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Public input sought on preserving Alaska's cultural heritage

(Anchorage, AK) – The Alaska Office of History and Archaeology is launching a statewide historic preservation planning effort by inviting Alaskans to identify historic places throughout the state that are important to them.

Alaska's current Historic Preservation Plan expires next year. "The new plan will set the path for historic preservation in Alaska through 2023. We are interested in hearing from all Alaskans on what matters to them," said State Historic Preservation Officer Judy Bittner.

The public can participate in the early stages of plan development in several ways – through an <u>online survey</u> and through an online photo sharing campaign, <u>#ThisPlaceMatters Alaska</u>. A draft of the plan will later be published for formal public comment.

Photo submissions to the #ThisPlaceMatters website can depict historic buildings and structures, residential neighborhoods, downtown streetscapes, historic and rural landscapes, and archaeological sites (the location of archaeological sites will be generalized for their protection). To submit a photo, use the <u>online form</u>.

For more information about the state Office of History and Archaeology, go to www.dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha.

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