



ALASKA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM

## ALTERATION REVIEW PROCESS FOR AAHP EASEMENT PROPERTIES

### WHAT CRITERIA DOES THE AAHP HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMITTEE USE TO EVALUATE PROPOSED ALTERATIONS?

The AAHP Easement Committee evaluates all proposed alterations according to the specific stipulations in the easement document for the property and the most recent *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. The *Standards* are a nationally recognized and widely used tool for ensuring that alterations do not jeopardize the historic integrity of a building. A copy of the *Standards* is available at <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm> for you to refer to when planning any project which impacts the exterior of your building. If you do not have a copy of the preservation easement for your property, we will be happy to send you one.

### HOW DOES THE AAHP EASEMENT COMMITTEE APPLY THESE CRITERIA?

The AAHP Easement Committee tightly adheres to the specific stipulations in each easement document. It strictly applies the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* to proposed alterations involving character defining features of a property and those areas of the property visible from public ways. The committee may allow more flexibility in altering non-character defining or non-historic features in areas not visible to the public.

### WHAT INFORMATION MUST I SUBMIT TO THE AAHP EASEMENT COMMITTEE OR STAFF TO HAVE MY PLANS REVIEWED?

The owner of an easement property should submit the following information about his/her proposed project:

1. Detailed drawings of proposed changes (AAHP reserves the right to require architectural drawings when necessary);
2. Site plan sketch showing the impact of the proposed alterations on the site;
3. List of building materials;
4. Sample materials or product literature, if appropriate or requested;
5. Construction timetable;
6. Photos of project area;
7. Indications of whether you intend to utilize state or federal historic rehabilitation tax credits.

Submit the information to:

AAHP  
P.O. Box 102205  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2205

Information is also accepted by email as long as photos and drawings are clear. Those can be submitted to [akpreservation@gmail.com](mailto:akpreservation@gmail.com).

P.O. Box 102205 Anchorage, AK 99501-2205  
Telephone: (907) 929-9870 Email: [akpreservation@gmail.com](mailto:akpreservation@gmail.com)  
[www.AlaskaPreservation.org](http://www.AlaskaPreservation.org)

**WHEN MUST I SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION?**

It is imperative that easement property owners obtain the approval of the AAHP Easement Committee *before beginning work* on their project. The Easement Committee meets once a month. To have your project considered at a regularly monthly meeting, you should submit the information listed above two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. This will allow time for staff to review the information and request any additional materials the Historic Properties Committee will need to make a decision about your project. Please contact the AAHP office for a schedule of Easement Committee meetings. Exceptions to this schedule will be made for emergency situations which pose an immediate threat to the property.

**WHEN WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF THE AAHP EASEMENT COMMITTEE'S DECISION REGARDING MY PROJECT?**

The property owner will be notified in writing of the Easement Committee's decision within two weeks of the meeting at which the project was reviewed.

**WHAT FOLLOW-UP DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?**

At the completion of a project approved by the AAHP Easement Committee, the property owner must submit photos to the committee documenting that the project was completed according to the approved plans.

**IS THERE ANYONE ELSE I NEED TO CONTACT ABOUT MY PROJECT?**

If you live within a local historic district, you should contact your city historic preservation or landmark commission. Local historic districts often have regulations governing the kinds of alterations which can be made to historic buildings in their boundaries. If you wish to apply for federal or state historic rehabilitation tax credits, consult with the State Historic Preservation Office before beginning your project. The State Historic Preservation Office is part of the State Division of History and Archaeology can be reached at (907) 269-8721.

In the event an easement property owner makes an alteration to the exterior of his/her property without AAHP approval, the easement documents empower AAHP to pursue a variety of legal measures to rectify the violation, including: 1) requiring the restoration of the property to its condition prior to the violation; 2) entering the property, correcting the violation, and holding the owner liable for the costs; and 3) recovering damages for the violation for the purpose of restoring the property.

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ALTERATION REVIEW PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT AAHP AT (907) 292-9870.**