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## Deadline Extended for 10 Most

Applications can be found at [www.aahp-online.net/10-most-endangered](http://www.aahp-online.net/10-most-endangered)

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (AAHP) is extending the deadline for nominations of Alaska's Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties for 2018 to April 30, 2018. The list is announced each year and is intended to bring public awareness to Alaska's threatened historic properties. Heightened awareness often leads to increased support for the conservation of endangered historic properties, which are assets important to tourism, economic development, and the cultural heritage of Alaska. AAHP has been identifying the Most Endangered Historic Properties since 1991, 27 years!

The Ten Most Endangered Grant Program funds hands-on preservation work on endangered properties and serves as seed money to leverage funding from other sources. The program calls attention to threatened properties that define our great state, the people that live here and the identity that we share. The nominations for this program are submitted by individuals and organizations living throughout Alaska.

Contact: Carmen Bydalek, Administrator  
 Phone: (907) 929-9870, E-mail: [akpreservation@gmail.com](mailto:akpreservation@gmail.com)

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**About AAHP**

*The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (AAHP) was founded in 1982 as a private, nonprofit corporation. AAHP is dedicated to the preservation of Alaska's prehistoric and historic heritage as manifested in its buildings and sites. AAHP aids in historic preservation projects across Alaska and monitors and supports legislation to promote historic preservation, serving as a liaison between local, statewide, and national historic preservation groups. Additionally, AAHP publishes a quarterly newsletter and holds educational workshops.*

### Recruiting for AAHP Board Members

Are you energetic, positive-minded, and enthusiastic about historic preservation in Alaska? If so, consider surrounding yourself with like-minded people at AAHP!

AAHP is currently looking for individuals throughout Alaska to serve on our Board of Directors. Meeting once a month via teleconference, the Board of Directors supports the preservation of Alaska's prehistoric and historic resources through its education, promotion, and advocacy activities.

If you are interested in participating on the Board, please contact AAHP at 907-929-9870 or [akpreservation@gmail.com](mailto:akpreservation@gmail.com).

### Spring Salutations

**The Board of Directors and Staff  
of the Alaska Association for  
Historic Preservation  
Wish you a Happy Spring!  
With much planting and growth**



### AAHP Staff Changes

AAHP would like to welcome new staff Member Carmen Bydalek

### FY18 Federal Government Spending Bill Includes Important Increases for Historic Preservation

A new funding bill was released the week of March 23. The bill provides funding until September and includes \$96.91 million for the Historic Preservation Fund. This is a \$16 million increase last years budget. The budget includes \$8 million for the Save America's Treasures program, which previously received no funding, \$1 million more than FY17 for SHPO & THPO offices, \$10 million for the American Battlefield Protection Program, and \$5 million for a new competitive grant program to revitalize historic properties of national, state and local significance.

The Heritage Partnership Program also saw an increase in funding, with a \$500,000 raise from last years budget, totaling at \$20.32 million. This money will go to support National Heritage Areas.

The 20 percent federal Historic Tax Credit for certified historic structures still remains in effect, although it will now be taken over a 5 year period at 4 percent per year.

For more information please visit the following website: <http://preservationaction.org>

By Janet Matheson



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## Jesse Lee Home in Jeopardy

A residential home for children displaced by the tuberculosis epidemic, the Jesse Lee Home campus holds the last remaining ward of the Seward Sanitarium, where the only thoracic surgeon in the Territory of Alaska was recognized internationally as a leader in health care research and management. His efforts in developing a cure for tuberculosis were acknowledged by an award of the Lorraine Cross.

In 1927, only four years after Native Alaskans received citizenship and the right to vote, 13-year-old Unangan/Aleut, Jesse Lee Home resident Benny Benson's design for the Alaska State flag won unanimously from a field of 142 entries. The first state flag was sewn by an Eskimo, Jesse Lee Home seamstress Fanny "Pineapple" Kearns. Eight gold stars first hit the blue sky in a dedication ceremony of the Jesse Lee Home's Balto building on the day we now celebrate as Alaska Flag Day.

Federal New Market Tax Credit and Historic Preservation Tax Credit partners were lined up to match the funds appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature. Unfortunately, a change to the Walker Administration and an unprecedented economic downturn led to the re-appropriation of nearly all the Jesse Lee Home funds to the Department of Transportation several years ago.

The volunteer Board of Directors of the Friends of Jesse Lee Home found themselves without the means to maintain the stabilization of the buildings or meet the requirements of the purchase of the structure from the City of Seward.

The deadline for conducting activities such as hazardous waste abatement and running utilities is coming to a close, and the City of Seward has made it's intent to demolish the property should it revert back due to non-compliance clear. Efforts to pressure the Walker Administration/DCEED Commissioner Mike Navarre to move the remaining funds to the Department of Natural Resources, where they can be administered under the State Historic Preservation Officer and matched with Historic Preservation Tax Credits, have been ongoing.

There is enough funding in the grant left to accomplish the purchase requirements and maintain the stabilization, but the money would need to be re-appropriated this legislative session, and expended in the summer of 2018.

National historic preservation experts have concluded that while they may look dilapidated and run down, the structures are in good shape. If the stabilization can be maintained, the buildings will be available to be put back into service for a cost that is significantly less than the price of like construction.

By Dorene M. Lorenz  
For further information  
Please contact  
dorenemlorenz@me.com

Friends of the Jesse  
Lee Home



## <NN> Cannery History Project: Documenting Cannery Work, People & History Update

AAHP's program, The <NN> Cannery History Project, is a public history endeavor that infuses education, preservation, and interpretation with community engagement.

The <NN> Cannery History Project aims to meet three objectives by 2021, including listing the NN cannery complex at South Naknek in the National Register of Historic Places, developing a digital storytelling pilot program that teaches local students to craft films based on cannery work and culture in order to stimulate community participation and project longevity, and to curate and design a traveling exhibition with the Alaska State Museum called Mug Up to ensure that the lives of cannery people will be better understood and valued by the general public.



The technical assistance provided by NPS and initial fieldwork started in summer 2016 resulted in the completion of a Building Inventory and Assessment of the site's 50-plus buildings.

In 2017, fieldwork assignments consisted of collecting Alaska Historic Resource Survey data, conducting an archaeological resource survey, interviewing former cannery workers, and consulting local residents about the project during a "Mug-Up Community Conversation" session at the South Naknek Library.

To date, the NN Cannery History Project has met in Juneau with museum staff to begin exhibit planning, produced a seven minute interpretive video, covered in print media and radio, participated in numerous public engagement events, developed a community engagement survey and forms and developed an interactive project website ([nncanneryproject.com](http://nncanneryproject.com)).

In summer 2018, our team will return to the site with museum curators to collect both artifacts and recently discovered APA records (which will be accessioned into the Alaska State Archives), while a National Park Service's historic architect will scan the "White House," one of the cannery's most historical significant buildings, using a High Definition Laser Scanner.

Besides the technical assistance supplied by NPS, financial support for the <NN> Cannery History Project has come from multiple sources. Between August 2017 and December 2017 support has come from the National Endowment of Humanities, who awarded the project a \$60,000 Creating Humanities Community Grant for exhibit development; The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation who awarded \$2,600 for research/travel; and the National Park Service who awarded a \$48,668 Underrepresented Communities Grant for the National Register nomination and digital storytelling workshop.

**Continued on Page 5**

**<NN> Cannery History Project: Documenting Cannery Work, People & History Update**

Continued from page 4



So far the <NN> Cannery History Project has raised \$10,000 in individual donations. A \$50,000 NPS Maritime Heritage Grant has been submitted in collaboration with the University of Alaska Fairbanks to conduct interviews with ten former cannery workers. If funded, the interviews will supply first-hand accounts for the nomination and exhibit, as well as form the bases for a "Histories of Fisheries and Canneries in Alaska" Project Jukebox, the university's oral history digital archive.

This multi-tiered project is a collaboration between the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (AAHP), Tundra Vision: Public History Consultants, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), The Office of History and Archeology (SHPO), the Alaska State Museum (ASM), Trident Seafoods and local Bristol Bay groups.

by Dr. Katie Ringsmuth

## Iditarod Historic Trails Celebrates two Anniversaries



In 1968 the National Trails System began with the designation of two scenic trails, the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. In 1978 the National Trails System grew with the inclusion of four historic trails one of those being Alaska's Iditarod Historic Trail. There are currently nineteen historic trails in our nation. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Trails System and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Iditarod Historic trail becoming designated as a National Historic Trail and joining our National Trail Systems.

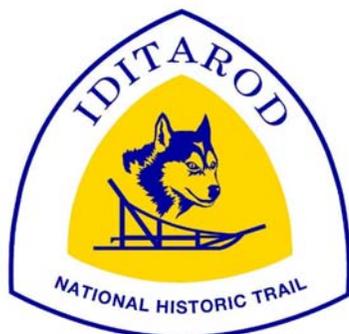
Iditarod is an Athabascan word meaning clear waters. The Native people of the area established Iditarod trail for hunting and trade purposes. With the advent of the fur trade and the eventual gold rush, the trail expanded and became well used for the postal system and transportation within Alaska.

On a cold day in Nome, Alaska in January of 1925, a three-year-old boy died of diphtheria. The worst fears of the town's only Dr. Curtis Welch had come true. The previous year Dr. Welch had ordered the diphtheria antitoxin serum, however delivery was not possible due to the ice pack closing in the Nome port. Any diphtheria antitoxin serum Dr. Welch had was expired and useless.

The Alaska of 1925 had been ravaged by the Spanish Flu just seven years before, entire villages of Alaska's native peoples had been wiped out. Globally, the Spanish Flu took an estimated total of forty million people, one third of the world population at that time. The winter of 1925 also marked the twenty year cycle of low temperatures. This meant that the temperatures lows could be -50 F or more, often accompanied with a brutal wind chill of -70 F or even colder.

## The Iditarod Historic Trail Celebrates Two Anniversaries

Continued from Page 4



In Alaska there was no plane, boat, or air service (in such extreme weather) to Nome. The entire nation turned its eyes in horror to the massive territory of Alaska and the town oddly named Nome, by mistake when 'Name?' had been misinterpreted on a map. The Anchorage Railway Hospital was the first to come through with three hundred units of the antitoxin serum. While a million units of the antitoxin serum was en route from Seattle to Seward.

A train took the precious antitoxin serum into the middle of Alaska to Nenana. From that point on the antitoxin serum would be transported via sled dog relay across the heart of Alaska's Athabaskan country and into the Seward Peninsula, a stronghold of the Inupiaq Eskimo.

The best Musher's in interior Alaska and the Seward Peninsula, many of them postal service workers, came together to save Alaskan lives.

The dog sled team arrived in Nome at 5:30 am on February 2. They did this all again in February 8<sup>th</sup> when a million units arrived from Seattle to Seward, Alaska.

Our Historical Trails are part of our identity as a nation and a reminder of who we are and what we are capable of. Each historic trail has its own story. To learn more about the National Trail System and the National Historic trails please visit: [trails50.org](http://trails50.org) or [iditarod100.org](http://iditarod100.org)



### Friends of Nike Site Summit

Are you interested in volunteering for the Friends of Nike Site Summit?

This summer they have many fun activities planned for site restoration.

Contact them at [fonss2007@gmail.com](mailto:fonss2007@gmail.com) or visit their web page at [nikesitesummit.net/volunteer-page.html](http://nikesitesummit.net/volunteer-page.html)

FONSS Board members Ivan Hodes and Mark Rice work with Graphic designer Rob Licsenberger.



**Thank you for Supporting us  
Pick. Click. Give.**

**Smile and Community Rewards**

You can now help support AAHP programs in historic preservation when you shop! AAHP has joined the "Amazon Smile" and "Fred Meyer Community Rewards" programs. For details on designating purchases to help support AAHP programs, please visit <http://www.aa hp-online.net/shopping-rewards.html>.



**AAHP MEMBERSHIP and/or SPECIAL DONATIONS**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership term is 12 consecutive months.**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15  | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$250    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25   | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$100     | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40   | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate \$100  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit* \$45 (*includes federal, state, & municipal agencies) |   | Membership                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____  |   |   |

**I/we wish to make a tax-deductible gift to**

- **AAHP** Donation  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

• For more giving opportunities, please visit the AAHP website at <http://www.aa hp-online.net/>

*(Donations to AAHP are tax deductible, as allowable under IRS regulations.)*

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I also wish to participate in AAHP activities in the following areas:**

- Fund Raising    Membership    Education    Legislation    Public Relations
- Projects & Issues

**Preservation Notes** Preservation News from Around the State  
 To submit Preservation News items, email us at [akpreservation@gmail.com](mailto:akpreservation@gmail.com)

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### 2018

#### April

30 — EXTENDED Nominations Deadline for 2018 Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties list

#### May

15-17 National Park Service Vanishing Treasures Workshops on Historic Preservation Principles.

#### June

20th Friends of Nike Site Summit Annual Fundraising Dinner and Tour for more info <http://www.planetreg.com/admin/startwiz1.asp?ID1=E22712358140884>

#### July

21st Friends of the Nike Site Summit Hiking tour for more info <http://www.planetReg.com/NSS-2018>

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[www.aahp-online.net](http://www.aahp-online.net)

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF ALASKA'S PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC HERITAGE AS MANIFESTED IN ITS BUILDINGS AND SITES

