

SCR

27-H

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date referred: 2/3/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 2-22-88

The Finance Committee has considered SCR 27 am

Relating to the preservation of historical school buildings.

**RECOMMENDS:**

- replace with \_\_\_\_\_  the same title
- attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

**ADOPTS:**  \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

**ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):**

- fiscal impact  same as previous fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero fiscal note  same as previous zero fiscal note published 1/18/88
- zero with analysis

**SIGNING DO PASS:**

*Al Adams*  
*Pat Jankot*  
*Ronald J. Jarm*  
*John J. Jarm*  
*Bob Keck*  
*Donna Meyer*  
*Steve Phipps*  
*Mike*  
*Ray Brown*  
*Mike Dennis*

**SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*Al Adams*  
 Chairman's signature

STATE OF ALASKA  
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SCR-27  
PUBLISH DATE: 1/18/88  
Senate

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: ... preservation of historical school buildings...  
Sponsor: Senator Josephson  
Requestor: Senate State Affairs

Agency Affected: Education  
BRU: Education Finance and Support Services  
Components: Facilities

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill has no fiscal impact on this department.

Prepared by: Steve Hole  
Division: Commissioner's Office

Phone: 465-2800  
Date: Jan. 15, 1988

Approved by Commissioner: William Demmert  
Agency: Education

Date: Jan. 15, 1988

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

1 IN THE SENATE

BY JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27 am

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the preservation of histor-

6

ical school buildings.

7

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8

WHEREAS there are a number of school buildings in the state that have

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historical significance, including Whitecliff School in Ketchikan, Capital

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School in Juneau, Main School in Fairbanks, Akiak Elementary School in

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Akiak, and Denali School in Anchorage; and

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whenever consistent with the health, safety, and educational interests of

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is

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respectfully requested to direct the commissioner of education to report to

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the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature, on or before

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January 31, 1989, with regard to the following:

1           (1) which school buildings in the state that were constructed  
2 before statehood are still being used for educational purposes;

3           (2) the condition and anticipated useful life of each of these  
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5           (3) whether the school districts operating these buildings  
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7           (4) what steps the state might take to encourage the continued  
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9           (5) the nature of the benefits, if any, that accrue to the  
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12           (6) if a school district is planning to close or has recently  
13 closed a historical school building, what compatible public uses the  
14 district might make of portions of the building in order to perpetuate the  
15 useful life of the building for educational purposes.

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

JOE P. JOSEPHSON  
DISTRICT H ANCHORAGE  
3111 C STREET, SUITE 350  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503  
(907) 561-7611



WHILE IN JUNEAU  
P.O. BOX V  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811  
(907) 465-4525

TO: House State Affairs Committee  
FROM: Senator Joe Josephson *JJ*  
DATE: January 28, 1988  
RE: SCR 27, Relating to Preservation of Historic School Buildings

I introduced SCR 27 to focus attention on historic school buildings we have throughout our State. This Resolution would direct the Commissioner of Education to provide to the Legislature by January, 1989, a list of school buildings constructed before statehood, the condition of these facilities, and the steps that can be taken to preserve them for future use.

Examples of historic school buildings include Whitecliff Elementary (Ketchikan) (60 years old), Main (Fairbanks) (57 years old), Capital School (Juneau) (50 years old), and others.

Some of these buildings may be scheduled for closure or like Capital School, have been closed recently. It is timely that we look at ways to protect and preserve these buildings so that future generations may appreciate and enjoy them.

The measure received a zero fiscal note from the Department of Education. It was amended on the Senate floor to reflect technical changes in the due date for the report.

STATE OF ALASKA  
1988 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SCR-27  
PUBLISH DATE: 1/18/88  
Senate

FISCAL NOTE

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FEDERAL FUNDS						
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TOTAL						

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PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

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Division: Commissioner's Office

Phone: 465-2800  
Date: Jan. 15, 1988

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Distribution (by preparer):

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- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

# ALASKA STATE SENATE

JOE P. JOSEPHSON  
DISTRICT H ANCHORAGE  
3111 C STREET, SUITE 550  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503  
(907)581-7611



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P.O. BOX V  
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(907)465-4525

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# Alaska State Legislature

SENATOR JIM DUNCAN

P. O. Box V JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

(907) 465-4766

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE  
RESOURCES  
BUDGET AND AUDIT

May 6, 1987

To: Senator Abood  
From: Senator Duncan

Subject: SB 271 relating to historic and community schools.

This covers school buildings built before Alaska Statehood that have historic significance and deserve to be recognized identified and preserved.

The following are those schools that would qualify:

<u>School</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Age</u>
Whitecliff Elementary	Ketchikan	60
Akiak Elementary	Lake/Peninsula	40
Pilot Point Elementary	Lake/Peninsula	39
Ft. Yukon Elementary	Yukon Flats	30
Tok Elementary	Alaska Gateway	30
Capital School	Juneau	50
Anthony Andrew School (St. Michael)	Bering Strait	33
Emmonala	Lower Yukon	30
Mt. Edgecumbe	Sitka	?
Denali	Anchorage	<del>32</del> 38
Kenny Lake	Cooper River	32
Main	Fairbanks	57

Please act favorably on this legislation.

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

May 1, 1987

Re: 3140-3 (Historic Preservation in Alaska)

3601 C STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503  
PHONE: (907) 561-2020

MAILING ADDRESS:  
P.O. BOX 107001  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-7001

Senator Joe Josephson  
Attn: Rosemary Karish  
Alaska State Senate  
P.O. Box V  
Capital Building, Room 113  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

I would like to take this opportunity to describe the Alaska historic preservation program and explain how it functions. This office (the Office of History and Archaeology) is a section of the Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. The functions of our office are mandated under the National Historic Preservation Act and the Alaska Historic Preservation Act. Our primary activities involve nominating, and assisting others to nominate, sites to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the federal government's official list of historic and prehistoric properties recognized by the federal government as worthy of preservation. Before listing in the Register can take place, owner's consent must be given.

There are several benefits which apply to a listed property:

1. Listing on the Register means that a property is accorded proper recognition nationwide for its significance in American history or prehistory.
2. There are certain tax benefits which apply to income-producing Register sites, including a 25% investment tax credit on the cost of approved rehabilitation work and 18-year depreciation of 87.5%. These, and other tax benefits, run with the property and may be transferable to a new owner.
3. Listed properties are automatically eligible for matching grants from the federal government that can be used for rehabilitation and restoration purposes. During FY'83 Alaska received nearly \$400,000 in such grant funds. However, the program has not been funded since, and prospects do not look good for such monies to be authorized by Congress for FY'87.
4. Listed properties, or those eligible for listing, are protected by a review process (established under Section 106 of the NHPA) when proposed for impact by a federally funded, licensed, or otherwise federally assisted project. Please note that neither properties

May 1, 1987

Page 2 -

listed in nor properties eligible for the Register, or modifications to the latter, are the subject of this review. The subject of the review process is the federal project and its impact; the review is designed to take place while the project is still in the planning stage. Its purpose is to avoid, if at all possible, damaging or destroying significant heritage properties by seeking alternative designs, locations, etc. The review is conducted by the lead federal agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (a federal agency).

In summary, listing a property on the Register does not place limitations on the property. Certain responsibilities are involved, however. If a property owner wishes to maintain a property on the Register, the features which qualified the property for listing must be maintained. Some very general recommendations have been developed which address problems encountered by owners of Register properties. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects include recommendations against removing historic material, suggestions for non-destructive cleaning methods, advice for making repairs that match the original fabric of the building, etc. A copy of the Standards will be sent to you upon request.

Public visitation rights are not required of owners who list their properties on the National Register. Neither the federal government nor the state government will attach restrictive covenants to the property, or seek to acquire it. Register listing does not invoke of any state or local regulations for design review, restrictive zoning, or review of alterations. If a building is listed in the National Register and then modified to such an extent that many of its significant original features are lost, it is possible that its National Register status may be revoked. Should this happen, any rehabilitation and restoration grants previously awarded by this office or (in the case of income-producing properties) investment tax credits taken on the building's renovation costs would have to be returned to the State of Alaska or the Federal Internal Revenue Service, as appropriate. This condition is imposed to discourage demolition and excessive modification of significant historic buildings.

Surveys of local heritage resources are critical first steps if these sites are to be preserved and interpreted for the enjoyment and education of future Alaskans. Matching federal funds for Survey and Inventory grants are available on a yearly basis and may be used for historic property inventories, resource protection planning, writing national register nominations, and archaeological surveys. Any individual or group is eligible to apply for these grants, provided that a matching source of funding or in-kind labor/materials are pledged toward the project. These grants may not be used for acquisition or development purposes. Architectural plans, specifications, historic structures reports and engineering studies may not be funded by this

May 1, 1987

Page 3 -


program. An historic structure may, however, be documented (without developing restoration plans), archival research and oral histories may also be done. The program is primarily for inventory purposes; in the past these funds have been used to document the prehistories/histories of villages, towns or regions. Grants for FY'86 were awarded in April, 1986; we currently anticipate awarding grant funds again in May 1987.

There are no state-funded preservation grants available at this time. The one source of state money which is available for preservation projects is the Historical District Revolving Loan Fund, administered by the Division of Investments (Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development, Pouch D, Juneau, Alaska 99811). Loans may be made for the restoration, improvement, rehabilitation or maintenance of historical buildings. The structures must be suitable for superficial modification so that they can conform to the period or motif of the surrounding structures that are the reason for the area's designation as a historical district. Loans are made at 7.5% interest to a maximum amount of \$250,000 per structure over a 30 year period. The loans are secured by a first lien position given to the state. All projects must be approved by a local Historical District Commission and by a majority of the Alaska Historic Sites Advisory Committee, which is appointed by the Governor.

If you wish to proceed with the nomination process for an historic object, building or structure, please contact Ms. Jo Antonson with the Office of History and Archaeology, at 762-4142. She can help you with questions about the National Register, financial incentives associated with it and can send you forms for owner's consent and for listing a property in the National Register.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Johannsen  
Director

  
By: Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

PWC:clk

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

*DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION*

3601 C STREET  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503  
PHONE: (907) 561-2020

MAILING ADDRESS:  
P.O. BOX 107001  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-7001

May 1, 1987

Re: 3140-3 (Completing National Register Nomination Forms)

Senator Joe Josephson  
Attn: Rosemary Karish  
Alaska State Senate  
P.O. Box V  
Capital Building, Room 113  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Josephson:

Thank you for your interest in listing your property in the National Register of Historic Places. If accepted for the Register your property will be one of several thousand to receive this national recognition.

Significant heritage properties are listed in the National Register through a process that begins with owner's consent. After reading the enclosed owner's consent form, please sign it, have it notarized, and return it to this office. If you wish to list a property that you do not own, you must get the owner's signature before the property may be listed in the Register. Listing can not proceed without owner's consent.

The actual listing of your property in the National Register is done by nomination. Buildings, structures, objects and sites are eligible for the Register. You can nominate your own property to the Register by filling out the enclosed nomination form, or, you may have someone else complete the form for you. The complete nomination will include the nomination form, a sketch showing the plan of your property, clear black and white photographs, and a map showing its location.

The finished form undergoes two reviews after it arrives in this office. The Governor's Historic Sites Advisory Committee reviews all nomination forms for Alaska before they are sent to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C. The staff of the Keeper also reviews completed nomination forms and makes the final decision before the property can be listed in the National Register. Once listed, the nomination becomes part of a permanent, national archive. This resource is consulted by historians, planners, architects, educators and decision makers who need accurate information in their work. It is very important that your writing be clear, that statements of fact are adequately documented and references are cited for any quotations

May 1, 1987

Page 2 -

used. You are not only writing the story of your property, you are writing history. Writing a nomination that passes two formal reviews and is listed in the National Register without being returned with questions depends on the quality of information in the nomination form.

Please take a little time to familiarize yourself with the attached instructions for filling out the nomination form. The first thing to become familiar with are the Criteria for Evaluation. Properties eligible for the Register (districts, sites, structures, buildings, objects) must possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and:

- be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- be associated with lives of persons significant in our past; or
- embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- yield, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Select one or more of the Criteria that you feel best describes your property and plan to tell why your property should be nominated to the National Register based on that Criteria.

Two important steps follow after selecting the Criteria. First, the property should be inspected and evaluated for authenticity and integrity. Second, results of literature research and field investigation should be recorded on the nomination form. In the case of a building (or buildings), look for proof of how much remains of the original structure(s), whether it has been relocated, and how much it may have been changed or rebuilt. There is no single, correct way to write a Physical Description (Item 7); you may prefer to start at the foundation and work your way up to the roof by describing the materials used, changes made (and approximate dates), and condition of the material today. If the building is on pilings this should be noted, dimensions should be given for the structure's length, width and height, its plan should be described (square, rectangular, "H", "T" shape, etc., the number of floors and type of roof should also be described, if siding was used on the exterior walls its type size and color should be noted, location and arrangement of windows and doors should also be detailed. The uses of the building (if it has had several), moves and other modifications may be described in additional paragraphs.

May 1, 1987

Page 3 -

The Statement of Significance (Item 8) should be written as though reviewers and people who may read the finished nomination have no knowledge of the property or why it is important. Develop the Statement of Significance in local, state or national history. Alaskan Territorial and State history, like most western states', is so new that many early settlers and citizens who helped found our cities played major roles in this history. The story of their homes and businesses are often the first chapter of town and city history. Alaska Native history is also rich in material, as are other periods of our history (Russian Colonial, Gold Rush, and Military). Research for the Register may include the following sources:

- University, or local museums
- Alaska Historical Library in Juneau, local libraries, University of Alaska Libraries
- Interviews with old-time residents and elders of a community
- Local newspapers
- Land office records

With experience you will discover that the most frequently consulted historical sources are periodicals, newspapers, memoirs, military reports, U.S. Geological Survey bulletins, business annual reports, maps, and family photographs. Other useful sources include records of the town, land offices, courts, district recorder offices, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and the State Division of Lands. Town records may include early photographs, tax records, fire insurance maps, etc. Early fire insurance maps (Sanborn Maps) will indicate the location and shape of insured buildings, sometimes include detailed architectural descriptions and can be found in University Libraries. The records of the borough or city tax assessor will be useful in tracing the history of ownership of historic properties. Court records include deeds, wills, inventories, marriage records, early tax records, bankruptcy papers, plats, etc.

A legal description of the property on which the historical structure is located is necessary. In the case of towns, block and lot numbers will suffice. If the land is patented, the year when the patent was issued, the patent number and amount of acreage will be needed. In the case of unpatented mining properties, examine the records of the district recorder's office, which will include a description of the boundaries of the mining claim.

The property should also be examined as it stands today. Each structure should be photographed with black and white film on all sides and photos should be taken of any character-defining features (staircases, display cabinets, ornate interior moldings, and other special features that give the structure character.) Prints submitted with the nomination should be 5" x 7"

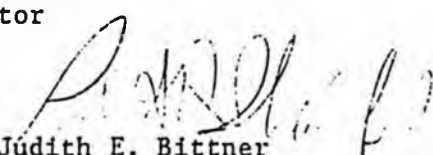
May 1, 1987  
Page 4 -

or larger; please send two copies of each print. Copies of historical photographs showing the structure are very useful to document its history; two copies are preferred as one is sent to Washington with the nomination and the second remains in this office's files. The location of buildings and other structures should be marked, in pencil, on a United State Geological Survey map, a one-inch-to-the-mile, map is preferred. Floor plans of structures should be prepared, indicating the location of windows, doors, porches, stairs, and the dimensions of the structure. An architect does not have to prepare the plans, an informal sketch that has this information on it will suffice.

It is a good idea to submit a draft of the nomination, with photographs, sketches and maps, so one of my staff can work with you if polishing is needed. The completed nomination not only expands historical knowledge about Alaska, but it also provides the basis for protection of significant properties by law. Please do not hesitate to call Jo Antonson at 762-4142 if you have questions or if we can help you in your research.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Johannsen  
Director

  
By: Judith E. Bittner  
State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosures

PWC:tls

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BY JOSEPHSON

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4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the preservation of histor-  
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11 Akiak, and Denali School in Anchorage; and

12 WHEREAS it is in the public interest that these buildings be preserved  
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14 the students served by the schools; and

15 WHEREAS inclusion of a school building in the National Register of  
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20 WHEREAS public assistance for historical schools serves the state as a  
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24 WHEREAS there is presently no comprehensive plan for providing assis-  
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