

## **NCSHPO Newsletter: March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | Number 135**

### **NCSHPO Annual Meeting and 2018 Preservation Advocacy Week:**

The 2018 NCSHPO annual meeting and Historic Preservation Advocacy Day are next week. If you have not registered yet, but plan on doing so, please click [here](#) to register. There will be discussions regarding the Historic Preservation (HPF), Historic Tax Credit (HTC) and a SHPO/FPO forum on March 12<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who are able to visit with lawmakers, those meetings will take place on March 13<sup>th</sup>. **If you plan to visit with lawmakers, please reach out to their schedulers.** Please coordinate with historic preservation advocates in your state who you expect to attend advocacy week and do not hesitate to contact me if you need assistance. Copies of the one page documents on the HPF, HTC and a variety of other subjects can be found [here](#) and [here](#). The NCSHPO annual meeting will be on March 14<sup>th</sup>

The annual conference will be held at The Hamilton Hotel, which is located at 1001 14th Street NW, in Washington, D.C. The historic Hamilton Hotel was designed by French born architect Jules-Henri de Sibour and completed in 1922. Blending elements of the Beaux Arts and Art Deco styles, the impressive façade and beautiful lines stand as an impressive testament to industrial age ingenuity. The Hamilton Hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### Preliminary Schedule of Events

##### **Monday, March 12, 2018**

7:30 AM - Noon: Sign-in & On-Site Registration

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM: Continental Breakfast

Included in General and Comprehensive Registration

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM: Preservation Action Member Meeting

All are welcome. Included in General and Comprehensive Registration

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM: SHPO & FPO Forum

Open to SHPO and FPO staff. Advance RSVP to NCSHPO required

10:45 AM – 11:50 AM: Update on 115th Congress and the Trump Administration: Moderator: NCSHPO Director of Government Affairs Ted Monoson. Panelists: Peter Cohn, CQ News Editor; Mike Doyle, Interior Department Reporter for E&E News; and, Russ Carnahan former member of Congress; Terry Camp, House Committee on Natural Resources; Jon Bosworth, Legislative Aide for Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Noon – 1:20 PM: Advocacy Lunch with Keynote Speaker Louisiana Sen. Bill Cassidy and Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt (Ticketed)

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM: National Trust Community Investment Corporation President Merrill Hoopengardner on the successful effort to preserve the Historic Tax Credit

2:30 PM – 3:10 PM: Facebook Training: Andrew Katz, U.S. Politics & Government Outreach: Events, Groups for Pages, and a few other new products in detail. Andrew will highlight best of examples from conference participants' Facebook pages.

3:10 PM – 3:40 PM: Review of Documents for Hill Visits and How to do a Hill Visit

3:40 PM – 4:30 PM: State Meetings

Included in General and Comprehensive Registration

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM: NCSHPO Networking Reception (Ticketed)

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM: NCSHPO Annual Banquet (Ticketed)

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

Hill Visits

Hill Reception Ticketed

**Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

NCSHPO Annual Meeting

### **This Week in Washington:**

Much of the week was dominated by President Trump's announcement that he intended to impose tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum. As with all other issues that come up, there was much focus on the political implications of the announcement.

### **FCC Rules Regarding 5G:**

Last week, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced plans to relax existing rules governing the deployment of small cells needed to run upcoming 5G networks. Currently, companies must comply with several requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prior to installing small cells. The cellular companies say the existing rules will hinder the deployment of the next-generation 5G technology, which requires small cells spaced about 500 feet apart to deliver 5G signals.

FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr, who FCC Chairman Ajit Pai has put in charge of updating the FCC's infrastructure rules laid out his plans in a Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> speech to the Consumer Technology Association.

“My staff and I have spent a lot of time reviewing the record over the past few months,” Commissioner Carr said in the speech. “And today, I am announcing the next step in our efforts to ensure the United States is 5G Ready—it involves reforming the federal historic and environmental review processes that govern the deployment of wireless infrastructure.”

He then went on to “give...some examples of how the historic and environmental review procedures are threatening our country’s 5G future.”

The FCC is expected to vote on these proposed changes later this month.

### **Fiscal Year 2018:**

Lawmakers are struggling to negotiate a \$1.2 trillion spending bill needed to keep the government open after March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The efforts are being hindered by President Trump’s recent calls that they strip funding for a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey. There are also continuing problems regarding President Trump’s insistence longstanding insistence on money for a U.S.-Mexico border wall and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) immigration policy.

While lawmakers still have more than two weeks to reach an agreement, there is a risk that some or all of the government will again continue to fund the government at Fiscal Year 2017 levels rather than passing a bill to fund the government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018.

The government is currently operating under a continuing resolution that was passed on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Congress passed a bill that funds the federal government at Fiscal Year 2017 levels through March 23<sup>rd</sup> that raised spending caps for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019. The relatively short term funding bill was the fifth and probably the last short term bill that Congress will pass during Fiscal Year 2018. Before it expires on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, lawmakers are likely to pass legislation providing funding for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018, which runs through Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 2018. Because of the CR that runs through Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) is currently funded at the Fiscal Year 2017 level of \$47.93 million.

As lawmakers work on passing bills funding the government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018, when it comes to HPF they are likely to use numbers in bills that they have already passed or worked on this year.

- The House has passed a Fiscal Year 2018 Interior Department spending bill which would fund the overall HPF at \$80.91 million and SHPO apportionments at \$47.93 million. This is the same level that HPF overall and SHPO apportionments specifically are currently funded at for Fiscal Year 2017.
- The Senate Committee on Appropriations released a Fiscal Year 2018 funding bill for the Department of the Interior that would fund the HPF at \$77.91 million and SHPO apportionments at \$47.93 million.

Because the Senate matched the House level for SHPO apportionments, it is highly likely that SHPO apportionments will be funded at the \$47.93 million level for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018. Although an increase in SHPO apportionments would be great, in this fiscal and political environment, level funding is good. Many other programs, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund, are facing cuts.

## **Infrastructure:**

Although President Trump has said that passage of a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure bill is his top priority for 2018, at this point it appears very unlikely that Congress will pass it this year.

Despite pessimism about passage of an infrastructure bill in 2018, it is important to keep our focus on the issue because it could have a significant impact on historic resources and the work that SHPOs do.

The President's infrastructure proposal includes about \$200 billion in federal spending and is designed to encourage states, local governments, and private entities to match federal dollars. President Trump has estimated that the overall infrastructure investment could exceed \$1.5

trillion in total spending, Democrats have argued for more direct federal outlays, and say the plan could benefit real estate developers and leave crucial but unprofitable projects unaddressed.

Democrats would like a grand, New Deal-style public works program paid for by increases in the federal gas tax, which was last raised in 1993.

When it comes to the issue of regulations, it is important for members of the historic preservation community to highlight the fact that federal law already permits the use of programmatic agreements to expedite cultural resources reviews, so there is no need to make changes to the National Historic Preservation Act.

If lawmakers and the administration can find common ground on how to fund a large infrastructure investment program, it would presents two possible challenges for SHPOs.

- An influx of Section 106 reviews that could overwhelm SHPOs;
- “Streamlining of regulations” may circumvent or erode the Section 106 process.

We are working with our historic preservation partners to make sure SHPOs receive adequate funding to deal with an increase in Section 106 reviews. We will also push back on efforts to weaken Section 106 reviews.

### **Alabama SHPO Spotlight-Search for the Clotilda:**

Last weekend, Alabama Historical Commission Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer Lisa Jones worked with staff from the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Slave Wrecks Project and the National Park Service to determine if a ship wreck recently found near Mobile was the Clotilda. The Clotilda is believed to have been the last ship to carry captive Africans into slavery in the United States. The review of the shipwreck

determined that it was not the Clotilda. Executive Director Jones highlighted that the search and the media attention that it received was valuable because it brought attention to the story of the Clotilda and the Africatown community where many Clotilda survivors lived.

“The discovery and first examination of the wreck by Ben Raines and our colleagues at the University of West Florida and the media stories that followed have powerfully reconnected the story of Clotilda to a national and international audience,” Executive Director Jones said. “It shares a story with profound meaning in Alabama, and especially to the descendant community of Africatown. While the follow up investigation of the Twelvemile Island Wreck has found that this wreck is not Clotilda, its discovery and the attention paid to it will be the start of a renewed effort to find Clotilda.”

Click [here](#) and [here](#) to read stories about the review of the shipwreck.

## Upcoming Events

Mar. 12-14, 2018 — **NCSHPO Annual Conference**, Washington, DC.  
<http://files.constantcontact.com/1971f4e9201/9215174c-f2a9-4361-b587-a874f3f383a9.pdf>

Mar. 15-16, 2018 — **Missouri Conference on History**, Jefferson City, MO. <http://shsmo.org/mch/>

Mar. 22, 2018 — **Archaeology Consultants Workshop**, Madison, WI.  
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/>

Mar. 26-28, 2018 — **Main Street Now Conference**, Kansas City, MO.  
<https://www.mainstreet.org/mainstreetamerica/howwecanhelp/educationandtraining/mainstreetnow>

Apr. 10-12, 2018 — **Are We There Yet? Preservation of Roadside Architecture & Attractions Symposium**, Tulsa, OK.  
<https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/events/are-we-there-yet/>

Apr. 11-13, 2018—**Oregon Heritage Conference**, Bend, OR.

<http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/OHC/pages/conference.aspx>

Apr. 11-15, 2018—**Society of American Archaeology Conference**, Washington, DC.

<https://ecommerce.saa.org/SAA/SAAMember/Events/dc2018.aspx>

Apr. 18-20, 2018—**Indiana-Preserving Historic Places 2018 Conference**, Columbus, IN.

Apr. 18-21, 2018—**National Council on Public History**, Las Vegas, NV. <http://ncph.org/conference/2018-annual-meeting-2/>

Apr. 18-22, 2018—**Society of Architectural Historians' 71st Annual International Conference**, Saint Paul, MN.

<http://www.sah.org/conferences-and-programs/2018-conference---saint-paul>

Apr. 20, 2018—**2018 South Carolina Historic Preservation Conference**, SC Archives & History Center, Columbia, SC

<http://shpo.sc.gov/events/Pages/presconf.aspx>

Apr. 23-25, 2018—**Revitalize Washington**, Port Townsend, WA.

<http://www.preservewa.org/news-events/revitalizewa/>

Apr. 26-28, 2018—**2018 NY Statewide Preservation Conference**, Albany, NY. <http://landmarksociety.org/conference/>

May 2-4, 2018—**2018 Missouri Preservation Conference**, Sedalia, MO. <http://conference.red40net.com/>

May 2-5, 2018—**Vernacular Architecture Forum 2018 Annual Meeting**, Alexandria, VA.

<http://www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org/event-2580611>

May 17-19, 2018 – **40<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Conference: “Stories, Structures & Soul,”** Jacksonville, FL. <https://www.floridatrust.org/annual-conference>

May 21-25, 2018—**Workshop on Archaeological Prospection Techniques**, Marksville State Historic Site in Avoyelles Parish, LA.  
<http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>

May 30-June 3, 2018—**Society for Industrial Archaeology's 47th Annual Conference**, Richmond, VA. <http://www.sia-web.org/sia-47th-annual-conference/>

June 6-8, 2018—**2018 Arizona Historic Preservation Conference**, Scottsdale, AZ. [Conference Facebook Page](#)

June 7-8, 2018—**2018 NJ History & Historic Preservation Conference**, Paterson, NJ. [Conference Facebook Page](#)

June 8, 2018—**Vermont Preservation Trust Annual Historic Preservation and Downtown Conference**, Bristol, VT.  
<http://ptvermont.org/our-work/conference/>

July 18-22, 2018—**FORUM 2018: A Preservation Caucus**, Des Moines, IA. <https://napcommissions.org/forum/>

July 30-Aug. 1, 2018 – **Florida Main Street Annual Conference**, Vero Beach, FL. [www.FloridaMainStreet.com](http://www.FloridaMainStreet.com)

Sept. 20-22, 2018—**2018 Kansas Preservation Conference**, Lawrence, KA. <https://www.kshs.org/p/2018-preservation-workshops/14644>

Nov. 13-16, 2018 – **PastForward National Preservation Conference**, San Francisco, CA.  
<https://www.pastforwardconference.org/pastforward2018/>

Please do not hesitate to ask to have upcoming events added to the list.  
Please send e-mails to [monoson@ncshpo.org](mailto:monoson@ncshpo.org)