)
- DOE = 10,200 Records (+300)
- Nat Reg = 1,100 records



# 2018-2019 – New Version of the IBS

- Launched at the end of October
- Consisted of almost a year of rewriting and testing code
- Pros
  - ❑ Is much faster across all types of connections,
  - ❑ New underlying code makes changes easier to complete,
  - ❑ Functions that maybe didn't work so well, now work well.
    - AHRS filters
- Cons
  - ❑ Doesn't always play nice with current browser protections
    - Pop-up blocker
    - Unsafe scripts
  - ❑ Connection issues; not terminating sessions
  - ❑ Some functions that worked well before are broken or are continually breaking.

# 2018-2019 – New Version of the AHRS Forms Website

New Version of Web Page.

Focus on Organization

Introduces new AHRS Form and Instructions

Will also have New AHRS Project Form and Instructions soon

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OHA HOME PROGRAMS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OHA NEWS ABOUT US FREQUENTLY USED

Parks Home / Office of History and Archaeology / AHRS / Alaska Heritage Resources Survey Forms

## Alaska Heritage Resources Survey Forms

### AHRS-IBS Data Forms

- [Alaska Building Inventory \(PDF\)](#)
- [AHRS Site Form \(MS Word\) and Instructions\(PDF\)](#)
- [AHRS Site Fields \(MS Word\)](#)
- [AHRS Investigation Form \(MS Word\) and Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- [OHA Report Cover Letter\(PDF\)](#)
- [AHRS Continuation Form\(PDF\)](#)

### Guidelines

- [AHRS-IBS Policies and Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)
- [Steps for Gaining Access to the AHRS-IBS \(PDF\)](#)
- [Shapefile Submission Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)
- [Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains \(PDF\)](#)
- [National Register of Historic Places](#)
- [OHA Report Checklist \(PDF\)](#)

### OHA, AHRS Office Forms

- [AHRS-IBS Report Viewing Waiver \(PDF\)](#)
- [AHRS-IBS Access Waiver Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [AHRS-IBS Individual User Agreement Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [Certification of AHRS-IBS Export Data Destruction](#)
- [Corporate Agency User Agreement \(PDF\)](#)
- [OHA Litigation Disclosure Form \(PDF\)](#)
- [Request for AHRS-IBS Data Export Form \(PDF\)](#)

Most of these forms are PDF files and have been optimized for use with Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free online.

NOTE: You may encounter an error message that starts with "Please Wait. . ." after the PDF attempts to open. This is because some PDF files are XFA-based PDF forms. [Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox native PDF viewers will not open XFA-based pdfs.](#) We are in the process of updating our forms to replace XFA-based PDF forms to avoid this issue in the future. Please use Adobe Acrobat Reader to open and use these files.

Program contacts: AHRS Coordinator [oha.ibs@alaska.gov](mailto:oha.ibs@alaska.gov) or Jeffrey Weinberger ([jeffrey.weinberger@alaska.gov](mailto:jeffrey.weinberger@alaska.gov)) at 907-269-8718.

# 2018-2019 - AHRS Site Form Revision

- Developed in **Word**.
  - Also in **Excel**.
- More closely aligned with module fields.
- Also includes pages for site location, artifact summary tables, and representative photos.
- Can easily be changed.

## Alaska Heritage Resources Survey Site Form

Date Received:

Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archaeology  
550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1310 Anchorage, AK 99501-3565  
Phone: (907) 269-8718; Fax (907) 269-8908  
<http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/oha/index.htm>

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1. **AHRS Number:** Click or tap here to enter text.
2. **Description:** Click or tap here to enter text.
3. **Significance Summary:** Click or tap here to enter text.
4. **Associations:** Click or tap here to enter text.
5. **Location Info:** Click or tap here to enter text.
6. **Location Reliability:** Choose an item.
7. **AHRS Resource Nature:** Choose an item.
8. **Resnat Subtype:** Choose an item.
9. **Resource Keywords:** Click or tap here to enter text.
10. **Site Area (Acres):** Click or tap here to enter text.
11. **Period Codes:** Choose an item. Choose an item. Choose an item.
12. **Associated Dates:** Click or tap here to enter text.
13. **Cultures:** Click or tap here to enter text.
14. **Historic Function:** Click or tap here to enter text.
15. **Current Function:** Click or tap here to enter text.
16. **Condition Code:** Choose an item.
17. **Destruct Codes:** Choose an item. Choose an item. Choose an item.
18. **Destruct Year:** Click or tap here to enter text.
19. **Owner Info:** Click or tap here to enter text.
20. **Source Reliability:** Choose an item. |
21. **Form Author:** Click or tap here to enter text.
22. **Date Completed:** Click or tap to enter a date.
23. **Record Status:** Choose an item.
24. **Other Number(s):** Click or tap here to enter text.
25. **Attachments** (File Name):

# AHRS Form Instructions

information needs to be changed. The AHRS Staff will review any record updates submitted and decide the best course of action for updating the form.

- Description field prose should be written in the present tense with a temporal reference. Avoid generic descriptions that are relatively uninformative.
- Reference where the information is coming from (project, report, etc.).
- Paragraph formatting will, for the most part, not be kept so keep formatting to a minimum.

#### 4. Significance Summary

Use this field to describe what is significant enough about this resource to make it a cultural resource. If possible, identify a context(s) which this resource might represent. Note that initial significance summaries can be as broad as needed but should not be left blank (i.e. this is the cultural part of the cultural resource). The significance field should be expanded and more developed for a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) recommendation and then again in a National Register Nomination (NRN).

Recommendations can be included in this field, including DOE and NRN material if known at the time of submission.

- Paragraph formatting will, for the most part, not be kept so keep formatting to a minimum.

#### 5. Associations

This field is used to associate the specific site with a larger group of sites (which may or may not be a district), landforms, regions, projects, etc. Usually the associated name or abbreviation is commonly known and related with this site (i.e. military bases/installations, archaeological district, etc.). Association keywords may also relate the cultural resource with commonly understood cultural contexts.

#### 6. Location Information

In this field, describe the location of the site and how to get there. Describe notable landforms or natural features that would help locate the site (2<sup>nd</sup> terrace overlooking the Yukon River. . . .) and directions or distances from the site location to natural landmarks. The location information should describe and compliment coordinates or other information used to place the location on the AHRS Mapper. Street addresses can be entered here.

#### 7. Location Reliability

Choose the most appropriate option from the drop-down menu. Usually the default [Location exact and site existence verified (1)] will be the most appropriate.

#### 8. AHRS Resnat (AHRS Resource Nature)

This **resnat** (resource nature) field is a pull-down menu with a list of resource types as defined by the National Register of Historic Places. It includes Site, Building, Structure, Object, and District. If the cultural resource does not fall into one of the categories above, please leave this blank. You can find a list of cultural resource types for each category in National Register Bulletin No.15.

- A district is defined as an aggregate of any combination of the other four types of resources.
- A building with a partial or collapsed roof is a ruin (building), collapsed buildings are a site.
- Note that standing buildings should be recorded using the AHRS Building Form. That form has more fields associated with the definitions in OHA's Historic Building Survey Manual and Style Guide (2018).

#### 9. Resnat Subtype

Choose the appropriate subfield related to the AHRS Resource Nature choice above. The **Resnat** Subtype should be chosen in conjunction with the AHRS **Resnat** field. At this time, most choices in this drop-down field are defaults (except for "Bridges" under the "Structure" Resource Nature) and should be chosen accordingly.

#### 10. Resource Keywords

This field should be used for keywords and phrases that succinctly describe what the site is (lithic scatter, two-story residence, etc.). More than one keyword or phrase can be entered if they apply to the resource.

#### 11. Site Area (Acres)

Site area in acres, from 0.01 to 9999. If the area is greater than 9999 acres, it will be written such that  $X^n$  is equal to the exponential power (i.e.  $47X^3=47000$  acres), so that it can be put in the database.

#### 12. Period Codes

Choose the appropriate period codes for the cultural resource in question. Prehistoric, Historic, Protohistoric, Paleontological, Modern. If it has more than one temporal component, choose more than one period (three dropdowns are present).

#### 13. Associated Dates

Enter radiocarbon dates, construction dates, occupation date range, etc., if known.

- Modifiers can be placed before the date and can include: mid, circa, **approx** (circa), before, pre, prior to, early, late, post, etc.
- If it's a single date it can be entered in any of the following formats: AD 1920s, AD 1902, BP 1000±10, BC 2370, late AD 1920s or early AD 1930s, prior to 1942.
- If it's a series of dates the different dates can be entered in sequential order separated by a comma.
- If it's a bracketing set of dates it can be entered in any of the following formats: BC 190 to AD 1820, BP 4795±162 to AD 1900s, BP 1000 to present.
- Remember, DO NOT USE "≈" to indicate circa, write it out.



# OHA Archaeology Guidelines and the AHRS

Archaeology Guidelines are under development.

- A goal is to set minimum standards.
  - ✓ Check out other state guideline documents.
  - Chance for comments, what's most important to you?

## AHRS-IBS

- CRM Investigation Terms.
  - Currently.
    - Not well defined.
    - Not Promoted.
      - Led to adapting own terms.
      - Misclassification in the AHRS.

## Guidelines for Conducting Fieldwork.

- Archaeological Site - Specific Fields.

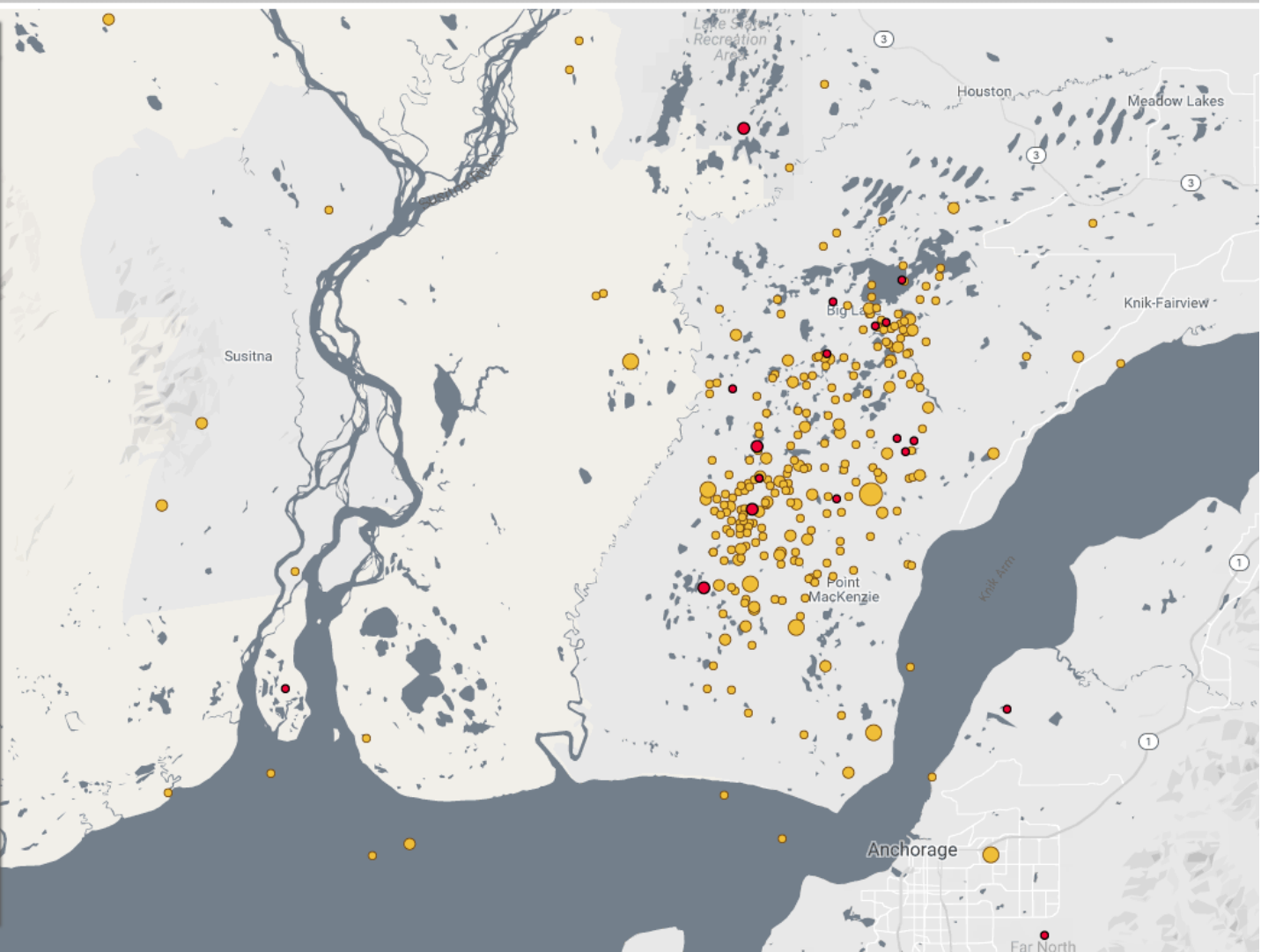
Proposed/Expanded Field List
AHRS Number
Site Name
Other Site Name
Associations
Description
Significance Summary
Location Information
Location Reliability
Owner Info
AHRS RESNAT = Site
Site Type = Default
Resource Description
Region = Land Resource Areas (2004)*
Physiographic Setting
Regional Geomorphological Setting
Local Environmental Setting
Site Soils and Stratigraphy
Slope Angle
Drainage System
Closest Water Source
Distance to Closest Water Source
Current Landuse
Surface Visibility
Surface Conditions
Investigation Type
Investigation Strategy
Site Length (m)
Site Width (m)
Site Stratigraphic depth (m)
Site Area
Confident of Site Boundaries = Yes/No
Estimated Percentage of Site Excavated
Time spent at Site
Weather conditions when inventoried
Artifacts Recovered - Y/N
Artifact Types
Condition Code
Period Codes
Associated Dates
Radiometric Dates
Cultures
Historic Function
Current Function
Destruct Code
Destruct Year
Site Recording Date
Assigned To
Source Reliability
Date Issued
Card Status
Additional Comments

# Earthquake Aftershocks North of Anchorage



- Earthquakes
- Tsunamis
- Volcanoes
- Seismic Network

Mag	Event Information
1.5	February 26, 09:40 PM 21 mi N of Whittier
1.7	February 26, 08:34 PM 23 mi SE of Paxson
1.3	February 26, 08:14 PM 14 mi N of Elmendorf AFB
1.4	February 26, 08:09 PM 16 mi NW of Hatcher Pass
1.4	February 26, 07:59 PM 14 mi N of Elmendorf AFB
0.9	February 26, 07:53 PM 7 mi SE of Nenana
1.2	February 26, 07:44 PM 40 mi SW of Cantwell
1.3	February 26, 06:41 PM 17 mi SE of Redoubt Volcano
1.8	February 26, 06:28 PM 66 mi N of Arctic Village
2.1	February 26, 06:12 PM 16 mi NW of Elmendorf AFB
0.9	February 26, 06:02 PM 15 mi S of Kantishna
1.8	February 26, 05:12 PM 17 mi S of Willow
1.6	February 26, 05:07 PM 21 mi S of Mt. Spurr
1.7	February 26, 04:43 PM 26 mi SW of Cantwell
<b>3.2</b>	<b>February 26, 04:26 PM</b> <b>44 mi S of Cantwell</b>



Google

# OHA - Disaster Response Webpage



*Ugheli Dzaen!*  
(Atnakenaeg'e) Good day!

myAlaska Departments State Employees



Alaska Department of Natural Resources

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## Disasters and Historic Resources

In the event of a disaster, the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) is prepared to provide assistance and updated information to assist disaster responders, local officials, owners, and the public on historic property damage issues as a result of a disaster. In addition, OHA may also be able to provide experts to assist in the post-disaster assessment of damaged historic sites, including archeological sites, for boroughs, cities, municipalities, and tribes. (much of the following guidance was taken from the California SHPOs disaster preparedness [webpage](#))



*Eagle Custom House after 2009 flood*

### Disaster Response and Historic Resources

#### Identify, Evaluate, and Document Resources

OHA can provide state database information on historic properties within the disaster area. It is important to cross reference the list of damaged buildings with historic property lists and work with the local jurisdiction to ensure that damaged historic resources are properly identified and addressed. Maintain contact with local jurisdiction decisions on how damaged buildings are treated.

• [NRHP Listed and Eligible Built Environment Historic Properties Map.](#)

In response to the November 30, 2018 earthquake, Anchorage and immediate Matanuska-Susitna Borough Areas.

NRHP Listed and Eligible x

soa-dnr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=9a08e2ac31ce4345ad9988fa553ef943

## NRHP Listed and Eligible Built Environment

Anchorage and Mat-Su Valley, Alaska

Legend Layers Basemap gallery Overview map Measure Details Share Print

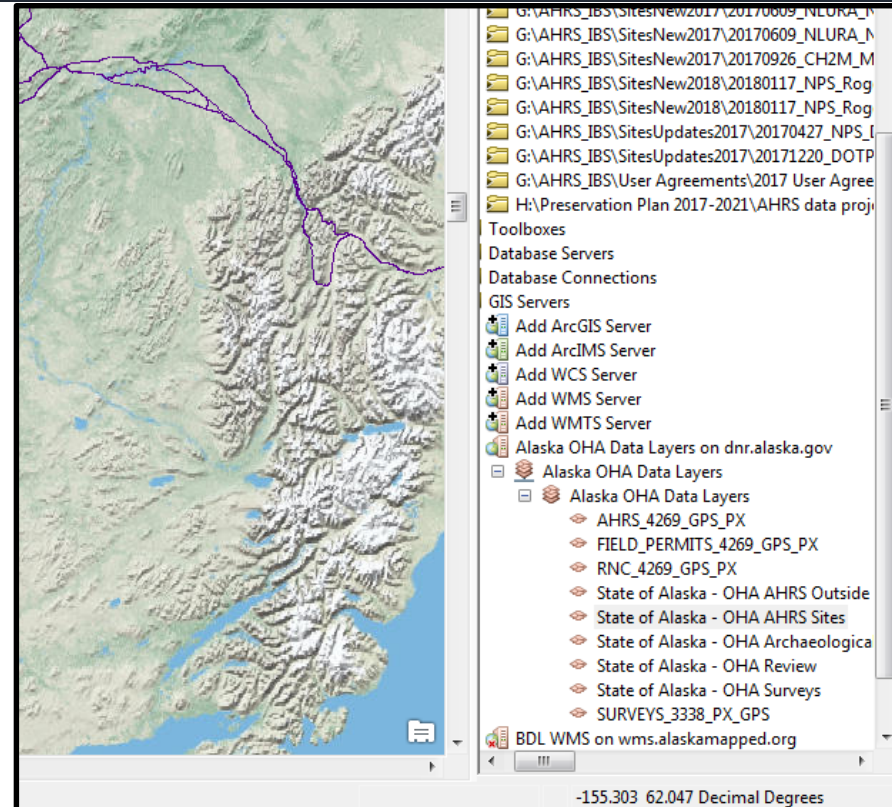
AHRS_Number	ANC-04056
Site_Name	Block 13 FHA Army Housing Historic District
Description	<p>The Block 13 Army Housing Historic District has 28 single family houses, an alley, and one small cross street. Sixteen houses, the alley, and Barrow Street are considered contributing, twelve houses are considered non-contributing. Two of the non-contributing houses were constructed outside of the district's period of significance; the remaining ten non-contributing houses have been modified by large additions and changes that significantly alter their original form, symmetry, massing, and materials. Four houses were demolished in the 1970s when A Street was widened, and the four vacant lots were combined to make green space. Neither the vacant lots nor the noncontributing houses overwhelm the historic character of the district; in fact, the green space along A Street helps define and separate the neighborhood. The district is bounded to the north by East 10th Avenue, to the east by Cordova Street, to the south by East 11th Avenue, and to the west by A Street. A narrow alley, used for access to rear-facing garages and driveways, divides the lots between East 10th Avenue and East 11th Avenue, and stretches from A Street across Barrow Street to Cordova Street. Sidewalks line the streets in the neighborhood.</p>
Significance	<p>The Block 13 historic district is a unified neighborhood of 28 evenly-spaced residential homes. Sixteen of the houses are considered contributing buildings; twelve are non-contributing. The district has Barrow Street and an alley between East 10th and East 11th avenues that are contributing to the district. The neighborhood was planned and constructed in 1940 in response to World War II military build-up in Anchorage, to provide family housing for military officers and enlisted men. Block 13 retains historic integrity with most of the properties that define the district's historic character possessing integrity. The relationship among the district's resources has seen little change since its period of significance and the district still conveys the sense of a planned Federal Housing Administration (FHA) neighborhood.</p>
Resource_Nature	District
Period	Historic
Condition	Normal state of weathering, undisturbed by vandalism, construction or abnormal weathering such as flooding or earthquakes (A)
Comparative_Significance	Local
Status	Listed -National Register of Historic Places (NHR)
Owner_Type	Private

# ArcGIS Online – Explorer for ArcGIS

- Available for iOS and Android
- Can access public maps
  - Don't need an account
- Can utilize a variety of base maps available for your area of interest.
- Explorer already has a number of tools built in.
- It can access and use phone hardware, specifically GPS.
- Can access data wherever there is internet access

# Other AHRS Topics

- Increased Use of GIS
  - Anchorage/Mat-Su DOE and NRN Web Map
  - Alaska Known Sites Database / FIRE
- Survey Layer Polygons / Survey Module
  - DOT and BLM funding
    - BLM Project Deadline
  - Form and Module Changes to meet data request.
- Project polygons request to consultants and agencies



# OHA Report Checklist.

- Official OHA Guidelines as of 1/1/2017
- On OHA Website – Historic Preservation Series #3.
- Are Agencies and Consultants using this?

For the AHRS, the goal is to make reports both more informative and consistent.

“Good information in, Good information out.”

✓	✗	N/A	<b>AGENCY INFORMATION, PROJECT DESCRIPTION, SCOPE</b>
			The name & contact information for the responsible agency or requesting party is provided.
			Project description is clear & the scope of work is comprehensive.
			Summary of consultation efforts is provided.
			Report submittal checklist/cover sheet is provided and complete.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>REPORT QUALITY</b>
			Report clearly written, well-organized & formatted, & free of typos & grammatical errors.
			Maps, photographs, figures, & drawings are appropriate, clear, legible; adequately labeled & numbered.
			In-text & bibliographic references are complete & accurate.
			The report is free of factual errors.
			The documentation provides the preparer(s) names, affiliation, & contact information.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>INTRODUCTION &amp; AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)</b>
			The objectives of the current investigation are clearly stated.
			APE is described/discussed clearly & a figure showing the APE is provided.
			The landownership status of the project area is provided (e.g., State, Federal, private).
✓	✗	N/A	<b>BACKGROUND &amp; HISTORIC CONTEXT</b>
			The relevant regional & local environmental context is discussed.
			The report includes a relevant historic context.
			Previous cultural resource investigations have been considered & incorporated into the report.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>RESEARCH DESIGN &amp; METHODOLOGY</b>
			The report provides a coherent research design.
			Methodology, techniques, & results are appropriate to the project's purposes & goals.
			Investigation methodology is clear (Phase I, II, or III) & the use of a particular investigation approach is justified.
			Number of acres surveyed is provided.
			Special conditions or biases that may affect the survey results are identified & discussed.
			Surveyed areas are detailed in the text.
			Statistical manipulations & special techniques are correctly applied & described.
			Shovel test locations & other sampling units are clearly described & mapped.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>RESULTS</b>
			Cultural resources are adequately described by resource type (district, site, building, structure, object).
			Site descriptions are clear & comprehensive.
			Site locations, boundaries, & distribution are described, & depicted on a figure/map. Boundaries are justified.
			Site sketch maps are provided.
			All sites have AHRS numbers & are referenced prominently in text, figures, photographs, maps, etc.
			Construction & alteration dates are provided for buildings & structures.
			For historic districts, resources are categorized as contributing/non-contributing & mapped accordingly.
			Artifacts are described according to appropriate categories & nomenclature.
			Artifacts are appropriately inventoried, photographed, or drawn.
			The deposition of artifacts is clearly described/depicted on sketch maps/figures.
			Cultural resources are tied to the appropriate historic context & in terms of human cultural behavior.
			Results are related to broader theoretical, methodological, & descriptive concerns in anthropology, archaeology, & history and/or concerns listed in established historic contexts.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>SITE SIGNIFICANCE</b>
			The potential National Register-eligibility of all sites is considered.
			All the applicable National Register criteria & criteria considerations have been explored.
			Eligibility recommendations address area of significance, period of significance, cultural affiliation, etc.
			If NRHP-criteria apply, then a discussion of the seven aspects of integrity is provided.
			Site forms are referenced & provided separately from the report, as appropriate.
✓	✗	N/A	<b>SUMMARY &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
			The documentation provides appropriate recommendations to avoid or minimize impacts.
			Clear management recommendations are provided.
			A finding of effect is provided & justified.

# THE END

*Thank you for your time and attention*

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