

**Commission on Historic Preservation
City of Fairbanks & the Fairbanks North Star Borough**



The Historic Preservation Plan

A Guide To Preservation Management

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN

Prepared by

COMMISSION ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

CITY OF FAIRBANKS & THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) integrates historic preservation into its planning process through the Comprehensive Plan, a preservation ordinance, and the FNSB Commission on Historic Preservation (FCHP), which was established by ordinance in 1986.

The State of Alaska, Office of History and Archaeology granted Certified Local Government (CLG) status to both the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks North Star Borough in 1992.

As a CLG, the Borough and City implement Federal and State laws and regulations for the protection and treatment of historic resources.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Regional Comprehensive Plan as adopted in 2005 focused on historic preservation in two distinct areas:

- Community and Human Resources Goal 3, To embrace the cultural and historic heritage of the community.

Strategy 8: Recognize & preserve our historic past.

Action A: Maintain a Historic Preservation Plan.

Action B: Recognize and preserve our Alaska Native cultural activities and historic past.

Action C: Emphasize and support the expansion of historic economic development opportunities.

Action D: Invite public participation in development issues that affect historic sites.

- Economic Development Goal I

To strengthen and expand the existing economy.

Strategy 4: Emphasize development and expansion of mining, local manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, conventions, hospitality and forest-related businesses.

Action C: Promote tourism and hospitality by:

- Supporting economic revitalization of historical resources within the Borough where appropriate.

Goals

FNSB Ordinance 2.64.080 identifies one of the FCHP's duties:

B. Develop a local historical preservation plan, including but not limited to provisions for the identification, protection, and interpretation of the area's significant resources and provisions for the establishment of historic districts. The plan should be compatible with the Alaska State Historic Preservation Plan and produce information compatible with the Alaska Heritage Resource Survey.

Therefore, the goals of the Historic Preservation Plan provide guidance and direction for the community in the preservation efforts of its historic resources. The related objectives are identified and discussed under Goals and Objectives.



Looking north down Cushman St., the main street of Fairbanks. In 1940 Second Avenue was the first to be paved. The photo shows the federal building, the First National Bank and local merchants on both sides of Cushman St. between 3rd Avenue and the river.

Goal 1: Identify, evaluate, protect and preserve the historic and archaeological resources within the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

Goal 2: Encourage consideration of historical, archaeological and cultural resources in the planning and decision making processes of the public and private sectors.

Goal 3: Increase public awareness of the value and importance of our history and heritage.

Goal 4: Encourage new partnerships to expand and strengthen the historic preservation community.

A Vision of Preservation

During the development of the Comprehensive Plan, many residents expressed an underlying view of the Fairbanks North Star Borough as a friendly community, rich in history and culture.

It is with this vision and direction that the (FCHP) embarked on the development of the Historic Preservation Plan.



The annual Miss Alaska competition was held in March. Ladies attended from all over the state.

The development of the plan was made possible through the federal Historic Preservation Fund matching grant administered by the Alaska Office of History and Archaeology. The process of developing the plan has been on-going over a period of four years. The Commission, interested community members, and the Office of History and Archaeology reviewed and commented on the plan during its development and those comments were considered in the development of the final plan.

When adopted by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly, the Historic Preservation Plan will become an element of the Borough's Comprehensive Plan.

Recommendations & Implementation

The Historic Preservation Plan identifies objectives which are recommendations for activities that will accomplish the four goals to protect and preserve the Borough's valuable historic resources. Strategies for implementing the Historic Preservation Plan may include educational programs to increase the public's knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the community's past; programs and guidelines for maintaining and enhancing the

historic features of the community; and programs to document and protect the community's rich heritage. Other strategies may include working jointly with groups and organizations, which, through their own programs, educate the community about historic preservation and actively work toward preservation of historic resources. A critical strategy for preservation is the establishment of a community process for resolving conflicts between the preservation of historic resources and alternative development and land uses.

Implementing the Historic Preservation Plan is the key to preserving and protecting our historic resources. The FCHP must take the leadership role in the community for this important task. The plan will be most effective if it is periodically reviewed and updated. Recommendations of the plan call for such review. After review, existing ordinances may be changed and new ordinances, regulations and policies may be recommended. It is important that the plan be modified as necessary to reflect the desires of the community on preservation issues. A public process is suggested to assure that the goals and objectives of the plan are being implemented.

INTRODUCTION

Why Historic Preservation?

The history of a community contributes to its personality. Preserving the history of a place through its historic properties gives a community its unique character. Historic preservation links the roots of the community and its people.

It provides economic development opportunities in tourism and construction related jobs for repair and rehabilitation. Overall, historic preservation adds to the quality of life making for a more livable community.

Historic preservation is beneficial to the community in the following ways:

Culturally: a community is richer for having the tangible presence of past eras and architectural styles.

Economically: a community benefits from increased property values and tax revenues when historic buildings are protected, maintained and used.

Developmentally: a community ultimately benefits from having a concerted and well-defined planning approach for the protection of historic buildings while accommodating healthy growth.

Socially: a community benefits when citizens take pride in its history and are mutually concerned for the protection of its historic properties.

Environmentally: a community benefits when historic buildings are recycled (restored, rehabilitated) rather than demolished and disposed of in the community landfill.



Early photo of 299 First Avenue at Dunkel

Why Preservation Planning?

Historic preservation efforts can be influenced by social, political, economic, legal and other factors. These influences can come from private enterprises or public agencies. Successful preservation planning recognizes these influences and uses a process for resolving conflicts between various interest groups and reaching consensus within the community.

Historic preservation planning is important for the following reasons:

To clearly state the goals of historic preservation in the community.

To let residents know in advance how the community wants to grow and what the community wants to protect.

To assure consistency between various government policies that affect the community's historic resources.

To educate and inform citizens about their heritage and its value to the community.

To create an agenda for preservation activities and to create a way to measure progress in protecting historic resources.

To comprehensively address issues relating to tourism, zoning, traffic and development patterns and design that affect historic preservation.

To encourage economic development through the preservation of historic resources.

To strengthen the political understanding of and support for historic preservation laws and policies.

Trends Affecting Historic Resources

Tourism: Ask any tourist what he enjoyed about our town and he will relate his visit to the old library, Gold Dredge No. 8, the pipeline, the Pump House, Ester or one of many sites that interpret our brief but fascinating history. Many of our historic treasures, like the Fairbanks Exploration (F.E.) Company houses and the Oddfellows Hall, have been restored and are an asset to our economy. It is unfortunate that every success can be matched with a story of loss. One of the goals of this plan is to increase public awareness of the value and importance of our history. We must realize that much of our future economy is in our investment in the past.

Mining: Since Felix Pedro announced his gold discovery in 1902 through the 1968 announcement of oil discovery at Prudhoe Bay, to the present when the State looks for the “next big announcement,” resources have been the heartbeat of the Interior. The Borough’s mining sites and stories fuel visitor’s fantasies and promote the tourism industry. Present day mining for gold, coal, oil and gas economically benefits the Interior and continues the story.

Alaska Natives: Alaska Natives are not a separate part of Alaska history; they are integral to it. Alaska’s human history did not begin with the gold rushers, but with the Paleolithic people who first walked the Americas more than 14,000 years ago. The people of the Interior, the Athabascans, gift us with history and tradition.

Military: Historic properties on military installations in the FNSB are the responsibility of the respective Army and Air Force commands. As military missions change, modernizations and facility upgrades can affect historic resources. The transformations raise issues of compatible site selection and design, especially for the Ladd Field National Historic Landmark. The scarcity of public funds for rehabilitation and continued use and the pressure for new construction has resulted in the demolition of many old structures.

Growth: The Fairbanks North Star Borough’s resident population has grown in recent years. As families grow they need and want more living space. This often results in additions to existing houses or removal of existing buildings and construction of larger houses. This trend can be detrimental to the historic character of the downtown area and its neighborhoods by compromising the original scale and style of the buildings. New developments often impact the view of an area. Historic landscapes can be impacted with the development of new industries, roads, and other projects.



Judge James Wickersham’s meeting with the chiefs in the George H. Thomas Library

Overview

The Historic Preservation Plan identifies the need for recording and preserving the history of communities within the Borough. It proposes the evaluation of important elements which are critical in preserving its unique historic character and suggests a need for public involvement in the decision-making when development and other pressures threaten historic resources.

This planning document outlines the history of the City of Fairbanks, the City of North Pole and the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and makes recommendations about the preservation of its historic resources. It establishes a purpose for preservation and reviews the relationship of the Historic Preservation Plan to the Borough's Comprehensive Plan. The document describes how community involvement has been a vital element in the development of the plan and stresses the need for continued review and updating of the plan.



The sign spanned Illinois Street near today's Phillips Field Road. The F.E. Office Building is in the background.

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to guide efforts to preserve and protect the valuable historic resources of the community.

The plan is intended to influence the direction of change and development to be sensitive to historic preservation and cultural resource values. The plan establishes goals and objectives that the community determined to be important for historic preservation. It defines policies and actions for future activities to achieve the preservation goals. The plan recommends the establishment of a process to consider historic and cultural resources when development activities are proposed. Additionally, it recommends that work continue to document, protect, and preserve important historic and cultural resources.

Upon final review and approval by the FCHP, the Historic Preservation Plan will be presented to the Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Commission. Ultimately the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly will review and adopt this plan as an element of the Comprehensive Plan to guide historic preservation in the Borough.

Public Involvement

The development of the Fairbanks North Star Borough's Historic Preservation Plan involved public participation throughout the process. The FCHP, through public notice and personal letter, invited the public to comment on the plan, and also provided a short video describing the plan and its goals.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Physical Setting and History

The Fairbanks North Star Borough encompasses 7,361 square miles of the Tanana River Valley and the surrounding hills and uplands. Today, there are many historic neighborhoods and archaeological sites throughout the Borough which link the community to its heritage, and, in a way, to its future. The history of Fairbanks, and North Pole, and the development of the North Star Borough are partially told in the historic buildings, artifacts, and archaeological sites.

Prehistoric and Early Native Settlement in the Borough

Archaeological Sites: The archaeological record of the Tanana Valley dates human activity in the area back 11,000 years. Within the borough, major sites include the Campus Site, on the University of Alaska. There are three identified archaeological sites at Harding Lake, and sites on the Blair Lakes bombing range. These represent three periods in pre-history: Denali Complex-Paleo-Arctic Tradition 9000 BC - 6000 BC; Northern Archaic Period: BC 6000 - AD 1000; and the Athabaskan Period: AD 1000 to present. Surveys for the Chena Lakes Flood Control Project, the Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline, and the Delta Land Management Planning Study Area have helped locate archaeological sites.

Spiritual and Burial Sites: Native burial sites in the borough, such as the Salchaket Village Site, are protected under state law. These, along with Native spiritual sites, are identified and tracked by the Tanana Chiefs Conference. The construction of the Richardson Highway destroyed the principal pictograph site in the borough, Moose Creek Bluffs. Portions of the pictographs remain in a collection at the University of Fairbanks Museum.

Settlement

Primary Settlement: The first buildings in Fairbanks were part of the enclave known as Barnett's Cache, established in 1902 on the south side of the Chena River. Felix Pedro's gold discoveries in the fall of 1902, started a minor stampede to the new area. Between 1902-03, new arrivals staked town lots and built cabins around Barnett's Cache. Today these cabins are a



ubiquitous reminder of pioneer life at the beginning of Fairbanks' history.

Among those who arrived in the new town was Judge James Wickersham, who staked a lot for a courthouse as well as for his home. While most residences were of log, the Judge built a small frame dwelling, the Wickersham House, now at Pioneer Park. Among the early homes is the two-story frame Falcon Joslin House on Cowles, which the promoter of the Tanana Valley Railroad built in 1906.

Secondary Settlement: As mining output declined after 1909, fewer new buildings were built. An exception was the elaborate bungalow known as the Mary Lee Davis House, built in 1917. During this period, Fairbanks' population, which reached 10,000 during the peak years before 1910, sank below 2,000 in 1920.

The completion of the Alaska Railroad in 1923 renewed activity. The Fairbanks Exploration (F.E.) Company planned and built a number of houses for its administrators. The F.E. Company Employee Housing, and the F.E. Company Managers House (White House) on Illinois Street have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The company purchased other homes in the community, among them the Noyes House and the Mary Lee Davis House.

WW II, and Cold War Settlement, 1942-1960: The U.S. Army began the construction of Ladd Field in 1939 as a cold weather testing site and later Fairbanks became an important part of the Lend Lease Program to transfer airplanes to Russia. Following the war, the housing shortage when cold war construction projects started, was alleviated with the construction of housing projects including Fairview Manor, and the Northward Building.

Commerce and Economic Development

Gold Mining: During the early bonanza period, the newcomers filed individual claims, established towns and built a railroad. When the boom subsided after 1910, many of these towns were abandoned. Today, three historic districts (Ester, Chena Pump, and Chatanika) listed in the National Register of Historic Places reflect the mining heritage of the interior and serve as tourist attractions. Gold Dredge #8 and the Davidson Ditch are represented on the National Engineering record.



Felix Pedro discovered gold at the Pedro Discovery Site, north of town, on Pedro Creek on July 22, 1902. This single discovery changed the course of the history of the Tanana Valley almost overnight. By 1905, the

Fairbanks Mining District supported 10,000 people. Gold was mined on 1,500 creeks. Townsites established near the producing creeks included Alder Creek, Berry, Cleary, Cripple Creek, Dome, Ester, Fox, Gilmore, Goldstream, Meehan, Pedro, and Tenderfoot. Today, although most of these sites do not contain standing buildings, they are inventoried.

By 1910, most of the gold available through early drift mining technologies had been mined. Remains of individual mining enterprises include the Hi-Yu Mine on Moose Creek, Bartholomae Mine in Ester, McCarthy Mine at the head of Fairbanks Creek, and the Stepovich Lode on Gilmore Dome, on upper Fish Creek. These sites are all characteristic of early lode mining. To date, no sites representing lode mining in the Fairbanks North Star Borough are listed in the National Historic

Register.

The arrival of the Fairbanks Exploration Company signaled the start of large scale corporate mining in Fairbanks. The F.E. Company established its headquarters on Illinois Street, north of downtown Fairbanks. It constructed a Power Plant, Headquarters Building, gold room, warehouses, and a machine shop. The office's machine shop are listed in the NRHP as part of the Illinois Street Historic District.



On the creeks, the F.E. Company established camps, 8 metal-sided industrial buildings including bunkhouses, mess halls and shops. Ester Gold Camp (Cripple Creek) and Chatanika Gold Camp are substantially intact today and are listed in the National Historic Register. To obtain water for operations in Fox, the company constructed the 90-mile long Davidson Ditch with flumes, penstocks, and associated structures, now recorded for the National Historic Engineering Record. For Ester operations, it built the Pumphouse on the Chena River, with a system of ditches and flumes carrying the water over Chena Ridge to the Ester operations, that has been entered in the National Historic Register.

At the peak of operations, the company operated eight dredges in the Fairbanks area. While a number of these still exist and are represented on the inventory, Gold Dredge #2, #5 and #8 are the only ones currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Buildings associated with Gold Dredge No. 8 are authentic F.E. Company buildings, which over the years, have been moved repeatedly. Recently, researchers thoroughly documented mining in the Fish Creek area. Remains include buildings, camps, mining artifacts, trails, ditches, penstocks and wagon roads, representing the Early Bonanza period, Independent Operators after 1910, Lode Mining, and Corporate Industrial Mining.

General Commerce: A major fire in the downtown business district in 1906 destroyed most of the earliest commercial construction. The Palace Hotel, once on 4th Avenue, and now at Pioneer Park, is the last remaining multi-story log commercial building representing this early period of commercial development. The Odd Fellows Hall, also known as the First Avenue Bathhouse, is

perhaps the last remaining commercial building of the primary period still on its original site.

Warehouses and industrial buildings were important in Fairbanks, where most goods had to be imported in the summer. The N.C. Warehouses on Garden Island, constructed in 1905, are two of the oldest industrial buildings in Fairbanks. Industrial and warehouse buildings in Fairbanks are not well represented in the National Register.

A second disastrous fire in 1919 destroyed many other early buildings; however it was almost a decade before buildings of fireproof (concrete) construction were built. Early concrete buildings have come to define the historic look and feel of downtown Fairbanks. Among the first was Cap Lathrop's Empress Theater, built in 1927. In 1933, Cap built the updated, concrete Lathrop Building which became Fairbanks' most prestigious office building, housing such enterprises as Cap's television station and the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. In 1939, he built the art-deco Lacey Street Theater at the northwest corner of Lacey and 2nd Avenue, with more luxurious seating and design than the original theater. It is listed in the National Historic Register.

The downtown area contains the majority of important first and second-generation buildings. A period of redevelopment within the downtown area led by the Main Street Program in the mid-1980s, began the revitalization of the downtown core area. Courthouse Square is an example of adaptive reuse of a historic building, namely the old Federal Courthouse, Jail and Post Office.



Fire at businessman Abe Stein's store in downtown Fairbanks

Commercial Sites Outside Downtown: Roadhouses, usually spaced every 10 to 15 miles along major trails and roads, often formed the nucleus of small settlements. The early Valdez-Fairbanks Trail represented an 8-day sojourn from one end to the other and provided the automatic clientele to those locations providing overnight lodging and meals to the weary travelers. Vestiges of early townsites in the Tanana Valley such as Chena, Olnes, Chatanika, Cleary City, Meehan and Dome are important historic sites in the borough though few actual structures remain. A few, such as Berry (Ester) and Fox, however, have some of these buildings.

Timber and Manufacturing Sites: The early sawmills and lumberyards are gone except for the Independent Lumber Warehouse built circa 1909. While none of the buildings used and operated by the Tanana Mill Company survived, the home built by the owner of that operation, Fred Noyes, (located at the northeast corner of Illinois and Minnie) and the slough named after him, are reminders of one of Fairbanks' early entrepreneurs.

One of the boats operated as "Transportation on the Yukon River and Tributaries" by George Black was the Idler, bought as a pleasure boat for use up and down the Noyes and Chena sloughs by Fred Noyes with money earned in the lumber business. Other buildings include Samson's Hardware (originally Brumbaugh, Hamilton & Kellogg) renamed by 1910 after the original partnership split up. It once manufactured steam boilers, steam points and other locally specialized mining equipment.

Agriculture: The federal government designated 1,400 acres as an Agricultural Experiment Station in 1906. By 1909, 30,000 acres of land had been homesteaded. Garden Island, the Brandt Homestead and Rickert's Homestead on 14th Avenue had thriving gardens supplying Fairbanks and the mines. None of these sites remains as agricultural enterprises; all have been developed. Charles Hinckley established what ultimately became Creamer's Dairy when he and his wife sold out to

could no longer file on Peger Road, Van Horn Road, South Cushman, or College Road among other locations. Settlement expanded to places such as Chena Hot Springs Road, Goldstream Valley, and North Pole.

Military and Government

Local Government: Fairbanks incorporated as a city in 1903. At the time its population was 800.



The original townsite, surveyed in 1907, comprised approximately 127 blocks and had small cabins, hotels, commercial establishments along the river, and the "infamous" 4th Avenue District. In the mid 1930s, the building that is now the Fairbanks Community Museum was built. It was originally the City Hall building, which at the time, housed fire and police departments, city jail and offices. City government relocated to the substantial Main School building

when the Borough School District Offices moved. Main School and old City Hall are listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Fairbanks.

her sister and her brother-in-law, Charlie Creamer. Today most of Creamer's Dairy Farm is a wildlife refuge not far from the center of Fairbanks, but the buildings are listed in the National Historic Register. Bentley & Sons Dairy started soon after Creamer took over Hinckley's. It closed several years before Creamer ceased operations in February 1966. The Bentley dairy property today is a developed commercial and residential section of Fairbanks.

when the Borough School District Offices moved. Main School and old City Hall are listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Fairbanks.

North Pole was incorporated as a home rule city in January 1953. Sixty families lived in the original 200 acre townsite. Nine businesses operated in the city. The North Pole Public School, grades first through eight began in the fall of 1953. A new two story school was completed in 1954. On March 1, 1954, the North Pole rural post office opened, establishing the 99705 zip code and the North Pole postmark.

As Fairbanks grew and the value of land near the core area increased, market gardens and homesteading moved to outlying areas. Farms such as Desjardin's on Farmer's Loop Road, the Jenson Homestead on Fairbanks Creek Road, Yankovich's farm on the thus named road, McGrath's farm off Farmer's Loop, and the Miller family potato farm on today's Miller Hill Road are some of the market farms operating in the 1920s and 1930s. By the end of World War II, homesteaders

State Government: The most significant building in the borough related to Alaska's statehood aspirations is Constitution Hall on the UAF campus, the site of the 1955-1956 Constitutional Convention. In a formal ceremony, delegates signed the document in the building which housed the university gymnasium on February 5, 1956. The 1930s

building has been altered beyond recognition and is now called Signers Hall.

Federal Government: The Federal Government was represented in the Interior as early as 1904. The first courthouse and jail, constructed in 1904, burned in the 1906 fire. The court and jail were reconstructed in the 1930s and architects designed a Federal Building, which is now the Courthouse Square.

Military, World War II: The U.S. Army built Ladd Field, now a National Historic Landmark, beginning in 1939. Hangar No. 1, constructed in 1941, was the first one built at Ladd Field. Lend Lease transferred 7,926 airplanes between 1942-1945 to the Soviet Union. The planes were flown from Great Falls, Montana to Fairbanks, and turned over to the Russians. The Russians flew them to Nome

Command projects related to early warning systems included the Nike–Hercules Missile sites atop Murphy Dome and the Cold Weather Test Facility. Fairbanks was a staging area for the Distant Early Warning system of radar stations across northern North America and construction began in 1959 for the Ballistic Missile Early Warning site at Clear. Construction of White Alice Communication Stations around Alaska began in 1955 and was completed in 1958.

Transportation and Communication

Early Trails: Many of the first prospectors in the Fairbanks Mining District arrived via trails from Nome, Rampart, the Yukon Territory, Circle and Birch Creek. In time, the trail from Circle to Fairbanks became a wagon road, portions of which remain and are now called the Circle-Fairbanks Historic Trail.



1911 Early Albert Johnson photo showing a typical spring break-up for the Chena 'Slough'. The early bridges across the river were washed out in the spring and by the time of this photo, were constructed so that they could be pulled back up the bank to be re-assembled after break-up.

Another trail led from Valdez to the Interior. It was called the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail; today known as the Richardson Highway. Other trails include the Bonnifield, Chena Hot Springs, Gilmore, and the Fairbanks Livengood Trails. All except the Bonnifield trail are partially incorporated into the modern road system.

and from Nome continued to Siberia and on to the European front. During that period there was a contingent of more than 300 Russian soldiers plus female Russian interpreters stationed at Ladd Field. The original Quadrangle, consisting of the Officers Quarters, Commanding Officers Quarters, and Murphy Hall Administration Center, 1941-45, comprised the heart of the Ladd Field Base during WW II. They are now administration buildings for Fort Wainwright.

Military, Cold War : Eielson Air Force Base, a satellite airfield prior to WW II, was established in 1947 as a Strategic Air Command. Alaska Air

Riverboats: E.T. Barnette, the founder of Fairbanks arrived on the Lavelle Young in August 1901. He called his little camp, "Chenoa City" which later became Fairbanks. Also in 1901, George Belt and Nathan Hendricks, agents of the North American Transportation and Trading Company (N.A.T.&T.) established a trading post on the Tanana River. In the spring of 1902 the two men moved across the mouth of the Chena Slough where their post became the town of Chena. The two towns were bitter rivals. Sometimes the odds favored Chena, at other times, Fairbanks. After a decade of competition, Chena failed and today no physical evidence suggests there ever was a town.

The S.S. Nenana, part of the Alaska Railroad fleet of riverboats appeared on the Yukon and Tanana Rivers and served until 1960 and today is a National Historic Landmark. Now a visitor attraction at Pioneer Park, it is the only remaining sternwheeler in Alaska. Completion of the Alaska Railroad in 1923 replaced the region's total reliance on riverboats.

Roads and Road Structures: In 1905 Congress created the Alaska Road Commission (ARC) to build, maintain and improve roads and trails in Alaska. An ARC warehouse on Illinois Street, remains from the early years.

The Valdez-Fairbanks Trail was made a wagon road between 1909 and 1911, and later a highway named for the 1st ARC president, Wilds P. Richardson. The 23 Mile Slough Bridge, built around 1920, is one of few remaining original road structures.

Roadhouses were spaced approximately a day's travel apart on the trails and roads. Roadhouses within today's borough included Richardson Roadhouse, Salchaket Roadhouse, Munson's, Piledriver, Bergman's and Johnson's Roadhouses. Other locations, such as the Silver Fox, were operated after World War II as roadhouses though not built for the purpose.

The ARC improved the Steese Highway in the mid to late 1920s (which had been used as a trail) in part to facilitate construction and maintenance of the Davidson Ditch and also to provide a more efficient means for the Fairbanks Exploration Company to transport dredges.

The Steese Highway also provided improved access to mining areas in the Birch Creek District, which continues to be worked today at a lesser degree, and to Arctic Circle Hot Springs. The Alaska Highway, built during wartime in 1942, opened to civilian use in 1948.

Railroads: Construction on the Federal Alaska Railroad began in 1915. In the summer of 1917 the U.S. Government, for about \$300,000, bought the Tanana Valley Railroad, which it had operated on a lease since 1916. In November 1919, the link between



A local event was this "diving" fundraiser in which advertising was sold to local vendors and Mrs. Welch (Willis?) of Chatanika performed for the local crowd. The original St. Joseph's Hospital is in the background. This was probably the summer before the Catholic church was moved across the Chena.

Fairbanks and Nenana was completed as a narrow gauge line, ending on the north side of the river at Nenana. From this date, steamboat freight regularly became railroad freight at Nenana. In the same year Tanana Valley Railroad tracks were torn up, but some boats still visited Fairbanks occasionally.

In early 1923 crews completed work on the railroad bridge connecting Nenana to the north side of the river and converted tracks between Nenana and Fairbanks from narrow to standard gauge. The new Alaska Railroad, which President Warren G. Harding opened in July 1923 when he drove the golden spike, saved 2,395 miles over the previous all-water route. The new railroad brought about the demise of the riverboats.

Air Transportation: Flying was first viewed in Fairbanks in 1913. By 1924, aviation was a method of transportation, and Carl Ben Eielson, pilot for Farthest North Aviation, obtained a government contract to try flying the mail to McGrath. The City of Fairbanks established Weeks Field landing strip on

the outskirts of downtown. It was improved with two 400 foot wide by 2,000-foot long runways in 1928. It was the site of the Pan Am Hangar, originally built as the Pacific Alaska Airways hangar in 1933. The site is now used as a bowling alley. Weeks Field was closed in October 1951.

The federal government built Fairbanks International Airport in 1949 for civilian air traffic. As a result of a bitter court battle over the closure of Weeks Field, Bachner's Air Service acquired land from the Phillips homestead and Phillips Field was established as a secondary center for civilian aviation, operating until the 1990s when construction of the Johansen Expressway paved over the old air field.

Communication: The Washington Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS), built by the U.S. Army and completed in 1903 was the first communication project in Alaska. Stations were located at the mouth of the Salcha, and Chena Rivers along the line to Tanana. The Alaska Communications System, ACS, built a wireless station in Fairbanks in 1908. Construction of the Alaska Highway in 1942 included installing a telephone line the length of the route.



Alaska capitalist "Cap" Lathrop established the town's first radio station in the Lathrop Building. He later built the art deco style KFAR transmitter building on Farmers Loop Road in 1940.

Social Institutions

Spiritual Structures and Sites: Churches were among the earliest buildings in Fairbanks. The Immaculate Conception Church was built on the south side of the river in 1904 and moved to its present location in 1911. St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on 1st Avenue was constructed in 1904. The original church burned in 1947, but was reconstructed in 1948. The First Presbyterian Church built in 1904, is now located at Pioneer Park.

Of religious, social and historical importance is the Clay Street Cemetery, established in 1903, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Outlying camps such as, Cleary City and Chatanika also had cemeteries.

Education and Libraries: The first school in Fairbanks opened in 1903. The first school building to occupy the lot at 8th and Cushman was a two-story frame structure built in 1906. This building burned in 1932. The school board planned for an immediate replacement; however, the concrete art-deco Main School was not ready until 1934. Students from kindergarten through Senior High were taught in the building until 1951. The building is now listed in the National Historic Register of Historic Places and is no longer a school. Nordale and Denali elementary schools were constructed during the 1950s. Lathrop High School, built in 1955, remains in use today.

In 1915, the federal government set aside land around the Agricultural Experiment Station in Fairbanks for an Agricultural College and School of Mines. The territorial legislature chartered the college in 1917. The first students registered in the fall of 1922. The original building was a two and a half story frame building on College Hill.

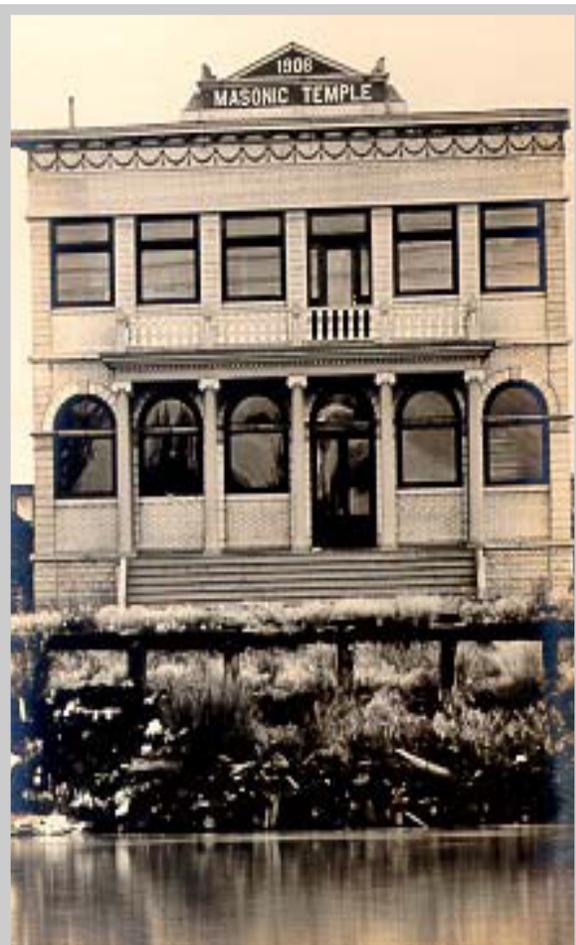
This building was demolished in 1960 after the completion of the Bunnell Building. A home for the University President, Bunnell House, was also constructed and remains in use today.

The first concrete building on campus, and the oldest academic building, served as the college's first gymnasium and as a library. Built in 1931, a second story was added in 1935. The university administration remodeled the structure in the 1980s and it now is called Signers Hall.

Eielson Building was the second concrete building, begun in 1934. Upon its completion in 1951, it has been used for administrative offices, classrooms, post-office, barber shop, coffee shop, living quarters, bookstore, museum and research center. In 1937, anthropologist Froelich Rainey built the log Rainey's Cabin, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, in the woods on a ridge behind the campus.

The Alfred Brooks Memorial Mines Building was dedicated in 1952 and is currently used as the Native Studies Center. The second concrete dorm building on campus, Nerland Hall, was built in 1953. The federal government financed the original structure housing the Geophysical Institute and it was built in 1953.

The George C. Thomas Memorial Library, a National Historic Landmark, was built in 1909 with funds raised and donated through the Episcopal Church. Originally a reading room, the building was given to the City of Fairbanks to be operated as a public library, reverting to the Church if such use was discontinued. The building is now in private ownership and maintained as private archives.



The Masonic Temple sits on the original site of E.T. Barnette's store. Many additions have been added to this building including the façade on the front.



Garden Island home

Social Organizations: Far from friends and relatives and anxious to create a new community, Fairbanks residents created a number of social institutions. The Odd Fellows (Golden North Rebekah Lodge) purchased a building built in 1906 originally operated as the First Avenue Bath House. The building was renovated and started to be used as their meeting hall in 1912. In the late 1990s it was rehabilitated. The Masons purchased a building on 1st Avenue in 1908 and added a pressed tin facade to it in 1916. Both are now in the National Register of Historic Places.

Pioneer Park: In 1963, the Pioneers of Alaska obtained a 55-year lease from the State Department of Natural Resources to 41.5 acres of land today known as Pioneer Park. They began relocating historic cabins and buildings to this site for a park. To commemorate the centennial of the Alaska Purchase in 1967, the Pioneers relinquished their leasehold interest so the park could

be transferred to the City of Fairbanks. Although artificial groupings of historical buildings is discouraged today, Pioneer Park represents an important period in community history. Pioneer Park has three National Register properties, the Harding Car, the Riverboat Nenana, a National Historic Landmark, and the Wickersham House.

Conclusion

Too many of the old buildings and structures in Fairbanks and North Pole have fallen to the bulldozer to make room for new construction. It must be noted, however, that the majority of the early buildings used logs and wood frame construction. This limited their life spans. Our job today is to preserve the viable historical properties that remain.



Fairbanks North Star Borough Recommendation for Further Surveys

Since 1986, when the historic building survey was last updated, there have been many changes to the buildings in Fairbanks. A new survey should be conducted to update this information. The following time periods are lacking representation in the Historic Resource Survey:

I. Settlement

- A. Primary Settlement, 1903-1910: This period is not represented in the National Register by cabin types.
- B. Military, World War II, 1939-1945: No general survey of non-military buildings from this era has been undertaken.
- C. Military, Cold War, 1948-1958: Significant period of military impact on the local and then territorial economies.

II. Commerce and Economic Development

- A. Gold Mining, Lode Mining: No sites representing lode mining in the Fairbanks area are listed in the National Register.
- B. Gold Mining, Corporate Industrial Mining: 1911-1960: Industrial dredging operations in the Borough played a major role in local history. While individual elements are on the National Register and serve as tourist attractions, this history has yet to be adequately interpreted.
- C. General Commerce Downtown Fairbanks, 1902-1942: This period is not represented on the National Register.
- D. General Commerce Sites Outside Downtown: Historic town sites should be mapped and designated for their local significance so that appropriate mitigation can be considered in instances of development.
- E. Agriculture, Early Agriculture: There has been no systematic survey of agricultural properties from this period.

- F. Agriculture, Homesteading: Early homesteads of this period have not been systematically surveyed, but are significant, and may deserve recognition.

III. Transportation and Communication

Early Trails: Trail rights-of-way, bridges, and bridge remains and roadhouse sites from Alaska's first highway have not been surveyed.

- A. Roads and road structures: Early trail rights-of-way, roadhouses and roadhouse sites and trail structures have not been surveyed or identified with the exception of the Circle-Fairbanks Trail.

Historic Landmarks and National Register of Historic Places

HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY

1.	Chatanika Gold Camp	10/16/79	LIV-023
2.	Ester Camp Historic District	05/06/87	FAI-204
3.	F.E. Company Housing	05/09/97	FAI-356
4.	Illinois Street Historic District	09/14/01	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY

1.	George C. Thomas Memorial Library *	02/23/72	FAI-004
2.	Sternwheeler Nenana *	06/27/72	FAI-005
3.	Rainey's Cabin	11/20/75	FAI-084
4.	Immaculate Conception Church	04/03/76	FAI-030
5.	Creamer's Dairy	07/13/77	FAI-085
6.	Harding Railroad Car	04/06/78	FAI-103
7.	U.S. Federal Building	08/02/78	FAI-155
8.	Wickersham House	04/27/79	FAI-139
9.	Falcon Joslin House	04/29/80	FAI-037
10.	Masonic Temple	06/03/80	FAI-032
11.	Odd Fellows Hall	06/03/80	FAI-038
12.	Chena Pump House	03/17/82	FAI-202
13.	Clay Street Cemetery	10/25/82	FAI-164
14.	Mary Lee Davis House	12/17/82	FAI-036
15.	Goldstream Dredge No. 8	02/28/84	FAI-003
16.	Ladd Field *	02/04/85	FAI-236
17.	Lacey Street Theatre	06/14/90	FAI-207
18.	Main School	09/27/90	FAI-244
19.	Discovery Claim On Pedro Creek	05/13/92	LIV-178
20.	F.E. Company Machine Shop	10/12/95	FAI-445
21.	F.E. Company Managers House	02/16/96	FAI-273
22.	F.E. Company Dredge No. 2	06/30/99	LIV-102
23.	Old City Hall	05/30/02	FAI-282
24.	F.E. Company Dredge No. 5	03/18/04	
25.	Constitution Hall	11/03/05	

* National Historic Landmark

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| <i>Alaska-Yukon Magazine</i> | <i>Fairbanks Evening News</i> |
| <i>Fairbanks Daily News</i> | <i>Fairbanks Sunday Times</i> |
| <i>Fairbanks Daily News-Miner</i> | <i>Fairbanks Weekly News</i> |
| <i>Fairbanks Daily Times</i> | |

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PRESERVATION ISSUES

The Fairbanks Historic Preservation Commission and the public identified the following historic preservation issues for further discussion.

- Confidentiality of Pre-Historic and Historic Information: Often pre-historic and historic information must be held confidential to protect the resource. This can be especially true in regards to specific locations of archaeological discoveries. There is a need to develop procedures for protecting sensitive information yet make it available for research critical to the understanding of the resources in the community.
- Impact of Development: As traffic patterns increase and change, development of new transportation corridors has the potential to impact historic resources. With increased pressure for revitalization in the core of downtown there is a threat that the historic fabric of downtown is being lost.
- Impact of Tourism: The tourism industry has potential to encourage historic preservation for economic gain. Funding sources and business ideas should be explored.
- Impact of Mining: Mineral extraction remains the life-blood of Alaska; Fairbanks is the heart. Encourage education of mining history in the Interior to facilitate an understanding of current mining and exploration activities.
- Impact of military: The military presence in the FNSB affects development trends around the installations and can place demands on the Borough infrastructure, which might impact historic properties and neighborhoods. Military installations in the Borough also contribute to the history of the FNSB and the nation and their historic resources could be more widely appreciated if educational partnerships were developed.
- Intrusion into Historic Neighborhoods: The trend toward larger homes often result in additions to existing historic buildings or the replacement of historic buildings which often are out of scale with the surrounding historic neighborhood character.
- Lack of Knowledge and Appreciation: There seems to be a general lack of knowledge and appreciation of the value of historic preservation in the community. With past efforts of historic preservation studies and projects this has improved but generally with a limited part of the community.
- Modern Building Codes: Modern building codes often impact the ability to restore historic buildings to their former character.
- Native Culture: Prior to contact with the outside world, Athabascan people had specific names for various places and features of the area such as rivers, mountains and villages. Many of these names have been lost as they were given new names by early explorers. The loss of the traditional names, represent a concern to the Native community as they try to reinforce their culture amongst their people and within the community.

PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

Following is a list and short description of opportunities in the community, which can play an important role in accomplishing the overall preservation goals identified in the Historic Preservation Plan.

- Certified Local Government (CLG): The National Historic Preservation Act established the CLG program to assist local governments in establishing and developing local historic preservation programs. Once certified, a CLG is eligible to apply for matching grant funds. The program is administered by, the Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) in conjunction with the Alaska Historical Commission. The funds may be used to survey and inventory historic and prehistoric sites, conduct planning activities, prepare nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, develop heritage education projects, prepare architectural plans, establish pre-development specifications, prepare historic structures reports and engineering studies, restore historic structures, and provide staff support for local historical commissions. The Fairbanks North Star Borough has been a CLG since 1992 and has benefited from the program over the years. Since 1992 the Commission has received almost \$20,000 in historic preservation matching grants from the National Park Service/Alaska Office of History and Archaeology. These funds were matched with a combination of Community Development Department staff in-kind services, volunteer labor, donated materials and donated equipment.
- National Historic Districts: Six National Historic Districts have been established within the Borough. These districts and their guardians should be offered support and assistance in maintaining their districts.
- Heritage Tourism: Tourists are attracted in part to the historic resources of Interior Alaska. Investment in our historic community would reflect our historic pride and encourage small business.
- Modern Technology: There is much that modern technology can provide in the preservation process. Interactive computer programs and exhibits can offer a wealth of information in a format that is easy and fun to use thus encouraging younger generations to participate and learn. Computer databases can maintain accurate records and assist in monitoring preservation efforts.
- National Legislation: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider the impact to cultural resources if they are determined eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This process provides a method to review proposed projects so that detrimental impact may be avoided. If avoidance is not possible, then mitigation for the loss of the resource is undertaken. The Section 106 requirement at a minimum provides for the potential impact by federal activities.
- State Legislation: The Alaska Legislature passed the Alaska Historic Preservation Act (Alaska Statute 41.35) in 1970 that led to creation of the Office of History and Archaeology. The Office of History and Archaeology works to preserve sites and buildings that reflect Alaska's heritage. A staff of archaeologists, historians, and architectural historians oversee programs to identify, document and restore sites and buildings, and to educate Alaskans and visitors about these non-renewable resources.
- Tanana-Yukon Historical Society: The Society goals are to instill interest in and preserve the history of the community.

VISION, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

The vision of the Historic Preservation Plan is to have all communities in the Fairbanks North Star Borough:

- Be knowledgeable about and understand the importance of protecting and preserving their unique history, and culture.
- Take care to protect and preserve their historic physical character.
- Be proud to share their past with residents and visitors in a manner, which protects the valuable historic resources of the area.

Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the FNSB Historic Preservation Plan provide guidance and direction for the community in the preservation efforts of its historic resources. The FCHP will continue to identify implementing actions, which offer strategies and/or specific tasks which, when completed, would meet the goals and objectives of the plan.

GOAL 1: Identify, evaluate, protect and preserve the historic and archaeological resources within the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

1. Review, update, expand an inventory of buildings and sites within the Borough that possess historical, cultural, architectural, geographic, or archaeological significance.
2. Maintain an historic plan that is compatible with the Alaska State Historic Preservation Plan and produces information about resources that is compatible with the Alaska Heritage Resource survey.
3. Encourage the support of the public in identifying and listing historic sites and resources.
4. Identify and evaluate properties that meet National Register criteria for historic districts.
5. Identify and evaluate properties of local historic significance for inclusion in the Alaska Heritage Resource Survey.
6. Identify and evaluate properties of local historic significance and encourage their nomination for local historic site and district status.
7. Make available technical information and assistance on caring for historic and archaeological properties.
8. Perform periodic reviews of the trends in the FNSB to assure the goals and objectives of the plan are being met and when necessary make recommendations for updating the plan.

GOAL 2: Encourage the preservation of historic resources in the planning and decision making processes of the public and private sectors.

1. Recommend to the FNSB Mayor and the City of Fairbanks Mayor actions to support local historic ordinances, the Alaska Historic Preservation Act and the Historic Preservation Plan.
2. Develop and review nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for properties within the Fairbanks North Star Borough.
3. Create an avenue to allow the Commission to review construction and development projects and demolition permits for potential impact on historic properties.
4. Work with developers, government officials and property owners to recognize historic resources and avoid impact whenever possible.
5. Expand cooperation between the Commission and the Planning Commission and City Council regarding identification and preservation of historic properties.
6. Recommend the adoption of ordinances that assist in creating incentives for preservation and restoration.
7. Investigate the feasibility of adopting tax incentives, code provisions, and design guidelines, which encourage maintaining the architectural character of historic buildings.
8. Establish a special review process for evaluating and mitigating potential impacts from tourism on historic resources.
9. Review and assist property owners with plans for new infill construction in sensitive neighborhoods to retain the cultural and historic character.

GOAL 3: Increase public awareness of the value and importance of our history and heritage.

1. Report periodically to the Borough Assembly regarding the status of historic properties within the Borough.
2. Develop a plan to increase education and public awareness of the value and importance of Borough-wide history and historic resources.
3. Improve awareness of and access to historic resources to the Borough, Fairbanks and North Pole citizenry interested in historic preservation.
4. Distribute copies of the Historic Preservation Plan to local libraries.
5. Work with school curriculum and programs to educate the young about the importance of historic preservation.
6. Develop a site on the FNSB website, which features the history of the Borough, explains the importance and value of historic preservation and includes the Historic Preservation Plan.

GOAL 4: Encourage new partnerships to expand and strengthen the historic preservation community.

1. Encourage organizations and businesses to be involved and understand the importance of historic preservation.
2. Publicly recognize people/businesses who accomplish preservation efforts.
3. Cultivate and encourage communication between local groups involved in historic preservation.
4. Participate in statewide activities involving CLGs and the Alaska Office of History & Archaeology.
5. Promote and partner in the celebrations of local historic events.
6. Partner with state and local organizations to develop highway signage about historic resources along major highways and within the Chena Riverfront Corridor.
7. Seek avenues to finance training programs on developing local preservation ordinances, design review, and land use planning.
8. Coordinate with the Chena Riverfront Commission to develop a historic corridor along the Chena River.

PERIODIC REVIEW AND UPDATE

This Historic Preservation Plan will be an effective policy instrument only if it is periodically updated to reflect current conditions and needs of the community. It is important for the plan to be reviewed every two years to determine if the plan is meeting the goals and objectives. If it appears the plan is working well no update is necessary. If items are identified, which need to be investigated and changed then an update process should begin. The update process should include public review and input to test the overall goals, and objectives, to assure the plan is reflective of the community's desires and needs for protection of its historic resources.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Alaska Heritage Resources Survey: The Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRs) is an inventory of all reported historic and prehistoric sites within the State of Alaska and is maintained by the Office of History and Archaeology. This inventory of cultural resources includes objects, structures, buildings, sites, districts, and travel ways, with a general provision that they are over 50 years old. To date over 22,000 sites have been reported within Alaska (however, this is probably only a small percentage of the sites that may actually exist but are as yet unreported).

Certificate of Appropriateness: A Certificate issued by FNSB Department of Community Planning showing approval of plans for construction, demolition, or relocation of a building, site, or building which would affect a designated historic district.

Certified Local Government (CLG): The CLG program is a partnership between the state historic preservation office and local jurisdictions, which meet national and state requirements for certification. It is part of the nationwide program established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to preserve historic properties including buildings, structures, sites, neighborhoods, and other places of importance in the historical and cultural life of the nation.

Commission on Historic Preservation: A commission appointed by the Mayor of the City of Fairbanks and the Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough to make recommendations on the designation of historic resources and to administer the Fairbanks North Star Borough and City of Fairbanks historic preservation program as specified by ordinance.

Contributing Structures or Features: Those structures, buildings, or features within a site or district, which help to define the historic significance of that site or district.

Cultural and/or Historic Resource: Buildings, structures, sites, graves, artifacts, fossils or objects, which provide evidence of the pre-history and history of the community.

District: A group of buildings or sites, which make a coherent whole due to their similar historic significance. This would include neighborhoods; mining camps, agricultural or commercial districts; and town sites.

Exterior Architectural Features: The exterior architectural features of a building, including but not limited to the color and texture of building materials, and the type, design, and character of windows, doors, and appurtenances.

Fairbanks North Star Borough Cultural Resource Survey: The inventory of historic resources completed by Fairbanks North Star Borough in accordance with the guidelines of the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer. The Historic Site Survey includes only those resources listed in the borough and city and does not include archaeological sites.

Hardship Relief: A finding by the Commission on Historic Preservation that the denial of the Certificate of Appropriateness has imposed a hardship on a property owner.

Historic Context (as defined for eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places): Information about historic trends and properties grouped by an important theme in the prehistory or history of a community, state, or the nation during a particular period of time. Historic contexts are organized by theme, place, and time, and link properties to important historic trends.

Historic Integrity (per National Register criteria): The authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's period of significance. These characteristics include
Historic Preservation: The protection of a property or site to save its historic character.

Historic Neighborhood: A defined area which has historic relevance, such as a unified historic architectural character, historic subdivision boundaries, a historic industrial complex, etc.

Historic Property: Building, site, district, object, or structure evaluated as historically significant.

- C. Historic Significance (per National Register criteria): The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
 - B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
 - C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
 - D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Listed: Properties officially included in the FNSB Historic Resource Survey, State of Alaska Resource Survey, or National Register of Historic Places.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): A document which when signed by cooperating parties will set the stage for project review early in the planning stages to assure the least impacts to historic and cultural resources.

National Historic Landmark: Is a historic property that meets the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places and has been designated by the Secretary of the Interior for its special national importance in the history of the United States.

National Register of Historic Places: The National Register is the official Federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. These contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation.

Noncontributing Structures or Features: Buildings or features which may be within a site or district, but are not of historic significance; however the relationship of these structures with the contributing structures may be important in the preservation of the site or district.

Office of History and Archaeology (OHA): Serves as Alaska's State Historic Preservation Office, and is the primary office in the state with expertise in historic preservation. OHA provides statewide leadership in advocating and carrying out the identification, evaluation, registration, and protection of historic and archaeological properties in Alaska, and provides staff assistance to the Alaska Historical Commission.

Rehabilitation: Adapting an historic property for contemporary use while preserving the features significant to its historic, architectural, and cultural values.

Section 106: Under the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 provides that any federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed federal or federally permitted undertaking must take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and independent federal agency, must be given the opportunity to comment on such undertaking.

Stabilization: The process of making an historic property that is unsafe and deteriorated, stable and weather resistant.

Site: The scene of an activity, which has a historic significance to the borough or city. A site may or may not include buildings, parks, abandoned mining or agricultural areas, and archaeological sites.

State Historic Preservation Officer: (SHPO): Established by the National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO is appointed by the Governor to carry out the historic preservation program including recommending properties for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.