



THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties of 2011

The Alaska Association for Historic Preservation (AAHP) announces the state's **Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties of 2011**. 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. This year marks the twenty-second announcement of AAHP's Most Endangered Historic Properties.



Chief Shakes House in Wrangell. -

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.

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Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties 2011

- Pratt Museum—Homer
- Sheldon Jackson College—Sitka
- Colony Project Warehouse - Palmer
- Chief Shakes—Wrangell
- Alaska State Museum—Juneau
- Oscar Anderson House—Anchorage
- Brownlow Point—North Slope
- Uqsruqtalik—North Slope
- Chief Kashakes Clan House and Saanya Kwan Poles—Saxman
- Keku Cannery—Kake



Alaska State Museum in Juneau-

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.

Message from the President



Greetings, everyone! AAHP has been VERY busy these past few months! Perhaps the most important thing that's happened that our OFFICE HAS MOVED! We are now located in the basement office of the Oscar Anderson House Museum! This move is very exciting

for us! We have a new Administrative Assistant, Allegra, who started as soon as we moved in, so it is a good time for a fresh look at what we do, what we want to accomplish and set goals for the future! Of course, as soon as we were moving new opportunities presented themselves! For instance, our Conservation Easement Program is fully up and running, we're busy with the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, providing administrative support, work is buzzing up at Nike Site Summit, we watched students travel to the National History Day Nationals in Washington, D.C some Board members even served as judges on the State level!), we held a 10 Most Grant Fundraiser, and are planning education workshops, our annual meeting, and our extra special THIRTIETH BIRTHDAY PARTY for next year (that's right, 30!!)

So, stay tuned, get involved, and feel free to come see us at our new offices! Remember, you can call, email, visit our website, or "friend "us on facebook to stay in touch! We'd love to hear from you!
- Jessica

P.S. We're looking to begin building a library of resources for historic preservationists, cultural resource specialists, architects, anthropologists, archaeologists, community activists and everyone in between. WE ARE ACCEPTING GENTLY USED BOOKS FOR OUR "LIBRARY"! If you'd like to donate, please call or email and we'll make it happen!



Photo courtesy of the Municipality of Anchorage (www.muni.org)

Special Announcement!

AAHP has a new home! Our new office is located at the Oscar Anderson House Museum (basement level).

We look forward to seeing you at our new location!

Our contact information has not changed.

You can still contact us at:

Mail: P.O. Box 102205

Anchorage, AK 99510

Phone: (907) 929-9870

Email: akpreservation@gmail.com

Web: www.aahp-online.net

Friends of Nike Site Summit VIP/Contractor Tour



*Walt Parker, Ben Ellis (Director of State Parks), Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell, and Col. Robert Evans, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Commander, discuss Site Summit during the June 25 tour.
(Photo by Doris Thomas)*

By Doris Thomas

Neither rain at the start of the tour nor dense fog at Upper Site Summit dampened the spirits of about 40 participants in the Friends of Nike Site Summit VIP/Contractor Tour on Saturday, June 25.

FONSS' special guests included Alaska Sen. Mark Begich; Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell; members of their Anchorage staffs; Natasha Von Imhof, chairman of the Atwood Foundation; Ben Ellis, Director of State Parks; and community advocate Walt Parker, honored the following day by the Anchorage Citizens Coalition as the first recipient of the 'Walt Parker Sustainable Community Award.'

"I hope the tour demonstrated our vision and commitment to preserve Nike Site Summit for heritage tourism," said FONSS director Jim Renkert. "Some of Alaska's most popular tourism destinations are historic sites such as Independence Mine, Kennecott and the Chilkoot Trail."

The tour was held in cooperation with Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, represented on the tour by Col. Robert Evans, JBER commander; Jon Scudder, Cultural Resources Manager and JBER's liaison to FONSS; and several other JBER staff members.

In addition to being a familiarization tour for the special guests, the tour gave contractors a chance to get an up close and personal look at the two Site Summit buildings FONSS plans to stabilize this summer: the Launch Control Building and the Missile



*Natasha Von Imhoff (Rasmuson Foundation), Jim Renkert (FONSS), Senator Mark Begich and Judy Bittner (SHPO) discuss Site Summit while viewing the Battery Building at the upper site.
(Photo by Doris Thomas)*

of the Launch Control Building and Missile Maintenance Building to provide guidance on stabilizing them. Structural engineer Drew Morris also participated in the tour.

"These professional contractors and engineers conducted a detailed analysis of the (Launch Control) building's condition," said Bruce Long, a FONSS volunteer who is also a Nike veteran. "Their focus ranged from minimal repair to stabilize the building by stopping water leaks, to a discussion of removal of existing roofing and re-contouring the roof style. The restyle would be necessary because when the building was heated, runoff water was directed through the center of the building. Now with no plans to heat it, drainage would be best off the perimeter of the structure. We hope to incorporate this professional advice and leadership into the overall project."

FONSS anticipates beginning work at Site Summit on July 9. We will put some finishing touches on the three Sentry Stations stabilized last summer and begin work on the Launch Control Building. This structure is the largest and most complex of the five buildings FONSS is responsible for stabilizing. Although most of the hazardous material was removed in 1995, much cleanup remains. FONSS volunteers will repair and replace doors and windows, remove wet sheetrock from the interior of the building, replace badly deteriorated plywood siding, and repair or replace the roof to stop leakage. *Continued on Page 6*

National History Day A Success



Mia Keyser, Challis Debenham, and Hallie Whitmore of Anchorage took the Outstanding State Entry Award at the National History Day contest in Maryland this June.

By Darrell Lewis

Twenty-six Alaska students won the state History Day contest in March and the honor to represent Alaska at the National History Day contest held at the University of Maryland in College Park, in June. AAHP worked with National History Day and History Day in Alaska to help sponsor this year's participants in the National History Day contest. This year's participants met with our Congressional delegation, toured the White House and our nation's Capital, and participated in National History Day events.

This year's National History Day students researched topics related to the theme, *Innovation in History: Impact and Change*, and presented their research in the form of research papers, performances, documentaries, websites, and exhibits. One of the more unique entries was an exhibit by Anchorage students Jessica Fontaine and Sydney Laudon. The exhibit titled, *The Pill*, examined the history of the birth control pill and was shaped like the typical round case in which the pills are packaged.

Chanda File, Ashley Kaufman, and Jessica Wright of North Pole developed a documentary titled, *The Innovation of Civil Way Photography: The Image That Hit Home*. They won the Outstanding State Entry Award for the Senior Division for their documentary on the impact and evolution of photography during the Civil War. Mia Keyser, Hallie Whitmore, and Challis Debenham of Anchorage took the Outstanding State Entry Award for the Junior Division for their documentary on the history of plastic. One National History Day judge described the documentary as "Very entertaining and informative!" Mia, Hallie, and Challis' documentary does an outstanding job of connecting with the audience by beginning with a morning routine that takes the viewer through all the various plastic items that an average person encounters each

morning.

One of the highlights of the National History Day contest is button trading. More than 2,000 students from 49 states, Washington, D.C., Department of Defense Schools Europe, International Schools Asia, Guam, and American Samoa were present at the 2010 Contest and all brought buttons to trade. Some of the most coveted buttons are those from Alaska, Guam, American Samoa, Department of Defense Schools Europe, and China. Hallie Whitmore said, "My favorite experience was pin trading and meeting all the kids from around the country!"

Meeting with Alaska's Congressional delegation has become a tradition for Alaska's National History Day participants and 2010 was no different. Alaska's students met Senator Murkowski and Senator Begich on the Capitol Building steps for a photo and questions, and met Congressman Young in the Natural Resource Committee Hearing Room of the Longworth House Office Building. Students were surprised to learn about unanimous consent, with one saying, "I always thought that they never agreed on anything."

For the first time since Alaska first participated in the National History Day contest in 1990, Alaska's students got to go on a tour of the White House! The tour, which requires background checks for everyone attending, had to be requested six months in advance. The total in the group, including parents, siblings, and grandparents was 65, and required a lot of planning! But seeing the Green Room, Dining Room, Red Room, and Library in person was amazing and well worth it!

Year after year the National History Day contest does seem to have one dark spot. The dorms at the University of Maryland are not air conditioned and with

Continued on page 5



Senator Lisa Murkowski speaks with National History Day Students

National History Day, continued

temperatures in the high 80s and 90s during the day, and dropping very little at night dorm life can be pretty miserable!

Mia Keyser said, "It was like sleeping in a sauna with a blanket on." The state coordinators were encouraged to learn that all the dorms will be air conditioned by next year's contest but that did not given any solace to those attending the 2010 Contest.

National History Day is a yearlong program for teaching history in our nation's schools. The program is a theme based, academic competition among middle and high school students (grades 6 - 12). It consists of three levels of competition. Local contests are usually held in February with winning entries advancing to the state contest (History Day in Alaska) held in March. The National contest is held each June at the University of Maryland in College Park.

To learn how you can get involved please contact Darrell Lewis, the State Coordinator, at darrell_lewis@nps.gov



National History Day Closing Ceremony

**CALL FOR ARTICLES, PHOTOS, YOUR STORY,
DISCUSSION TOPICS, ETC.!**

**AAHP WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A "MEMBERS ONLY"
CORNER IN EVERY NEWSLETTER! SUBMIT YOUR
MATERIAL TO SEE IF YOU'RE SELECTED!**

*AAHP reserves the right to decline to print material not
consistent with its mission*

SAGE BUILDING UPDATE

2010's 10 MOST GRANT RECIPIENT

Over the course of two months, the concrete work on the front side of Sage Building was reconstructed by a concrete professional, John Rennie. The building was pressure washed and cleaned and then painted. The work was done in accordance to National Park Service Preservation Briefs and in consultation with Paul Gaudette, a concrete conservation specialist.

The paint color was matched as the original cream color of the structure when it was first constructed in 1929. The brown trim was selected through help from Sheldon Jackson Museum archives and museum professionals.

Historic photos from the State Historic library were also used. The painting was done through a combination of staff and volunteer assistance. The United States Coast Guard generously donated their time to help complete the painting when the weather was warm and dry for a few days in May. A lift for the painting was donated by John Rennie and CBCconstruction.

The Sage Building is a contributing structure to the Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark. It is a high profile building in Sitka as it sits on the waterfront and is visible from the road and the water. Hundreds of phone calls and emails have been received by the Sitka Science Center congratulating them on the "new" look of the building. The project has made a huge impression on the community of Sitka. Sitka Science Center hopes that by demonstrating how the building can look when the concrete has been restored and paint has been applied, they can raise funds to complete the other three sides of the structure.

The Sage Building Complex prior to restoration work.



Friends of Nike Site Summit *continued*

The building will be painted to match its historic colors as closely as possible.

While a large building, the Missile Maintenance Building is much simpler and in better condition than the Launch Control Building. The fact that it is steel framed building with a gable roof has helped it through 40 years of vandalism and neglect. Work will include general cleaning, partial re-siding, repair or replacement of the entry doors and repair of two garage doors. While the interior of the building seems to stay dry, FONSS will await a report from the contractors to determine if the roof needs any repair work.

FONSS members were heartened to hear that JBER has stepped up security, especially at the vandalism-prone lower site. The stiff winds of winter, likely in excess of 100 mph at the upper site, were responsible for most of the new damage seen on the tour. Chunks of black asbestos insulation once adhered to the water tank/radar towers litter the ground around the Battery Building. Deemed unsalvageable due to contamination, the Battery Building is scheduled to be demolished in 2012, with just the prominent radar towers, concrete portion and foundation remaining. An interpretive sign near the foundation will explain the historic importance of the site.

The FONSS Board of Directors wishes to thank the JBER staff, especially Mike Bryers of Range Control, for its cooperation; commend Greg Durocher for his excellent tales of life as a young MP stationed at the site; and give kudos to Wanda Long for providing refreshments.

If you would like to join Friends of Nike Site Summit and/or make a tax deductible contribution please visit our website at <http://www.nikesitesummit.net/>.



Pat Reilly of Rainproof Roofing takes measurements on the roof of the Launch Control Building. (Photo by Doris Thomas)

10 Most Endangered Historic Properties Grants

AAHP seeks donations for the *10 Most Endangered Matching Grant Program*. The program funds hands-on preservation work on endangered properties and serves as seed money to leverage funding from other sources.

To donate to the Grant Program, please call AAHP (929-9870) or visit our website www.aahp-online.net to donate online.

TEN MOST ENDANGERED GRANT FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!



2011's Fundraiser was held at the Oscar Anderson House Museum. There was food, wine, fun, guest speakers, and BEAUTIFUL WEATHER! Our silent auction was a huge success! We raised almost \$3000 at the event!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Go from this.....

To this!!!

Have you renewed your AAHP membership for 2011?

If not, no worries!

Two easy ways to renew:

ONLINE: <http://www.aahp-online.net/>

BY MAIL: Fill out and mail in our form (below)

**Advertise in the
AAHP Newsletter**

Business Card	\$35
1/4 Page	\$65
1/2 Page	\$125

Prices are for one issue of the AAHP Newsletter.
AAHP has the right to refuse advertisements that they deem inappropriate for this venue.

Special Offer!

Recruit 5 of your friends to become AAHP members and get your 2012 membership FREE!

Simply send us a list of your 5 friends. If all 5 become new members with dues paid, we'll notify you that your 2012 Membership is "on the house"!

Invite your friends to join!

AAHP MEMBERSHIP 2011

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ e-mail _____
 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 & above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate \$100 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit* \$45 (*includes federal, state, & municipal agencies) | | Membership \$ _____ |

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

AAHP Top Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties matching-grant account

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

Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

- Fund Raising Membership Education Legislation Public Relations Projects & Issues

A-Frames (1960-1980)

A-Frames became extremely popular throughout the United States, especially in areas where recreation was developing. For the most part, A-Frames are simple buildings with small square footage. A-Frame kits were widely distributed



Our Savior's Lutheran Church—Nome

throughout the country. Lofts are common in the interior leaving space for a grand room. Residential use of the style was more common than commercial or governmental use. However, some national chain stores used the style to distinguish their buildings from others. Religious organizations often incorporated the A-Frame style in their design. As the style matured, buildings incorporated other roofs in addition to gables.

Name That Style

with Doug Gasek



Primary Stylistic Features

- Prominent steeply pitched gable roof with eaves that reach or nearly reach grade.
- Lofts incorporated into the design.

Secondary Stylistic Features

- Windows dominate the main elevation.
- Porches and decks are prevalent.
- Wood is a common cladding choice.
- Open floor plan.
- Great room.
- Deep set eaves.

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