

PRESERVATION NOTES

A quarterly newsletter brought to you by
The Alaska Association For Historic Preservation
A nonprofit with a mission to protect and preserve Alaska's built heritage.

Summer 2020
Vol 38 No 2

2020 Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties Announced

2020 is the 29th year for AAHP's annual Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties list. The list was announced Live on Sunday, May 3rd, via AAHP's Facebook page. It was the kickoff to Historic Preservation Month during May. Unfortunately, a lot of the events had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 "hunker down" mandates.



We had 7 nominations of properties to the list. Two of them were combined into one as they are close together. Two nominations were deemed critical. One may slide off into the Karluk River and the other may be lost forever if there is not a suitable resolution to the situation.

The committee re-listed four properties from prior years as they were deemed still in danger of being lost.

All in all, the listed properties all share in one thing: they are endangered and we could lose an important piece of Alaska history.

The video and data sheets on the properties can be found at:
<https://tinyurl.com/yar7ael7>

Those selected for the 2020 list are eligible for a small matching grant in the amount of \$2,500. Typically, one grant is offered each year if funds are available. Those eligible will be contacted on how to apply for the grant.

- Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties — 2020**
1. Ascension of Our Lord Chapel ,Karluk
 2. Wolf Creek Boat Works, Prince of Wales Island—SE Alaska
 3. Commissioner's Cabin, McCarthy
 4. SS Nenana Fairbanks
 5. Amakdedori & Qiyhi Qelahi, Near Kamishak Bay West of Nondalton
 6. The Bonfoey Family Homestead Cabin, North Pole
 7. Eldred Rock Lighthouse, Lynn Canal
 8. Leonhard Seppala House, Nome
 9. 4th Avenue Theatre, Anchorage
 10. Jesse Lee Home, Seward

Pick.Click.Give.

Lovalaska Alaska Association for Historic Preservation accepts donations through the Pick.Click.Give. program. If you missed designating AAHP on your PFD application, you can still designate your donation to us by amending your application. **You have until June 17th to add the donation or increase your donation.**

<http://tinyurl.com/yxmkdmlf>

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Oscar Anderson House Museum Hours

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Preservation Notes:

Preservation News from Around the State. To submit Preservation News items, email us at AKPreservation@gmail.com

AAHP publishes articles on topics worthy of public consideration. Unless otherwise stated, the views expressed are those of the authors and should not be attributed to AAHP, its Board of Directors, or its supporters.

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Oscar Anderson House Museum

We had planned to be open on May 1st this year in conjunction with our celebration of Historic Preservation Month, but those plans had to be scrapped with Covid-19. The summer season is going to be different. We hope that our visitors will understand the changes.

Oscar Anderson House Museum will be open by appointment only starting June 16th. No walk ins. Groups will be limited to 6 people. If Anchorage opens up more this summer, then we will adjust visits to the museum accordingly.

Reservations and admission will be made online beginning Monday, June 15th. It is a secure site. A confirmation of the appointment and payment will be sent via email. We are working on getting the gift shop items online. They can be purchased to be delivered at the time of the tour or shipped.

All visitors will need to have masks (unless otherwise exempted). We hope that this can be lifted, but it all depends on the mandates set by the Mayor of Anchorage.

Tours will remain the same at 45 minutes to an hour and will include access to the upstairs.

We hope that visitors — Alaskans or Alaskan visitors — will feel comfortable visiting Oscar Anderson House Museum this summer. For now, we want to make sure that everyone feel comfortable visiting this Anchorage treasure.

Appointments can be made by calling our Museum Manager, Rachel, at: 907-206-2284 from 9am to 4pm or via email at: OscarAndersonHouse@gmail.com

Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday: 12 noon to 4pm Friday & Saturday: 9am to 4pm. Closed Sunday and Monday. See page 13 for details.

Check for reservations and guidelines at our website at: <https://tinyurl.com/ycea8sh7>

PRESERVATION

Action

Department of Treasury Releases Guidance on Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit

Last week the Department of Treasury released [proposed regulations](#) for changes to the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit (HTC) that were included as part of tax reform in 2017. This includes guidance on the new five-year period for claiming the historic tax credit. Overall, the guidance provides clarity in several key areas and are generally in-line with the way tax practitioners have been interpreting the changes.

The tax reform legislation passed in 2017 retained the 20% Historic Tax Credit, but made significant changes to the program. One of the most significant changes required the credit to be taken over 5 years. Prior to tax reform taxpayers were able to claim the HTC in full once the property was placed into service.

Comments on the [proposed regulations](#) are being accepted through **July 21st**.

Preservation Action continues to advocate for the Historic Tax Credit Growth and Opportunity Act ([S.2615](#) / [H.R. 2825](#)) which would expand and enhance the credit, as well as restore some of the value lost during tax reform. These changes are especially important as Congress looks for ways to stimulate the economy in future recovery efforts.

Preservation Action
2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW #313
Washington, DC 20006
202-463-0970
mail@preservationaction.org

[BECOME A MEMBER](#)



We need your help! **Save Karluk's Ascension of Our Lord Chapel**

The Ascension of Our Lord Chapel located at Karluk, Alaska (Kodiak) is in danger of being lost entirely due to the Karluk River undercutting the bluff where the historic church is located. Currently, the chapel is estimated to be only 25 feet or less from the edge.

Donations and partners are needed ASAP to assist with relocating the church.

Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska (ROSSIA), along with Karluk Tribal Council, Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, Inc., National Park Service, Orthodox Diocese of Sitka and Alaska, the State Historic Preservation Office, and Bureau of Indian Affairs have formed a working group to create a plan to save this precious site.

Three contractors and an archaeologist were flown to Karluk on Monday, May 11th to view the church and the surrounding area and plan the church's temporary move, which will cost about \$500,000. A video was filmed during that trip by well-known Alaskan filmographer Tom Pillifant, who has allowed us to share his video to show the immediate peril the church is facing.

<https://tinyurl.com/yct3jywx>

The church is on the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest extant church in Alaska, dating to 1888. It was built by the Russians. Moving the church away from the bluff – soon – is the only way to protect this landmark from being lost forever. Given the rapidly changing environment surrounding the church, there is minimal time to raise the significant funding needed, and it is too late and too costly to shore up the bluff to prevent further erosion.

The first phase of saving the church is to move it a

good distance away from the edge of the bluff. It will remain in place until a final location can be acquired. Then, it will be moved and the next phase will be restoring the church.

If you would be able to help -- no donation is too small or large -- please donate at ROSSIA's website at <https://tinyurl.com/y9pec9ut>

The struggle to preserve
Wolf Creek Boat Works



Wolf Creek Boatworks Fate Still Unknown

As of the publication date of June 11th, there is no update on the status of Wolf Creek Boatworks.

Open house for everyone to come and see a fully operational boat works from the 1930s.
June 27 is the date to save!!

<https://tinyurl.com/yapotktn>

If the USFS and Alaska Mental health continue on the path they have selected and indicated they prefer, it may be the last time to ever see it live in operation. There are no roads to Wolf Creek so you will need boat or float plane transportation.

To see videos of the equipment in action go to

<https://tinyurl.com/ya3za8xf>

Amakdedori and Qiyhi Qelahi Cultural Landscape



The ancestral village of **Amakdedori** is in Kamishak Bay on the northern Alaska Peninsula.

Pebble Limited Partnership's (PLP) proposed port site for their mine is at Amakdedori. If built, the port site will destroy parts of Amakdedori and forever change this traditional place of education. Development of the proposed port could cause irreparable harm to the graves whose locations have yet to be identified.

The **Qiyhi Qelahi (Ground Hog Mountain) Cultural Landscape** is on the northern Alaska Peninsula approximately 25 miles west of the village of Nondalton situated in the Iliamna lowlands.

Pebble Limited Partnership's (PLP) proposed mine is directly in the middle of the Qiyhi Qelahi Cultural Landscape. If built, the mine will destroy the cultural landscape. PLP's current exploratory drilling program is already impacting the cultural landscape because Nondalton residents are avoiding this area their ancestors have used for countless generations.

In This Corner...

Wow! May 2020 is certainly not how we envisioned celebrating Historic Preservation Month! We had to postpone a few of our events, We decided to postpone those until 2021.

The public announcement of our 2020 Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties had to be presented online via Facebook. In the end, that part of the celebration turned out to be a win-win! We were able to post a video on Facebook and add it to our website along with the data sheets on each property.

Plans to open the Oscar Anderson House Museum on May 3rd also had to be postponed. We are opening the museum on June 16th with some guidelines meant to keep within the Phase 3 opening and making sure that our visitors feel comfortable.

The Pick.Click.Give program also saw a change up with the PFDs arriving on July 1st. That meant any changes or added donations via the Pick.Click.Give program had to be done by June 17th instead of August 31st. Non-profits around the state are doing what they can to ask for last minute pledges and thank those who have already pledged a portion of their PFD.

We are blessed to have PFD pledges from supporters who feel that what we do is important. We will be thanking those supporters individually. Unfortunately, there are several anonymous donors who we will not be able to contact but we want them to know that they are just as important and that we appreciate their support.

As a non-profit, AAHP is concerned about what the future holds for our organization as well as our own programs and our partner's programs. We understand that individuals and businesses have been hard hit. Will that impact contributions to non-profits such as ours? Time will tell.

There is a great concern for saving the Ascension Church of Our Lord from being lost forever. See page 3 for details. A concerted effort is being made to raise almost \$500,000 to move the church from away from the edge of the bluff that is ready to give way. There isn't time to apply for grants that won't be awarded until later this year so it is a grass roots effort to raise the necessary funds to save the church. It needs to be moved sooner than later.

We announce on Page 5 our new partnership with Adam Christiansen, owner of Adventure Photo. We are excited to help Adam in his quest to document the "graphities" left by miners who worked in mines located in the Independence Mine area located at Hatcher Pass.

If you have not joined AAHP, we encourage you to do so. The membership application can be found on the back page of this newsletter. This a great way to support AAHP and you'll be kept up to date on what we do as well as important historic preservation news.

I want to give a shout out to the AAHP Board of Directors. We have a great board this year and each director brings their own unique skill set to the organization. Without their passion for historic preservation all that we do would not be possible. Thank you!

June 15, 2020 marks our 39th Year as an organization!

Trish

Trish Neal
AAHP President

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Five Ways to Support Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, Inc. and Its Mission and Programs



Here's a quick list of things to do from home to support preservation with AAHP:

• **Become an AAHP Member!** Join today!

<https://tinyurl.com/yd5o7jgc>

• **Learn About** the 2020 Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties in Alaska!

<https://tinyurl.com/yar7ael7>

• **Donate** to our Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties Grant Program
<https://tinyurl.com/y6u8mjfs>

• **Donations support Oscar Anderson House Museum.** There is always maintenance to be done on the house as well as preservation of the collection.

<https://tinyurl.com/y9gch2jl>

• **Advocate for AAHP and Historic Preservation!** Contact your city council, your Assemblies, and your mayor to promote the importance of Historic Preservation in your community.

Don't forget to contact your local Historic Preservation Commissions! Finally, contact your senators & representatives (state and Washington, DC) to remind them of the powerful role preservation must play in this moment.

**THIS
PLACE
MATTERS®**

AAHP New Partner Independence Mine Photo Documentation Project

AAHP is partnering with Adam Christiansen and his company, Adventure Photo, to document part of the Independence Mine area. AAHP is pleased to lend its support to this project.

History of Adventure Photo

Adventure Photo is an Alaska based sole proprietorship specializing in photojournalism, in its first year of operation. It's owner, Adam Christiansen, is a lifetime resident of Palmer, Alaska, and a recent graduate of Concordia University, Nebraska, where he studied Journalism & Public Relations and History. Adam enjoys the multitude of activities and opportunities that Alaska has to offer and enjoys documenting them even more.



Adam Christiansen. Photo to courtesy John Stuart, Palmer Historical Society

Project scope, goals, and objectives:

This project will document the largely unknown history of the carbide drawings inside the Independence Mine and connect their relevance to the settling and colonization of the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Through a mini-documentary, photo book publication, traveling exhibit, and hopeful integration into the Alaska Studies curriculum in high schools around the state, this project will add a relatable human element to the mining in Hatcher Pass and provide insight to the thoughts and feelings of the miners who were integral in the development of Southcentral Alaska via the Alaska Road Commission and the Alaska Railroad.

The documentary would fit especially well into the Alaska Studies curriculum for grades 9-12 for the Mat-Su Borough and Anchorage School districts. With a wider distribution it would also inform and engage the Alaska public on mining history in the Mat-Su. Guest presentations from Adventure Photo and collaborators and class field trips to the Independence Mine would further increase information retained by students. This kind of classroom education may also be possible in coordination with Alaska Resource Education (ARE) in their pursuit to better educate youth on natural resource development. Young people often have a hard time attaching to history and historical context. An interesting local history presented both visually and physically will engage and educating them.

Special presentations following the completed project are also expected to be given to all contributors. The carbide drawings from inside the mine will showcase the personalities of miners who fashioned some of the first and most influential building blocks of Southcentral Alaska. The towns of Willow, Wasilla, Palmer, Sutton and Chickaloon were all products of development spearheaded by miners and mining. The towns

grew out of the roads and rails carved into the Alaskan landscape, in part to accommodate the needs of mining communities in the nearby mountains. As much as it is possible, the individuals behind the infrastructure will be highlighted to give young minds a chance to see a different side of mining than is usually presented to them.



Copyright Adventure Photo

This project is also meant to be a building block to greater digital and/or physical preservation of the Independence Mine and other places of historical importance around Alaska. These histories are fast disappearing and the generations who remember them are either approaching the great divide or have already crossed. We are in a unique position in Alaska in that our English recorded history is relatively young compared to rest of the nation. If there was ever a time to document our history, it is now.

The mission of Adventure Photo is to discover and document relatively unknown Alaska histories and their impact on the land and people. This unique product will serve communities and organizations around the state. Local histories are especially important to people and they often tell stories that reach far beyond the town or city where they originate. Sadly though, these histories often fade away, not for lack of worth, but for lack of a generation to care about them. Adventure photo's mission is to document these at-risk histories and give them the attention they deserve.



Copyright Adventure Photo

Project Info:

<https://www.akcarbide.com>

To donate to the project:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9gch2jl>



July 2020

July 22-26 National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Forum 2020: Preservation Coast to Coast, www.napcommissions.org (director@napcommissions.org)

In Person meeting CAN-CELED. ONLINE TRAINING offered. Registration open June 15, 2020.

August 2020

- Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties Grant available for applications from 2020 list.
- Call for nominations for Historic Preservation Award nominees.

October 2020

- October 14-17, 2020 Alaska Historical Society annual meeting and conference at Sitka, Alaska.
- Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties grant application closes October 16, 2020
- Nominations for Historic Preservation Award due October 16, 2020
- Nominations for Board of Directors closes October 16, 2020.
- October 28-30 National Trust for Historic Preservation, PastForward, the National Preservation Conference, Will be a virtual conference. Stay tuned for updates.
202.588.6000
info@savingplaces.org

November 2020

- AAHP Annual Meeting Thurs., Nov. 5, 2020. The Megan Room.

December 2020

- Swedish Christmas Open House at Oscar Anderson House Museum first two weekends in December: 5 & 6 and 12 & 13.

Do you have events that you would like to share? Please send your event information to AKPreservation@gmail.com. Deadline for Fall issue is August 31, 2020

Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance

Trails Move People

In 2018 American Trails created the Trails Move People (TMP) coalition to bring together a diverse cross section of the organized trails community.



Currently the coalition includes the following organizations:

American Council of Snowmobile Associations,

American Hiking Society, American Trails, American Motorcyclist Association, Applied Trails Research, Back Country Horsemen of America, International Mountain Bicycling Association, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance, Partnership for The National Trails System, Professional Trailbuilders Association, Rails-To-Trails Conservancy, Tread Lightly!.

Though each of the individual organizations have some of their own priorities, this coalition represents the shared goals that are important to all outdoor recreation users. Trails Move People uses collaboration, communication and education to ensure that the benefits of trails are rightly considered by recreationists, industry, decision-makers and the general public. We already know that outdoor recreation has a massive positive impact on our nation's economy and that much of the impact is generated via trails.

The member organizations of Trails Move People represent millions of Americans who spend their time, money and energy to get out on trails for fun and to volunteer. Trails Move People hopes to elevate the recognition of trails by developing funding and research resources so that everyone irrespective of geography, mode of recreation, socio-economic status, or experience will have access to more and better trail opportunities and in turn more fulfilling personal experiences.

Why is this important? Put simply, our voices are stronger together than they are apart. When there is an equestrian trail in danger of being closed, rather than having only the equestrians fighting for that trail, if the hikers, cyclists, off-highway vehicle

users, and others amplified those voices they would be more likely to be heard. When an off-highway vehicle trail is fighting for more funding, if all trail users joined that fight, that plea would be more likely to be heard. This is true for all trail user types, for all trails, and at all levels, whether it be a city town hall or the halls of congress.

National Trails Day® June 6 update

The health and safety of National Trails Day® hosts, volunteers and participants is the top priority of the American Hiking Society. Due to the CDC's guidance regarding



event gathering and parks and recreational facilities and preventing the continued spread of the pandemic COVID-19, the American Hiking Society will shift from promoting in-person events on National Trails Day® on June 6 to a digital activation.

The Society is organizing a digital campaign to inspire individuals to unite for the protection of trails and access to public lands during this time of social distancing. This digital campaign will also provide the opportunity for local trail organizations to connect with their communities.

The American Hiking Society will leverage digital platforms to invite people in all 50 states to collectively celebrate and protect the outdoor places we love.

In the coming weeks the Society will distribute a promotional toolkit to make it easy to connect with your community on ways to engage on National Trails Day®, even while in quarantine. The Society realizes the message and campaign will need to remain agile in order to adapt to changes in policy, guidelines and the outlook on the outbreak, so it will be updated as needed. Go to: americanhiking.org and click on National Trails Day for current information.



TRAIL ■ STORY ■ STEWARDSHIP

Researcher Seeks Photographs of Woods For Project

Trail users across Alaska can help with a study that will help wildfire responders get a better handle on the amount and types of fire fuel around the state. Read Chris Smith's request letter below:

I am a Graduate Student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks working on a project called Mapping Detection of Boreal Vegetation (MaDBoV). The goal of this project is to involve the community in the data collection process in return helping me produce more accurate fire fuel maps of the Alaskan boreal forest to help predict

fire risk. Anyone in Alaska can participate, and it is a great reason to get outdoors while actively participating in applicable research (in accordance with state social distancing policies).

All participants have to do is get out in the woods behind their homes, on trails, or any naturally wooded area and take a geotagged

photo on their smartphone and send it to mad.bov2020@gmail.com.

If you would like to help with the study, follow these steps: 1. Find a spot in the Alaska forest (anywhere outside with natural vegetation). 2. On your smartphone make sure location is turned on (this geotags the photo for analysis) and then snap a picture of the ground vegetation and tree trunks so we can identify plant species. 3. Send the geotagged pictures to mad.bov2020@gmail.com

The goal is to keep this project running as long as possible because data and vegetation are constantly changing, so there is no deadline date.

Would you be willing to spread our flyer around and/or our Facebook page?

www.facebook.com/mad.bov2020/

Thank you for the help!

MaDBoV
Mapping Detection of Boreal Vegetation

Follow us on Facebook

Want to be part of a **community-based research project** that will help **improve Alaskan fire fuel maps**?

The following are 3 easy steps to get involved:

1. Find a spot in the Alaskan forest (anywhere outside with natural vegetation)
2. On your smartphone make sure location is turned on (this geotags the photo for analysis) and then snap a picture of the ground vegetation and tree trunks so we can identify plant species.
3. Send the geotagged pictures to mad.bov2020@gmail.com

Contact us or visit our Facebook page for more information:
mad.bov2020@gmail.com
[@mad.bov2020](https://www.facebook.com/mad.bov2020/)

GEOPHYSICAL INSTITUTE
University of Alaska Fairbanks

FIRE & ICE

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under award #1512141 and by the State of Alaska.

The Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance promotes awareness of the Iditarod Trail and its gold rush and Alaska Native Heritage by encouraging education programs and historical research, assisting in the protection, improvement, maintenance and marking of the Trail and developing partnerships that foster stewardship, commitments and support.

While the Iditarod Trail is well known nationally and internationally due to the contemporary sled dog race, many Alaskans and most Americans are unaware of the basic history of the Trail. While parts of the Trail go back thousands of years to trade routes used by Alaska's native people, today's Iditarod Trail began with an Alaska Road Commission scouting expedition in mid-winter 1908. With the strike of gold near Iditarod, the ARC blazed the trail the winter of 1910, giving the Nome gold fields and the Iditarod and Innoko mining districts overland access to the ice free deep water port of Seward.

The Alliance was founded in 1998.

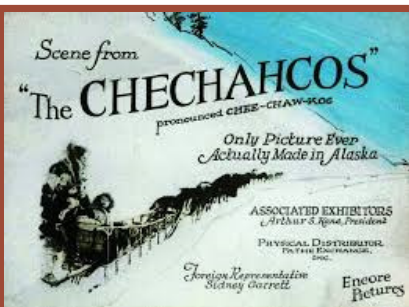
Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance
PO Box 2323
Seward AK 99664

www.Iditarod100.org

Newsletters online!

IditarodHTA@gmail.com

The Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



The Chechacos (The Newcomers) is the first full-length motion picture filmed entirely in Alaska. Produced in 1923 by Austin E. “Cap” Lathrop and the Alaska Moving Pictures Corporation, the thrilling silent film melodrama features scoundrels and villains, heroes, a damsel in distress, and an adorable child.

The filming of *The Chechacos* in 1923 was an important event in Alaska’s early history. Alaskans from throughout the Territory came together to invest their time, talents, and money to help produce a movie that accurately depicted the gold rush era. Previously, movies about Alaska were made in locations such as New Jersey and California.

The Chechacos Project is an exploration of early Anchorage through music, film, photographs, and historical documents, with emphasis on the history of *The Chechacos*. Through this project, the Anchorage Fine Arts Society (AFAS) commissioned a historically accurate orchestral score to accompany the film (the original score was considered lost) and collaborated with the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra (ASO) for a public showing of the film during the Anchorage Centennial Celebration in July 2015.

In 2018, the film was digitally preserved and restored by Alaskan-born digital preservationist Reed Bovee of Reflex Technologies in Burbank, California. This phase of the project was supported by the Atwood Foundation.

To purchase a DVD:
<https://www.chechacos.org/>

Naknek Cannery History Project

By Katherine Ringsmuth, PhD
 NN Cannery History Project



The best thing about the NN Cannery History Project is its collaborative *raison d’être!* But social distancing and travel

restrictions have made it difficult to do what we do best. Even if such restrictions are lifted by May-June, such uncertainty makes planning for summer nearly impossible. With health and safety the highest priority, I wanted to update you all –my collaborators--on a few changes concerning NN Cannery Project activity planning:



Mug Up Exhibition Planning
 The *Mug Up* exhibition is still on track to open **February 2022** and run thru **summer 2022**. Tasks to accomplish include: a online exhibition to help inform and promote *Mug Up*, completing a walkthrough narrative, overseeing model construction, film production, the recording of a soundscape and developing content for a possible companion publication, entitled *Mug Up: The Language of Work*.

Changes for Public Engagement in Bristol Bay

The original plan was to participate in the following activities:

- Fish Expo (June 11-13)
- Sailing Back to the Bay (July 4-19)
- NN Cannery Maritime Historic District Dedication (July 20) Included BBNC, BBB, NPS, SHPO, AKPC, Trident, AK Delegates, etc.
- Preparing Objects for Transport (July 20-25)

The Alaska Historical Commission meeting, at which the Diamond NN Cannery Maritime Historic District nomination will be considered, has been moved to May/June. Other changes include:

- Sailing Back to the Bay and the Cannery Dedication Community Celebration will be postponed to summer 2021
- Prepare cannery objects for shipment in early fall or wait until early summer 2021.



Continue to engage the Bristol Bay community digitally via history post on facebook and keep folks informed and engaged on exhibit planning
<https://tinyurl.com/yc47wonq>

Public Engagement—California
 Tim Troll, Bob King and I had also planned to travel to the Bay Area in May to visit Pittsburg, Monterrey and the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park and Maritime Museum. Our aim was to conduct research, engage California’s cannery and fishing community, and share information about our ongoing history projects.

Monterrey Italian American Heritage Society

I have been in communication with Phylis Grillo who does community PR for the local university in Monterey. She and I were hoping to organize an event to engage the local Italian America community in the Bay area with historic ties to Bristol Bay. I was also interested to see how that community has utilized Heritage Tourism.

Pittsburg California, History Museum

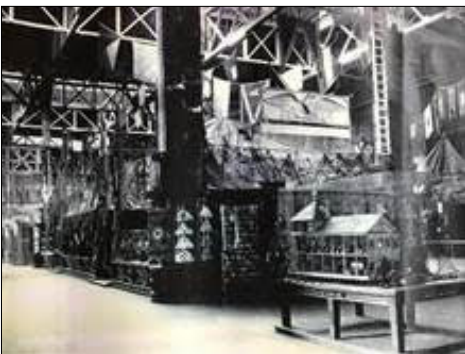
I was also in contact with Vince Ferrante, historian at the Pittsburg Museum in California, whose collections also have ties to Alaska and the Italian fishermen. Vince, I would love to take a look at some of the work you have done on the Packers' early history and the Italian fishermen in Bristol Bay.

San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park and Maritime Museum

Just as we were able to connect with the NPS Staff, it looks like we are going to have to put off our visit. The original plan was to visit the SFMNH and Maritime Museum in May to give presentations to both staff and the public on our project. In addition to assisting us with historic material for the exhibit, the NPS interpreter, Diane Cooper suggested a possible APA conference for fall.

Alternative Collaboration Proposal:

Again, with great disappointment, I have to travel to San Francisco until Fall 2020, if restrictions are lifted by then.



To see just how cool this can be, take a look at the following link!

<https://tinyurl.com/ycdsdnhm>

From the St. Louis Worlds Fair in 1904.

Spanish Influenza Story

Finally, as you all know, the Spanish Flu hit the Bristol Bay region especially hard. To commemorate its 100 year anniversary the NN Cannery History Project produced a film, Bristol Bay Remembers.

<https://tinyurl.com/ycjh6jsr>



Likewise, KTVA's Frontiers did a story about the flu as well as capturing heart-wrenching and heartfelt reactions of an exhibit on the flu at the Bristol Bay Native Cooperation. The Flu A Year of Death and Survival.

<https://tinyurl.com/yb994yxu>

Feel free to share the material as it may help provide historic meaning for what is happening today.

Please let me know if you have any questions. As we are all social distancing, I'm wondering if this might be a great opportunity to plan for a way to bring together our strengths and interests and celebrate an underrepresented history that spans the entire Pacific Coast!



The National Park Service is profiling the NN Cannery in its award-winning online journal, *Alaska Park Science*. You will find the article on page 54. You can check out the entire issue at

<https://tinyurl.com/y7kn8eea>

Be well, safe and sane...and please, stay in touch

Katie

<https://nncanneryproject.com/>

Do You Know the Difference?



The **National Register of Historic Places** list (not to be confused with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which is a non-profit organization, not a government entity) is administered by the National Park Service, in Washington, DC. It includes historic resources (including buildings) that are of national significance. The applications are carefully reviewed for acceptance, and include descriptive & historical information on the resource, with photographs and location information.

Effective 4/10/20: the National Register program will launch **an electronic-only submission process** for the duration of the COVID-19 situation while our staff and the staff of our preservation partners engage in extended telework operations.

<https://tinyurl.com/yxtdj2su>



The **State AHRS (Alaska Historic Resource Survey)** is just that: a collection of surveyed or reported historic resources,

of all kinds, that originally were recorded on cards, with a very short description of the property, its location, and ownership. It is maintained by the State of Alaska Office of History & Archaeology in Anchorage.

The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) is a data repository with information on over 45,000 reported cultural resources (archaeological sites, buildings, structures, objects or locations, etc.), from prehistoric to modern, and some paleontological sites within the State of Alaska.

<https://tinyurl.com/ya9omorc>

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Friends of Nike Site Summit

FONSS Forges Ahead With Tours, Work Parties in the Shadow of Covid-19

By Doris Thomas

Friends of Nike Site Summit had hoped to set an attendance record by having nearly 500 people visit in 2020. The Covid-19 pandemic torpedoed those plans and instead, FONSS will probably host fewer than 200 visitors this summer.



The tour plan has been overhauled with an emphasis on hiking tours, which better allow for social distancing. Visitors will be masked whenever the tour group congregates and FONSS will have hand sanitizer available. Guests will bring their own water and snacks.

Another new wrinkle this year is that all hiking tour participants 16 or older must register and purchase a permit from the JBER iSportsman program. Details are at:

<https://jber.isportsman.net/>

This does not apply to the Chugach State Park hike, which focuses on Cold War history and does not take place on JBER property.

The Planetreg reservation site opened June 7 for the first three tours at: <http://reg.planetreg.com/NSS-2020>

Here's the new schedule:

- **June 27** – afternoon hiking tour (Full; all spots went within 24 hours of the opening)
- **July 18** – afternoon hiking tour
- **July 26** – afternoon hiking tour in Chugach State Park
- **Aug. 8** – morning and afternoon bus tours if conditions permit
- **Aug. 18** – morning and afternoon bus tours if conditions permit
- **Sept. 12** – morning and afternoon bus tours if conditions

permit (tentative; not yet approved by the military) If we think the bus tours can resume, they will be advertised in late July.

More than 140 people have asked to be notified about the 2020 tours, but don't let that discourage you from checking the registration site or sending an inquiry. Each year, only about a third of those who inquire actually book a reservation.

Tour inquiries may be sent to the FONSS email address: fonss2007@gmail.com



FONSS was dismayed to find this large garage door at the Launch Control Building on Lower Site Summit caved in, apparently damaged by severe windstorms at Site Summit over the winter. Replacement/repair is expected to be in the thousands of dollars. (Doug Ruhl photo)

Those interested in tours can also watch for updates on the Friends of Nike Site Summit Facebook page or Web site: www.nikesitesummit.net



Snow blocks the missile bay doors at Launch Bunker 1, photographed in late May. The entrances on one side of the Launch Control Building were also piled high with snow. The FONSS advance team didn't even try to challenge the snow berms blocking the road to the upper site. FONSS expects warm sunny days will dissipate this snow before the first tour in late June. (Greg Durocher photo)

Student tours have been cancelled because the fall school term is still a big unknown and we assume the Veterans' groups we usually rely on for donations are hard up themselves this year.

Covid-19 also threw a wrench in our plans to get volunteers trained early for this season's work parties. The March 27 organizational/training meeting was cancelled, so volunteers (except tour volunteers), must attend a 10 a.m. range safety brief at Range Control on the first or third Wednesday of the month. Questions about volunteering for the work parties (painting, electrical, carpentry, mowing, etc.) can be directed to Evan Rowland at evanrowland60@gmail.com

or Doug Ruhl at ranger2@gci.net

In late May, Greg Durocher, FONSS director, and Doug Ruhl, visited Site Summit and found huge mounds of snow in several places and that the rear garage door to the Launch Control Building had caved in, apparently due to severe winds during the winter. Due to the snow, no one has been able to reach the upper site yet to evaluate any damage there.

FONSS thanks all those who have, as part of their 2020 AAHP membership renewal, contributed to FONSS.

“The Friends of Nike Site Summit have been very much affected by restrictions forced upon us by Covid-19. There are few opportunities to even partially cover our fixed costs, which include several thousand dollars of liability insurance and the administrative fee to AAHP,” said Greg Durocher, FONSS Director.

“Additional costs this year include approximately \$500 for scissor-lift battery replacements, and the very unexpected door repair in the Launch Control Building, FONSS is holding out hope that we will be allowed our planned August tours. There is no way of knowing what Joint Base Elmendorf-



Doug Ruhl photographs snow berms at the Launch Control Building on lower Site Summit. The damaged garage door is on the opposite side of the building; both doors are usually open when guests are on site. (Greg Durocher photo)

Richardson will allow until we get closer to August,” Durocher added, noting that the hiking tours, which provide our desired educational outreach, will generate little revenue against expenses.

Anyone who wishes to donate may do so by sending a check to FONSS at the AAHP address:

FONSS
c/o AAHP
PO Box 102205
Anchorage, AK 99510

or by accessing the “Donate” page on our website:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8xhh2d7>

Hope to see you this summer!

Pick.Click.Give.



Alaska Association for Historic Preservation accepts donations through the Pick.Click.Give. program.

Here's the link with instructions on how to add or change your Pick.Click.Give. donations:

<http://tinyurl.com/yxmkdmlf>



Past Excellence in Historic Preservation Award Winners

- 2019: Janet Matheson
Katie Ringsmuth/<NN>
Doris Thomas
Lee Poleske
Hugh & Iris Darling
- 2018: No award given
- 2017: Bob De Armond
Bill De Armond
- 2016: No award given
- 2015: Bob Mitchell
- 2014: Thad Poulson
Jim Renkert
- 2013: Sheri and Darrin Hamming
- 2012: No award given
- 2011: Mary Flaherty
- 2010: FONSS
Erin and Falene Reeve
- 2009: Don Corwin
Steve Peterson

Musk Ox Farm Saves and Restores Iconic Barn Roof

The nonprofit Musk Ox Farm located in Palmer, was able to save and restore the iconic gambrel roof last fall. The barn was constructed in the 1930s.

The roof was lifted off the lower part of the barn by a construction crew and then the lower part was demolished to make space for the new museum and gift shop.

A construction crew removed the roof in last June. The lower part of the barn was demolished to make a new museum and gift shop. Saving the roof also saved the star cut-out.

The \$1.2 million project added a silo to house an elevator to make the second-floor wheelchair accessible. The upstairs was also insulated to allow year-round space for activities.

The facility is slated to open for the summer on June 17th. You can book your visit to the farm online. For more information:

<https://www.muskoxfarm.org/>

Be sure to check out their newsletter online!



A crane lifts the roof off of the Colony barn visitors center at the Musk Ox Farm as Xavier Lechleitner helps guide it to its resting place on Thursday. (Photo by Bob Hallinen) Copyright Alaska Daily News

<https://tinyurl.com/y9trwg3c>



The newly renovated loft of the Musk Ox barn hosted its first concert. Photo: Musk Ox Farm

Photo on right: Thank you to Sheri Hamming, President of Palmer Historical Society.

www.palmerhistoricalsociety.org



A Guide to Researching the History of a House



If you live in a house that's more than a few decades old, you might wonder about its history. What were the circumstances surrounding its construction? Who lived there before you moved in? You might even wonder about the evolution of the home's structure as it has undergone home improvement, or you might have a morbid curiosity about whether or not your home has a sordid past. With the help of online resources and public records, much can be learned about the history of any property.

<https://tinyurl.com/uqpn9pc>

Connect the public to the history that surrounds us

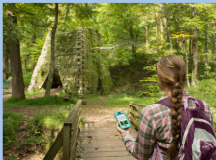


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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Humanities

Visiting Oscar Anderson House Summer 2020

Open June 16 to September 12

**Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 12noon to 4pm
Friday and Saturday 9am to 4pm
Closed Sunday and Monday
Closed July 4th**



Tours by Reservation Only!

Book your tour in advance! We will not be accepting any walk ins at this time. Tours are limited to 6 people to maintain proper social distance. Does your family have more than six members? Call us to arrange your tour!

Parking on the Street

Parking is available on the street in front of the house. Please park head in when parking directly in front of the house to allow more cars to park. If parking elsewhere on the street, it is curbside parking.



Masks



We ask that you help us practice safe social distancing by wearing a mask. Masks are required while inside the museum. We want to make sure all visitors feel comfortable.

Restrooms

We do not have restrooms available at the museum. There are restrooms in Elderberry Park, just down the stairs to the left on the pathway from the museum.



Tickets



Admissions are pre-paid via PayPal in advance. Refund available if tour is canceled within a minimum of 24 hours in advance less the processing fee. Gift shop will not be open. You will be able to shop online.

\$10 adults | \$5 ages 12 and under | \$5 Senior Citizens 55 and older
\$5 Alaska residents all ages

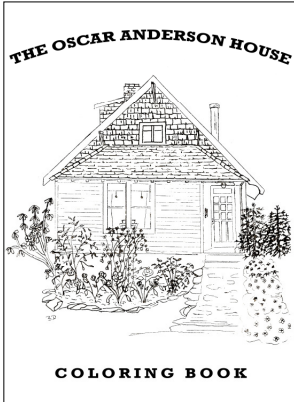
Reservations can be made online or call us for more information!

www.OscarAndersonHouseMuseum.org | 907-206-2284

OscarAndersonHouse@mail.com

Coloring History by Barbara Dieffenbach

The Oscar Anderson House coloring book was originally published by Management Analysis Corp., Duff Surveys, Alaska, Inc., Dieffenbach Company



This reprint is made possible by The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, Inc. with permission of the family of Barbara Dieffenbach.

Proceeds from the sale of this book goes towards the upkeep of the Oscar Anderson House and related needs of the historic house.

The coloring book contains 14 drawings to color plus information about the Oscar Anderson family and the house. It is sold at \$5.00 each and will be available soon on the museum's website at: <http://oscarandersonhousemuseum.org/>



Join us today! Members receive a one-year subscription to our Preservation Notes newsletter, notices of upcoming events, updates on statewide preservation issues, and discounted admissions to the Oscar Anderson House Museum and workshops throughout the year.

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- Student \$15
- Individual \$25
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- Contributor \$50
- Friend \$100

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- Corporate \$100
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- Sponsor \$250
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- Friends of Nike Site Summit
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