



**Municipality of Anchorage  
Historic Preservation Commission**

**A G E N D A**

**Thursday, October 26, 2023  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Regular Meeting  
(Hybrid format)**

**In-Person Physical Location**

Planning Conference Room 170  
Planning and Development Center  
4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska

**or**

**via Microsoft Teams**

**[Click here to join the meeting](#)**

**[Download Teams | Join on the web:](#)**

**Meeting ID: 223 786 298 967, Passcode: y5EL3z**

**Or Join by Conference Call:**

**Dial-in Number: 907-519-0237**

**Conference ID: 906 766 947#**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Establishment of Quorum/Roll Call
- B. Land Acknowledgement
- C. Introductions -- Guests
- D. Disclosures

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- A. September 28, 2023

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Nomination of the Alaska Native Heritage Center to the Local Landmark Register
- B. Government Hill Wireless Station
- C. Historic Preservation Plan (HPP) Subcommittee

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**VI. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (3-minute limit)**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS / STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Section 106 Project Review – Alaska Railroad MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement
- B. Section 106 Project Review – Mounting of Sign to JBER Building 11540

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Next Regular Meeting—November 30, 2023**

### Land Acknowledgement:

*The Historic Preservation Commission would like to acknowledge that we gather today on the traditional lands of the Dena'ina Athabascans. For thousands of years the Dena'ina have been and continue to be the stewards of this land. It is with gratefulness and respect that we recognize the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspectives of the upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina.*

### Public Hearing Procedure:

The procedure by which the public may speak to the Commission at its meeting is:

1. After the staff presentation is completed on public hearing items, the Chair will ask for public testimony on the issue.
2. Persons who wish to testify will follow the time limits established in the Commission Rules of Procedure.
  - a. Petitioners (including all his/her representatives) - 10 minutes. (Part of this time may be reserved for rebuttal.)
  - b. Representatives of groups (community councils, PTA's etc.) - 5 minutes.
  - c. Individuals - 3 minutes.
3. When your testimony is complete you may be asked questions by the Commission. You may only testify once on any issue unless questioned by the Commission.
4. After there is no further public testimony, the chair declares the public hearing is closed.

### Commenters or Persons to Be Heard:

If possible, please email [tom.davis@anchorageak.gov](mailto:tom.davis@anchorageak.gov) prior to the meeting.

### Procedure for Disclosures:

1. The chair asks for disclosures.
2. The member makes a disclosure regarding one or more specific items on the agenda.<sup>1</sup>
3. For each agenda item that the member has made a disclosure, the chair (or acting chair) asks, and the commissioner responds to, the following questions:<sup>2</sup>

*Does the member have a substantial financial interest or substantial private interest in the business item before the body and is that interest:<sup>3</sup>*

- *A substantial part of the present action of the commission on this item?*
  - *One that varies directly and substantially with the outcome of the commission's action?*
  - *Immediate and known or inconclusive (conjectural) and dependent on factors beyond the commission's action?*
  - *Significant monetarily?*
  - *Generally possessed by a large group, or only by the individual member? (If there is an interest, is it by a large group or by an individual? If you have a large interest, then specify that limited interest is of a general nature.)*
4. The chair will ask for a motion from another commissioner to direct that the member to participate in the business item.<sup>4</sup>
    - Motion: *I move to direct \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in business item \_\_\_\_\_.*
    - Second the motion.
    - Commissioners (not including the member) vote, yes or no.
  5. If the member has made a disclosure on more than one agenda item, repeat steps 3 and 4 for each additional agenda item for which the member has made a disclosure. **Repeat the procedure for each member who makes a disclosure.**

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<sup>1</sup> If the chair has a disclosure to make, the chair first gives the other commissioners the opportunity to make any disclosures. The chair discloses last, after the commission has addressed disclosures from other members. After making the disclosure, the chair gives control of the meeting over to the vice-chair. The vice-chair becomes the acting chair for the purpose of carrying out the disclosure procedure to determine if the chair can participate in discussions and actions for that item. Once the vice-chair has completed the procedure to determine if the chair has a conflict or not, the vice-chair returns control of the meeting to the chair.

<sup>2</sup> In practice, as an alternative to step 3, upon listening to the disclosure by the member, if the chair believes there is no direct conflict, the chair may state that they think there is no direct conflict and unless there are any objections from other members can direct the member to participate in discussions of the agenda item, without asking the bulleted questions in 3 or undergoing a motion and vote.

<sup>3</sup> The chair asks each bulleted question individually and has the member respond before moving on to the next bulleted question.

<sup>4</sup> The motion in step 4 is always stated in the positive, to direct the member to participate. This motion enables the commission to vote on the matter. A "no" vote excuses the member from participating in the agenda item.

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**Municipality of Anchorage**  
**Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission**

***MEETING SUMMARY***

Thursday, September 28, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

***Regular Meeting***

Hybrid Meeting – In-person and Virtual via Teams  
Planning Conference Room 170, 4700 Elmore Road

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by chair Klug at 5:36 p.m.

**A. Establishment of Quorum/Roll Call**

A quorum was present.

*Present:* Darrick Howard  
Jeremy Karchut  
Bryce Klug, Chair  
Marc Lamoreaux  
Loren Leman  
David Reamer  
Connor Scher

*Excused:* Brandy Pennington

*Staff:* Tom Davis, Senior Planner/Historic Preservation Officer, Planning Department  
Maria Lewis, Architectural Historian/CLG Program Coordinator, Alaska State Historic Preservation Office

**B. Land Acknowledgement *(delivered)***

**C. Introductions -- Guests**

*Guests:* Rob Meinhardt, President, True North Sustainable Development Solutions (TNSDS)  
Joan Bayles Burgett, Cultural Resource Manager, TNSDS  
Casey Woster, Architectural Historian, TNSDS  
Greg Stewart, Alaska Native Heritage Center

#### **D. Disclosures**

Several Commissioners who did not attend the August 24 HPC meeting made the following disclosures. *Commissioners Howard and Lamoreaux* disclosed that they had listened to the August 24 meeting recording and had reviewed the nomination application packet for the Alaska Native Heritage Center, and *Chair Klug* asked them to participate in the Special Order of Business to reconsider the motion to approve the nomination. *Commissioner Karchut* disclosed that he had reviewed the nomination packet materials.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Commissioner Reamer* moved to approve the agenda. *Commissioner Lamoreaux* seconded.

*Commissioner Lamoreux* moved to modify the agenda to add an item under the business sections of the meeting agenda to further consider the nomination of the Alaska Native Heritage Center to the Local Landmark Register. *Commissioner Reamer* seconded the motion.

*Commissioner Scher* moved to change the order of the modified agenda so the added business item to further consider the nomination of the Alaska Native Heritage Center to the Local Landmark Register would be the first business item discussed after item III.A., Special Order of Business. *Commissioner Lamoreaux* seconded the motion.

***The agenda as modified with the change in order was approved unanimously.***

#### **III. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

##### **A. Reconsideration of HPC Case 2023-01, Local Landmark Register Nomination for Alaska Native Heritage Center.**

*Commissioner Scher* moved to reconsider the motion from the August 24 HPC meeting, to approve the Alaska Native Heritage Center to be placed on the Local Landmark Register a staff presentation. *Commissioner Lamoreaux* seconded the motion.

*Commissioner Scher* spoke to his motion, explaining that the reconsideration provides opportunity to get the perspectives of commissioners who did not attend the August 24 meeting, and to potentially have more members of the Commission participate in the vote. The participants at the last meeting left the meeting assuming the motion to approve the nomination had passed on a 3-2 vote. He explained that when he learned the next day that it had failed due to a lack of a majority of the Commission voting in favor (5 of the 9 seats), he gave notice of his intent to reconsider the August 24 vote at the next commission meeting.

***The motion to reconsider passed unanimously.***

*Chair Klug* explained that the main motion from August 24, to approve the Alaska Native Heritage Center (ANHC) to be placed on the Local Landmark Register, was now back on the floor for deliberation and a re-vote.

*Commissioner Lamoreaux* asked if he could question the petitioner regarding its choice to nominate the ANHC as a landscape, and what is the cultural significance of the land itself. Staff responded that, under the Special Order of Business item, Commissioners cannot ask questions or request further information directly from the petitioner. Staff shared the definition of the “landscape” type of landmark under the Local Landmark Ordinance.

Based on the available information, the Commissioners voted on the reconsidered motion to approve the Alaska Native Heritage Center to be placed on the Local Landmark Register, as follows:

- Yes –Darrick, Klug, Leman.
- No – Reamer, Scher.

***The motion failed, with 3 votes in favor and 2 opposed.*** (Note: The motion failed because any action by the HPC requires a favorable vote of the majority of all authorized seats of the board.)

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

##### **A. June 22, 2023.**

*Commissioner Scher* moved to approve the June 22, 2023, minutes as presented and distributed. *Commissioner Leman* seconded.

***The June 22, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously.***

##### **B. August 24, 2023.**

*Commissioner Scher* moved to approve the August 24, 2023, minutes as drafted. *Commissioner Leman* seconded. *Commissioner Leman* suggested that if any members see any technical corrections that should be made that do not change the meaning, to contact staff so those minor adjustments can be made.

***The August 24, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously.***

#### **V. and VI. BUSINESS ITEMS**

##### **A. Further Consideration of HPC Case 2023-01, Local Landmark Register Nomination for Alaska Native Heritage Center**

*Commissioner Lamoreaux* questioned the petitioner regarding the cultural significance of the land itself, given that it is proposed to be nominated under the “landscape” category of local landmarks. *Casey Woster*, TNSDS, responded the land by itself is not culturally significant or the basis for the nomination. It is the overall designed landscape including the lake, collection of buildings, structures, and other features and the activities. It also includes the landscape feature of a lake to fit their needs. The lake is included in the landscape itself. The landscape can be aesthetically significant. It includes the buildings. TNSDS found the landscape category of landmark under the Local Landmark Ordinance fit the ANHC the best.

*Rob Meinhardt*, TNSDS, further explained the rationale for the “landscape” type of designation. He directed the Commission’s attention to his letter provided as item IIIB in the meeting packet, reading and explaining the top two paragraphs on page 2 of his letter. He explained that, when TNSDS evaluated the criteria, it relied in part on the National Register criteria because Anchorage’s Local Landmark Ordinance was somewhat vague. He reiterated that the period of significance is related to the landscape design, not the buildings. The cultural significance reaches back to the 1970s with the idea of the Native Heritage Center, but TNSDS determined that for the purposes of this nomination it originated in the design of the landscape, which occurred in 1993. It is a designed landscape, akin to Central Park in New York City. There is a cultural connection between the people and the designed landscape. The period of significance is not based on date of construction; that would miss the point.

*Casey Woster* added that one must also look back on the history of its struggle to get the ANHC site approved, and that the type and scale of cultural center that it represents is unique in the entire U.S. The ANHC is presented by the people who live and experience the lifeways being presented. It exemplifies indigenous cosmopolitanism: what she defined as grounding oneself in traditional cultural practices and beliefs and using them to guide how one reacts and interacts with the outside world, and sharing them with visitors.

*Commissioner Lamoreaux* asked if the cultural artifacts, some of which have a much longer period of significance reaching further back than 1993, also provide rationale for supporting the nomination. *Rob Meinhardt* responded that the intent of the ANHC was not to be about objects or artifacts. One must look at the designed landscape, the cultural activities occurring within it, and the history of the struggle to find approval. *Ms. Woster* added that it is an interactive, usable landscape, with active, functional cultural activities. *Mr. Meinhardt* concluded that these features would meet criteria of the National Register of historic places. He advised avoiding getting hung up on the construction date of the buildings, as this is not a historic building or historic district.

*Commissioner Karchut* remarked that it is not only the landscape that is significant, but also the people who have made that center happen.

*Commissioner Scher* asked Greg Stewart what ANHC’s goals are for being placed on the Local Landmark Register. *Mr. Stewart* responded that its goal is to be recognized and its story recorded at the local municipal level and in the long term at the National Register level as well.

*Commissioner Scher* reported that he had reviewed the criteria in the National Register for registering as a landscape, and had come to the conclusion that ANHC would meet the National Register criteria for a landscape. However, his second conclusion was that Anchorage’s Local Landmark Register has a different definition of Landscape. The case for this nomination is being made using the National Register definitions and criteria, and his challenge is that this conflicts with the local register’s definition and criteria. *Rob Meinhardt* responded that TNSDS did use the local ordinance’s definition of the landscape category of landmark, but used the National Register for further guidance as the local definition and criteria were somewhat vague or lacked guidance.

*Commissioner Leman* stated that in his experience no legislation is ever perfect, including the Local Landmark Ordinance, despite the good intent of its authors. The Anchorage Assembly can change the Local Landmark Ordinance. The HPC, being advisory to the Assembly, can either send this



nomination forward or not, but either way, it should include a recommendation to the Assembly that there should be clarifying changes to the Local Landmark Ordinance. The Assembly will likely ask HPC what those changes should be. He suggested the HPC include a comment in its resolution that there was extensive discussion regarding the age criteria in the Local Landmark Ordinance, and that HPC is available to work with the Assembly to address this issue in a potential amendment to the Ordinance.

*Commissioner Reamer* commented that there is also conflict to resolve between the Municipality's Director's Guidance and the nomination form documents.

*Chair Klug* said he is still leaning toward accepting the position of TNSDS that the beginning of this facility should be from the design phase, from his perspective as an architect involved in the design phase of projects. That may not follow the letter of the ordinance, but it is in the spirit of the ordinance.

*Greg Stewart*, representing ANHC, thanked the HPC for all the time and effort in considering this nomination. He highlighted the cultural and historical significance of the ANHC. He added that there have been a number of significant actions and events at the facility. He asked for the Commission's consideration for flexibility in interpreting the intent of the Local Landmark Ordinance.

*Commissioner Scher* moved to approve the nomination of the Alaska Native Heritage Center to the Local Landmark Register. *Commissioner Leman* seconded the motion.

***The motion to approve the nomination passed unanimously.***

*Chair Klug* explained that he would work with the Vice-Chair and staff to prepare a draft resolution for the Commission's feedback at the next HPC meeting. The Commissioners reviewed the July staff memo findings and had no objections to including the staff findings in the Resolution.

*Commissioner Howard* moved to extend the meeting by a half hour, to 7:30 p.m. *Commissioner Karchut* seconded the motion. ***The motion to extend the meeting passed unanimously.***

## **B. Government Hill Wireless Station**

*Tom Davis* and *Rob Meinhardt* reported on the status of the preparation of the Government Hill Wireless Station report, which is in-progress. In response to questions from meeting participants, State of Alaska staff *Maria Lewis* indicated that it is acceptable for TNSDS to place the engineer's report in the appendix and summarize the engineer's findings in the body of the main report. Several commissioners expressed concurrence.

## **C. Historic Preservation Plan (HPP) Subcommittee**

*Chair Bryce Klug* explained that the HPP subcommittee is awaiting news of when the Municipality expects to receive a final draft CDBG-DR grant agreement from the State of Alaska. *Tom Davis* reported that the Municipality and State staff are progressing on the final details of the grant agreement. The current target date for possible Assembly appropriation of the funds is mid-October, although that date may slip to a subsequent Assembly meeting.

## VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (*none*)

## VIII. OTHER BUSINESS / STAFF REPORTS

*Tom Davis* reported the following items:

- **Oscar Anderson House Museum:** MOA Facilities Maintenance provided fresh paint to the exterior of the Oscar Anderson House this summer, matching its previous existing colors and freshening up the building. The MOA Real Estate and Facilities Maintenance Departments determined they have adequate funds to be able to use wood shake shingles for the planned roof replacement, to match the existing historic roofing. The roof replacement has been rescheduled to occur next spring or summer. The building looks refreshed, although some elements such as the plaque outside the front door need replacing. *Commission Leman* observed that the Oscar Anderson House is highly visible to the public, at the entrance to the Coastal Trail. He had commented on the need for this upgrade at a commission meeting earlier this summer.
- **Section 106 Project Reviews:** *Mr. Davis* reported his intent for the Commission to be able to see a resumption of its Section 106 case reviews beginning in October.
- **Welcome to Commissioner Karchut:** Staff and Commissioners welcomed Jeremy Karchut, in attendance at his first HPC meeting, whose appointment to fill the archeologist seat on the Commission was very recently approved by the Anchorage Assembly, on Tuesday, September 26.
- **Commissioner Seat for a Building Contractor or Structural Engineer:** The Mayor's Office may have a lead on a candidate to fill the last unfilled seat for the Commission, a member with professional experience in building construction, such as a building contractor or structural engineer. The Planning staff is reaching out to the building industry for a professional builder or structural engineer with construction experience. *Mr. Davis* asked for contacts at AIA or other professional associations.
- **Commissioner Seat with Experience in Real Estate:** Commissioner Pennington has been appointed to the Municipal Platting Board. She has agreed to stay on at HPC through at least October; however, we anticipate that by sometime in early 2024 the MOA will need to find someone to fill the seat for the member with experience in real estate, such as a real estate developer, appraiser, or broker. Staff has begun, with Commissioner Pennington's assistance, to reach out to the real estate industry.
- **Commissioner Reappointments:** Commissioners Howard, Lamoreaux, and Reamer's terms are up for reappointment. *Mr. Davis* expressed the Municipality's appreciation if each can reapply to stay on for another term. Their current terms technically expire in mid-October; however, the Mayor's Office is several months behind schedule in completing reappointments for boards and commissions MOA-wide. Commissioners whose terms are expiring in October will remain seated for a 120-day grace period (until the end of January 2024). That will give the Administration time to catch up with the reappointments.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

*Commissioner Lamoreaux* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Commissioner Howard* seconded.

***The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.***

Meeting Summary drafted by Tom Davis, staff, and edited by Loren Leman, Secretary.  
October 19, 2023

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**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01**

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY APPROVAL OF THE NOMINATION OF THE ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE CENTER TO THE ANCHORAGE LOCAL LANDMARK REGISTER.

(HPC Case No. 2023-01)

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WHEREAS, the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is established by the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) chapter 2.40 to advise the Anchorage Assembly, Mayor, municipal boards and commissions, and heads of municipal departments on the identification of, designation of, and review of actions pertaining to Anchorage's historic resources; and

WHEREAS, the HPC is responsible for furthering the interests of historic preservation by identifying, protecting, and interpreting the Municipality's significant historic and cultural resources for the economic and social benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, the HPC is responsible for nominating and reviewing nominations for historic and cultural resources to be designated on the Local Landmark Register; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly established the Local Landmark Register in 2021 to recognize, document, and celebrate the buildings, districts, structures, sites, landscapes, travel routes, and traditional cultural properties significant to the history and culture of Anchorage and its communities within; and

WHEREAS, the Local Landmark Register is a voluntary program available to anyone seeking to recognize a resource by initiating, with owner approval, the designation of a resource to the Local Landmark Register; and

WHEREAS, the HPC is responsible for reviewing nominations for Local Landmark designations and making a determination of eligibility based on the historic and cultural resource eligibility criteria of the Local Landmark Ordinance as set forth in the Anchorage Municipal Code of Regulations (AMCR) 4.60; and

WHEREAS, the HPC is responsible under AMCR 4.60 for forwarding its findings and recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) for a recommendation by the PZC to the Anchorage Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a representative of the Anchorage Native Heritage Center (ANHC) submitted its nomination to be designated on the Local Landmark Register, with the support of the landowner, Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the ANHC is a non-profit center owned and operated solely by Alaskans with an advisory board made up of representatives from each of the five major Alaska Native cultural areas in Alaska, and is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of all Alaska Native cultures from across the state, an undertaking that differentiates it from other cultural and heritage centers in North America; and

WHEREAS, the ANHC strives to preserve and strengthen the traditions, lifeways, languages, heritage, and art of Alaska Native peoples through statewide collaborations, celebration, and education set in its designed, interactive cultural landscape; and

WHEREAS, the ANHC is the culmination of decades of work by Alaska Native peoples to take control of the cultural narrative surrounding their lifeways, and actively works to ground their identities in the past while also looking to the future; and

WHEREAS, the ANHC is a unique and significant cultural heritage resource that is to the benefit of all Anchorage and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, notice of the proposed nomination of the ANHC to the Local Landmark Register was provided by the municipal Planning Department to the property owners, proponents, and Northeast Community Council at least 30 days prior to the HPC meeting at which the nomination of the ANHC was considered; and

WHEREAS, the HPC held a public hearing on August 24, 2023, reviewed the nomination application and responses from the proponents and municipal staff to Commissioner questions, and concluded its deliberations on September 28, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission that:

- A. The Commission makes the following findings of fact:
  - 1. The nomination application is complete and tells the important story of the founding and establishment of the Alaska Native Heritage Center.
  - 2. Extensive research and evaluation have gone into the nomination packet, providing the community with a unique and formidable history of this Alaska Native cultural landscape.
  - 3. The Statement of Significance and the Assessment of Integrity in the nomination application meet the intent of the Local Landmark Ordinance.
  - 4. The period of historical and cultural significance for the Alaska Native Heritage Center begins at least as early as its landscape and architectural design phase in 1993.
  - 5. The Commission's deliberations included discussion regarding the wording of the age criteria for landmarks and the definitions of landmark types in the Local Landmark Ordinance (AMCR 4.60), and the HPC is available to work with the Assembly to address these issues in a potential amendment to the Local Landmark Ordinance.
- B. The Commission recommends to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Anchorage Assembly approval of the nomination of the Alaska Native Heritage Center to the Anchorage Local Landmark Register.

PASSED AND APPROVED unanimously by the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission on this 28th day of September 2023.

ADOPTED by the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.



**Municipality of Anchorage**  
**Planning Department**  
**Memorandum**



VII.

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**Date:** October 26, 2023  
**To:** Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission  
**From:** Tom Davis, AICP, Historic Preservation Officer  
**Subject:** Section 106 Project Consultations for October 2023

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is being requested to provide its feedback under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA Section 106), regarding proposed findings of no adverse effects to historic or cultural resources, and a proposed avoidance plan, in the following construction projects. These two projects are Other Business items VIII.A. and B. on the October HPC meeting agenda. The project consultation letters are attached. Following is a summary of each with staff's recommendations.

**A. Alaska Railroad MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project.** The Alaska Railroad is replacing a bridge and widening the embankment at mile 127.5 of the railroad corridor in the Municipality. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with a determination of no adverse effect on resources eligible for the National Historic Register. Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) then identified an archeological site (Site ANC-0068) that is potentially eligible for the National Historic Register and that likely extends into the railroad corridor right-of-way. The Alaska Railroad assumes Site ANC-0068 extends into its right-of-way and has committed to avoiding the site during all project activities. The Alaska Railroad will implement an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) in the event it encounters cultural materials during project activities.

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Concur with the proposed commitment to avoid Site ANC-006 and contingency plan to implement an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP).

**B. Mounting of Sign to JBER Building 11540.** JBER is proposing to mount a circular, metal insignia patch of its 3<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron to the façade of Building 11540, a one-half-story, Neo-Georgian-style building constructed by the U.S. Army during World War II and is eligible for the National Historic Register. It and the neighboring Post Headquarters building are a part of the Flightline Historic District and are distinguished from other buildings in the district by their architectural style. The proposed patch is about four feet in diameter and will be mounted using brackets and bolts affixed to the concrete façade with anchors in the concrete. The concrete walls are grooved with horizontal bands that are part of the building's historic appearance. The patch will not cover or affect other features such as the windows, doors, or roof. No other historic resources in the district will be affected.

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Concur with the proposed determination of no adverse effect to historic properties.

**Attachments**

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**Davis, Tom G.**

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**From:** Remington, Barney (FTA) <barney.remington@dot.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2023 8:37 AM  
**To:** Davis, Tom G.  
**Cc:** Jeanette Holt; Meitl, Sarah J (DNR)  
**Subject:** FW: Alaska Railroad Corporation - MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project - NHPA Section 106 Continuing Consultation  
**Attachments:** 20231003\_ARRC\_BR127-5\_EE\_AnchHistPresComm.pdf

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi Mr. Davis,

I received a bounceback on the below email; sorry for the mixup, I wasn't aware that Ms. Bunnell had retired.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this project or the attached consultation letter.

Thank you,

Barney Remington  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Federal Transit Administration - Region X | U.S. Department of Transportation  
[Barney.Remington@dot.gov](mailto:Barney.Remington@dot.gov) | 206-220-7966

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**From:** Remington, Barney (FTA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:59 PM  
**To:** kristine.bunnell@anchorageak.gov  
**Cc:** Jeanette Holt <HoltJ@akrr.com>; Meitl, Sarah J (DNR) <sarah.meitl@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Alaska Railroad Corporation - MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project - NHPA Section 106 Continuing Consultation

Dear Ms. Bunnell,

Please see the attached Section 106 continuing consultation letter for the Alaska Railroad Corporation – MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project.

Please let me know if you have questions or comments regarding the project.

Thank you,

Barney Remington  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Federal Transit Administration - Region X | U.S. Department of Transportation  
[Barney.Remington@dot.gov](mailto:Barney.Remington@dot.gov) | 206-220-7966



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Transit  
Administration**

REGION X  
Alaska, Idaho, Oregon,  
Washington

915 Second Avenue  
Federal Bldg. Suite 3192  
Seattle, WA 98174-1002  
206-220-7954  
206-220-7959 (fax)

October 3, 2023

Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission  
Municipality of Anchorage  
c/o Planning Department  
Attn: Kristine Bunnell, Senior Planner  
PO Box 196650  
Anchorage AK 99519-6650

**Subject: Alaska Railroad Corporation  
MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project  
National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106  
Continuing Consultation**

Dear Ms. Bunnell:

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in cooperation with Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC), is continuing consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800 for the MP 127.5 Bridge Replacement Project (Project). The Project would replace the existing 308-foot steel bridge with a new 360-foot steel bridge and widen the embankment for a track shift associated with the bridge replacement. Replacement of the bridge will maintain the safety and reliability of the ARRC's rail operations. On May 12, 2023, in correspondence to the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), FTA determined that the Project would result in no adverse effect on resources listed on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). FTA received SHPO concurrence with this determination on June 8, 2023. On July 5, 2023, FTA received correspondence from SHPO providing additional information regarding the eligibility of Site ANC-00668. This letter continues Section 106 consultation and feedback on proposed avoidance commitments and proposed Effects determination for the Project.

In their initial June 8, 2023 response, SHPO had requested the completion of an Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) card for a line of 12 previously undocumented telegraph/telephone poles associated with AHRS cards ANC-03653 and SEW-01068. ARRC completed an AHRS

October 3, 2023

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card for this site and submitted it to SHPO; this segment of telegraph/telephone poles has been assigned the AHRS number ANC-04773.

During consultation, cultural resource staff from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) brought to FTA's attention that the previous desktop study did not include consideration of the information included in the report *2021-2022 Phase II Identification and Evaluation of Archaeological Sites at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska*, Northern Land Use Research Alaska, LLC, dated September 2022. This report provides additional information regarding Site ANC-00668, indicating that it is potentially eligible for the NRHP and likely extends into ARRC right-of-way. ARRC assumes this site extends onto ARRC right-of-way, and has committed to avoiding the site during all project activities.

In a response dated Jun 20, 2023, the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council commented that some historic sites such as ANC-01177, Foxholes over Trestle Site, may be built over the remains of preexisting Indigenous sites. To address the event of encountering cultural materials during Project construction, an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) will be implemented by ARRC during construction of the Project.

Based on the aforementioned commitments, FTA has determined that the previous finding of no adverse effect on resources listed on, or eligible for, the NHRP remains valid.

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, FTA requests your feedback on the proposed avoidance commitments and effects determination within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Should you require additional information or have questions, please contact Barney Remington at (206) 220-7966 or [Barney.Remington@dot.gov](mailto:Barney.Remington@dot.gov).

Thank you for your consultation on the Project.

Sincerely,

(for) Susan Fletcher  
Regional Administrator

cc: Sarah Meitl, Review and Compliance Coordinator, Alaska State Historic Preservation  
Office, Office of History and Archaeology, Department of Natural Resources  
Jeanette Holt, Environmental Analyst II, Alaska Railroad Corporation

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**From:** [GROVER, MARGAN A CIV USAF PACAF 673 CES/CEIEC](#)  
**To:** [DNR, Parks OHA Review Compliance \(DNR sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Marc Lamoreaux; THP Officer; ORTIZ, ELIZABETH M CIV USAF PACAF 673 CES/CEIEC; cbrophil@eklutna.org; Richard Martin; Davis, Tom G.](#)  
**Subject:** Sec 106 notification - mount sign on Building 11540 (ANC-00926), JBER  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:49:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [Bldg 11540 sign SHPO Letter signed.pdf](#)

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## [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good morning,

A notification under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is attached regarding installation of a unit patch (sign) on Building 11540 (Photography Lab, ANC-00926) on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. Building 11540 is eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C and is a contributing property to the Elmendorf Flightline Historic District. The method proposed to mount the sign is reversible and will not affect the integrity of the building, nor will the patch cause visual effects to nearby historic properties or the historic district. JBER recommends that this project will result in no adverse effects to historic properties. The attached letter provides additional information.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Margan Grover  
Cultural Resource Manager  
673 CES/CEIEC Environmental Conservation  
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska  
Office: 907-384-3467 (DSN: 317-384-3467)  
Mobile: 907-244-9188  
*I live and work on Dena'ina land.*



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON  
JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, ALASKA**

MEMORANDUM FOR ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY  
ATTENTION: MS. JUDITH BITTNER

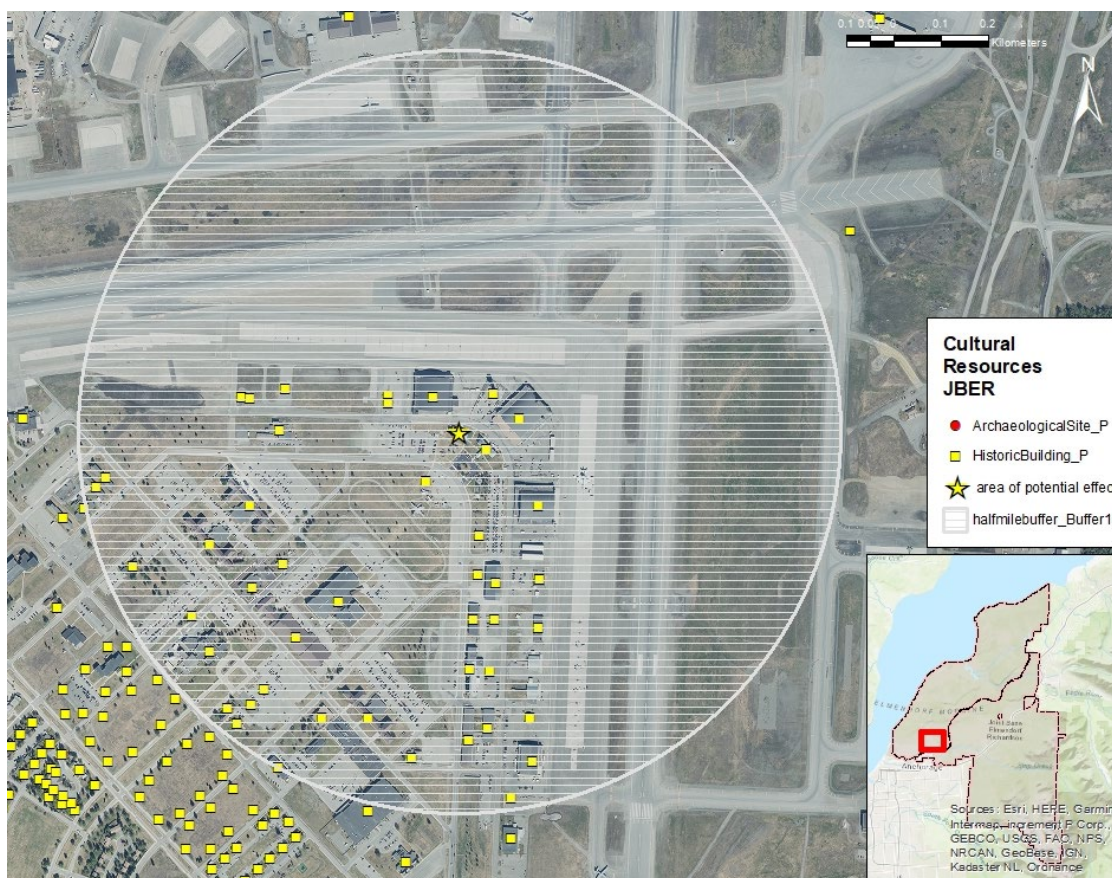
FROM: 673 CES/CEI  
6326 Arctic Warrior Drive  
JBER AK 99506-3240

SUBJECT: Install Unit Patch to Exterior of Building 11540 (Photography Lab, ANC-00926)

1. **Purpose and Need:** The Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) Civil Engineering Squadron (673d CES) is coordinating consultation for installation of a unit patch (sign) on Building 11540 (Photography Lab, ANC-00926; Figure 1; USGS quadrangle Anchorage A-8, T13N, R3W, Section 4). Building 11540 has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and is a contributing feature to the Elmendorf Flight Line Historic District (ANC-02766). The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the undertaking, provide an assessment of effect, and to seek your concurrence.

2. **Project Description:** The proposed undertaking is to mount a metal unit patch on the southwest façade of Building 11540 (Figure 2). The patch is a circular metal sign displaying the official insignia of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maintenance Squadron with their motto, "Force of the North" (Figure 3). The patch will be mounted using brackets and bolts affixed to the concrete with anchors in the concrete. It is about four feet in diameter.

3. **Historic Properties and the Area of Potential Effect:** The area of potential effect (APE) for the proposed undertaking is limited to the exterior of Building 11540. Building 11540 was built in 1943 as the Photography Lab during World War II. It is a one-and-a-half-story, Neo-Georgian style building similar to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wing Headquarters next door (ANC-00924). The foundation and walls are concrete. The hip roof is covered with aluminum, which was replaced in 2011. There are original arch-roof dormer projections on the northeast and southwest roof slopes and a single arch-roof dormer on the southeast roof slope. A two-story gable-roofed addition was built at the west end of the building at an unknown date, which enclosed the dormer on that slope. The original windows have been replaced, although the dormer windows retain an original feel. The enclosed entrances are not original but have historic precedent. The concrete walls are grooved with horizontal bands that are part of the building's historic appearance. The JBER Historic Building Maintenance and Repair Plan recommends that despite changes, the windows and doors (both materials and placement), concrete siding, and roof shape and materials should be retained to preserve Building 11540's historic integrity.



*Figure 1. Area of potential effect and cultural resources within 1/2-mile.*



*Figure 2. Building 11540 with placement of unit patch indicated.*





*Figure 3. Metal unit patch to be installed on Building 11540.*

There are 19 known cultural resources within approximately ½-mile of the area of potential effect (Table 1). Thirteen of these buildings are within the Flightline Historic District and are contributing features that were built during World War II. Eight were found eligible for the NRHP. Two buildings were constructed during the Cold War, but only the Davis Headquarters building was found eligible for the NRHP. The proposed undertaking will not affect any of these resources. One resource is a restored P-38G Lightning aircraft from the Temnac Valley on Attu Island. Its NRHP eligibility is undetermined.

*Table 1. Known resources within 0.5 miles of area of potential effect.*

AHRS no.	Description	NRHP eligibility	Affected by undertaking?
ANC-00655	Elmendorf White Alice System (1956)	No	No
ANC-00790	Building 8535, Family Support Center (1942)	No	No
ANC-00818	Building 9480, Davis Headquarters Building (1948)	Yes	No
ANC-00913	Building 8549, Jet Engine Shop (1942)	No	No
ANC-00914	Building 8574, Jet Engine Shop (1943)	No	No
ANC-00915	Building 8565, Hangar 4 Cope Thunder (1941)	Yes	No
ANC-00916	Building 9549, 3 <sup>rd</sup> OSS Operations (1943)	Yes	No
ANC-00917	Building 9560, Cold Storage (1942)	No	No
ANC-00918	Building 9551, Life Support (1943)	Yes	No
ANC-00919	Building 10547, Dry Cleaning (1945), demolished	No	No
ANC-00920	Building 9570, Medical Supply Warehouse (1943), demolished	No	No
ANC-00921	Building 10550, Heating Facility (1942)	Yes	No
ANC-00922	Building 10549, Laundry Facility (1941), demolished	No	No
ANC-00923	Building 10571, Hangar 3 (1942)	Yes	No
ANC-00924	Building 11550, Headquarters (1942)	Yes	No
ANC-00926	Building 11540, Photography Lab (1943)	Yes	No
ANC-00927	Building 11551, Hangar 1 (1942)	Yes	No
ANC-01048	Building 8561, Family Housing (1942)	No	No
ANC-01234	Temnac P-38G Lightning (aircraft)	TBD	No



The Flight Line District includes buildings associated with the development and construction of the first air base in Alaska (Ladd Field, although constructed before Elmendorf Air Field, was designed primarily for cold weather testing). Ranging from large hangars to blocky warehouses to Neo-Georgian structures, the buildings of the Flight Line are varied and represent the original, encompassing defense mission of Elmendorf Air Field. The Photography Lab and Post Headquarters are distinguished from other buildings in the district in their architectural style.

**4. Assessment of Effect:** Installation of the metal unit patch on the exterior of Building 11540 (Photography Lab, ANC-00926) will not affect the physical characteristics of the historic property. The method proposed to mount the sign is reversible and will not affect the integrity of the building, nor will the patch cause visual effects to nearby historic properties or the Flight Line Historic District. Therefore, JBER recommends that the proposed project will result in ***no adverse effect to historic properties***. We request your concurrence with this assessment of effect.

Copies of this letter will be sent to federally recognized tribes (Native Village of Eklutna Traditional Council, Native Village of Tyonek, Knik Tribal Council, and the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council) and the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission. If you have any questions, please contact Liz Ortiz CES/CEIEC, 907-384-2444 or elizabeth.ortiz.10@us.af.mil.

JEANNE L. DYE-PORTO, GS-14, DAF  
Chief, Installation Management