

# City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

*Coast Guard City, USA*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Hunter and Members of the Assembly  
Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator

**From:** Michael Scarcelli, Planning and Community Development Director *ms*  
Samantha Pierson, Planner I

**CC:** Jay Sweeney, Chief Finance and Administrative Officer  
Melissa Haley, Controller

**Date:** October 16, 2017

**Subject:** Certified Local Government Grant Applications

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### Background

On September 15, 2017, the State Historic Preservation Office announced a grant opportunity through the Historic Preservation Fund for Certified Local Governments. The Planning and Community Development Department received and processed five applications. The state's application deadline is October 31, 2017.

### Analysis

All applications have been supported by the Sitka Historic Preservation Commission. Four applying entities are non-profit organizations and have been determined to meet federal eligibility requirements. The fifth application was submitted by an individual and thus does not meet the requirements to be a sub-recipient of federal funds.

Due to risk of violating federal code regarding federal award requirements, a sub-recipient of federal funds must be either a non-profit organization or a government. A business or individual would be considered a contractor, and CBS would violate not only federal guidelines, but its own procurement procedures if it passed on federal funds to a contractor. Sole-proprietors cannot perform both roles of sub-recipient and contractor without creating a conflict of interest, thus resulting in the violation of municipal, state, and federal procurement requirements. Violation of state or federal grant administration law can result in CBS losing the opportunity to utilize such grant programs in the future.

If awarded, a municipal subgrant agreement must be signed prior to commencement of the project. The subgrant must follow all applicable federal, state, and city requirements regarding procurement, entity status, and reporting. Qualified historic preservation professionals must be consulted throughout the project as directed by the State Historic Preservation Office.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>HPC Approval</u>	<u>Approx. Request</u>	<u>Approx. Match</u>	<u>Federally Eligible Entity</u>
Sitka Sound Science Center	Develop architectural plans for the Mill Building	June 14, 2017	\$25,000	\$25,000	Yes Non-Profit
Sitka Historical Society	Research, compile, and distribute a historic architecture pamphlet	October 13, 2017	\$6147	\$4098	Yes Non-Profit
Alaska Arts Southeast	Continue work on the Fraser Hall façade	October 13, 2017	\$25,000	\$16,667	Yes Non-Profit
Sitka Maritime Heritage Society	Continue work on the Japonski Island Boathouse accessible entry	October 13, 2017	\$25,000	\$16,667	Yes Non-Profit
Anne Pollnow	Inventory and digitally catalog cemetery information	June 27, 2017	\$24,921	\$17,425	No Individual

**Fiscal Note**

The grant application is for a 60-40 match grant, wherein the federal funds provide 60% of the budget and the applicant provides a minimum of 40% through in-kind, cash donations, or similar arrangements. No funds are being requested from the municipality. In order to ensure that the municipality’s costs of administering the grants are covered, the municipality will charge an 8.5% administrative fee to all awarded grants. Please note that proposed budgets are not final.

**Recommendation**

Approve resolutions supporting the grant applications submitted by Sitka Sound Science Center, Sitka Historical Society, Alaska Arts Southeast, and Sitka Maritime Heritage Society.

**CLG GRANT APPLICATION: FY16**  
**State of Alaska: Office of History and Archaeology**  
**Historic Preservation Fund: Grants for Certified Local Governments**

The Certified Local Government (CLG) identified below is applying for a 60-40 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) matching grant through the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archaeology.

City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska

Federal Tax Identification Number: 92-0041163 DUNS \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title and Location: Japonski Island Boathouse Accessible Entry - Shell

Type of CLG Grant Project: (Check project type below, as applicable)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Survey	X	Public Preservation Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inventory		Predevelopment
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Register Nomination	X	Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historic Preservation Planning		Acquisition

Project budget required: (Use figures from shaded area on budget form)

- a. Estimated Total Project Cost (TPC) \$ 41,667
- b. Federal Share (60%) \$ 25,000
- c. Sponsor Share (40%) \$ 16,667

Source of applicant (sponsor) share: (Use figures from "Sources" box on budget form)

- a. Cash \$ 11,517
- b. In-kind Goods and Services \$ 5150
- c. Donated Goods and Services \$ 0

Provide name, title and contact information for the following:

Project Manager: Rebecca Poulson  
Mailing Address: Sitka Maritime Heritage Society  
P. O. Box 2153 Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Telephone: 907 747-3448  
E-mail Address: sitkamaritime@gmail.com

Preservation Commission Chair: Anne Pollnow  
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 6326  
Sitka, AK 99835  
Telephone: (907) 738-0794  
E-mail Address: sealevelanne@gmail.com

CLG Contact: Samantha Pierson, Planner I  
Mailing Address: City and Borough of Sitka  
100 Lincoln Street  
Sitka, AK 99835  
Telephone: (907) 747-1814  
E-mail Address: samantha.pierson@cityofsitka.org

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: Authorized Local Government Official \_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Title (Print or Type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Entity Name

**Notary Seal**

Subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary for the State of Alaska My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

## Willingness to Comply with Grant Requirements

1. I understand that this is a 60-40 matching grant application through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) administered by the State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Office of History and Archaeology.
2. Should this project be awarded, I understand that the State levies an indirect cost which may vary throughout the course of the grant period, but will not exceed the amount stated in the executed grant agreement.
3. If awarded an HPF grant, I understand that it is my responsibility to comply with all pertinent State and Federal regulations, the State-Local Grant Agreement, and requirements outlined in the publication: *Historic Preservation Fund: Certified Local Government Grants Manual*.
4. Should this project be awarded, I understand that project records are subject to audit after project completion, and that if such an audit questions expenditures for which I have been reimbursed I will return an amount equal to the questioned expenditures.
5. I understand that no grant or promise of a grant exists until the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) signs the State-Local Grant Agreement even if the Alaska Historical Commission recommends or allocates funds for my project. Any funds expended before the performance period specified on the fully executed grant agreement or before obtaining the SHPO's signature may not be reimbursed without specific approval.

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Signature: Authorized Local Government Official

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Date

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Name and Title (Print or Type)

# PROJECT INFORMATION

## 1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is to continue the rehabilitation of the Japonski Island Boathouse, following complete historic Rehabilitation design documents approved by the SHPO, with walls and roof and ramp for an accessible entry and toilet addition.

This phase will construct the addition's shell (walls and roof). Previous projects will have restored and insulated the wall of the existing building where the addition will attach, and built a concrete foundation for the addition with service entries for electric, water, sewer and communications.

This portion of the project will build walls and roof according to our approved historic rehabilitation design documents. It will have a door and deck and ramp. Windows will be framed in but installed at a later date. Insulation, interior finishes and furniture will also be installed later.

**Preservation aim:** The Sitka Maritime Heritage Society is rehabilitating the Japonski Island Boathouse to federal historic preservation standards to serve community residents and visitors as a working Maritime Heritage Center. This public, working heritage center will have restored haul-out facility, boat shop, hands-on interpretive exhibits and classroom space, and an interpretive facility for the Sitka Naval Operating Base and U.S. Coastal Defenses National Historic Landmark. The goal is to be a valuable part of community preservation of heritage and education, as well as an important visitor attraction, contributing to Sitka's economy. It is an important feature of the historic landscape of Sitka and of this National Historic Landmark.

**Scope:** The current project scope involves four elements:

**Number one** is to have a contractor construct the walls and roof of the accessible entry/toilet addition, according to construction documents for Rehabilitation of the building, by NorthWind Architects, approved by the SHPO. Rigid insulation will be installed with the roof, but the rest of the walls and roof will be the shell only. Windows will be framed in, but not installed at this point. An entry door will be installed.

**Second**, the gable wall where it is exposed above the addition will be insulated and will get a layer of sheathing and new siding, identical to the original on the building (per construction documents).

**Third**, volunteers will build the deck, stairs and accessible ramp and handrail, per construction documents. This will also include any work on the existing building that will be harder to access once the deck is built, including repairs to siding.

**The fourth** element is public education. The deck and ramp and wall repair will be built through volunteer work parties, where we will share the principles of historic preservation, as well as practical methods of adding infiltration barrier and weather proofing, while preserving the look and feel of a historic building. We will also hold an open house, featuring the construction documents and tours of the historic building, and a presentation on the Naval Operating Base history, and its history after WWII.

**Project significance:** Sitka's Japonski Island Boathouse is a contributing structure of the Sitka Naval

Operating Base and U.S. Army Coastal Defenses National Historic Landmark. This Landmark is significant for the important role it played when the United States entered World War II, when this Naval Air Station was the only fully operational military defense installation in Alaska. It is locally significant as a reminder of how the build up for WWII transformed Alaska and brought attention, and population, to this sleepy fishing town. After the war, when the military installations became the now-vanished federal community of Mt. Edgecumbe, the Boathouse has iconic stature as the place where the "Shore Boats," the ferries connecting Mt. Edgecumbe to the town on Sitka, were repaired and maintained for three decades.

The building is one of the last wooden working waterfront structures in Sitka, and one of the few remaining wooden structures in the NHL, and the only one that is undergoing restoration. As such it has great value as an icon of Sitka's maritime history.

The Boathouse is owned by the City and Borough of Sitka, and leased for restoration and operation by the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society. The SMHS instigated its transfer from the state of Alaska to the City and Borough for this purpose.

**Previous HPF grants:** A 2003 CLG grant was for a structural survey and hazardous materials survey, and a 2004 CLG grant was used for a conceptual architectural design for rehabilitation. The SMHS won and utilized a HPF grant for cleaning, inventory, and painting in 2005, and for replacing the building's foundation in 2006.

A CLG grant in 2013 was used for restoring all of the building's windows and for electrical wiring by a contractor. In 2016 we completed a CLG grant-funded project to repair all of the doors in the building and to relocate an outbuilding in preparation for the new addition. A CLG grant awarded in 2017 is now under way, to build the concrete stem wall for this addition, and to bring utilities inside the building.

**Previous HPF projects the grant manager has worked on:** The project manager, Rebecca Poulson, worked on all the previous HPF projects at the Boathouse, as well as four projects for the Sitka Fine Arts Camp on the Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark.

**Relation to past and future work:** To date, the SMHS has stabilized and painted the building; restored the foundation; replaced the roof; and we have complete, approved construction documents for historic rehabilitation. Contents of the building have been inventoried and stored on site. All the building's windows have been restored, and the main workshop now has power and lights. Most recently all of the historic doors have been repaired, and a small outbuilding has been moved away from the main structure, to make room for the new addition.

In 2017 the gable wall was repaired, the existing winch shed documented and removed. Currently under way, contractors will be installing utilities and building a concrete stem wall for this addition for accessible entry and toilet.

Adding an addition with accessible entry and toilet and utilities is necessary and essential to the architectural plans for rehabilitation and reuse. The building is not useable without adding a toilet, and a heated space for hook-ups for utilities, including the sprinkler riser. Originally, the building had a toilet on the water side of the building, with an outfall to the beach, which is obviously not an option any more! Heat formerly came from a central power plant. The original electric service was not up to



current standards.

The architectural plans call for putting utilities in an addition, that can be heated separately, so that the rest of the space can go unheated if needed. Putting an accessible toilet elsewhere in the building is not practical.

The addition will also have an accessible ramp and a small office/lobby space, which is needed for the building's new use as a public maritime heritage center. The addition will allow full use of the building, which is not possible now, without running water or bathroom. Currently we are limited to holding events of short duration, or renting Porta Potties, which are not accessible. The building itself is not currently accessible to people in wheelchairs.

We have applied for a National Park Service Maritime Heritage Preservation grant, and we are in the midst of a fundraising campaign, to prepare the east wing for the public use, with electric wiring and heat.

This work is also part of a strategy to continue building public awareness and appreciation of history and historic preservation, which we do by holding regular events at the Boathouse and in the community of maritime oral history and education.

**Intended audience:** Our intended audience for the project is primarily the residents of Sitka, but we are also reaching out to visitors, and to the wider world of those interested in maritime heritage, through the web.

The overall rehabilitation is to make the building a maritime heritage center, where we will preserve and educate the public about maritime history and culture, and preserve and teach maritime skills.

This particular project will not only contribute to making the building fully functional, but through the public work parties and coverage in social media, on our website, and radio and newspaper announcements, will educate local residents about historic preservation methods and goals.

## **2. PRESERVATION OBJECTIVES**

**Annual CLG priorities:** This project meets goal number 1., “projects that increase public awareness of historic preservation . . . and produce educational materials emphasizing historic preservation” by putting on public work parties, which will be promoted locally and on the web.

Goal #2. “Projects that address the rehabilitation of historic properties and leverage funds and resources. Restoring and preserving defining elements of historic properties, and addressing sustainability.” This project leverages SMHS funds and volunteers, and the goal of the project is to enable a new, compatible use of this historic building that will ensure sustainability.

**State Historic Preservation Plan:** The project contributes to the goals and objectives of the State Historic Preservation Plan in that it works towards improving awareness of and access to historic preservation information, encourages the promotion of historic preservation, promotes local preservation efforts to maintain and enhance our community’s character, and encourages the appropriate treatment of historic resources.

**Identified priorities of our community:** This project meets and contributes to the following identified

community priorities of the City of Sitka as listed in the 2007 City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska Comprehensive Plan Update, as it is an element of the overall development and rehabilitation of the Japonski Island Boathouse as a WWII and Maritime History Interpretive Center. These priorities in particular apply to this project:

#### 2.4 General Land Use Goals & Priorities (p.16-19)

The City and Borough shall encourage the preservations, renovation and interpretation of buildings and sites related to World War II activities within the Sitka road system, the surrounding islands and remote locations within the Borough. (p.18)

#### 2.6. Urban — Commercial and Industrial Goals and Policies (p.20-21)

2.6.4. To encourage preservation/restoration of historic architecture and landmarks that may be affected for commercial and industrial use. (p.21)

#### 2.12. Arts and Culture Goals and Policies (p.28-29)

2.12.2. To maintain and develop ongoing programs devoted to supporting Sitka's artists, students, educators, historians and Native elders in both the development and preservation of their important work. (p.28)

2.12.3. To continue support of the Arts in the following ways: Assure protection and enhancement of historic places including, but not limited to, cemeteries, historic buildings, landmarks, and public art. (p.29)

2.12.5. To provide facilities for arts and culture through: Supporting the maintenance and the staffing of such facilities. (p.29)

#### 2.13. Historical and Cultural Facilities (p.34)

- a.i. To preserve and appreciate Sitka's heritage. Sites or structures having significant historic or cultural value should be preserved.

In addition, the community of Sitka has been working, through the City government, the Sitka Convention and Visitor Bureau, and various nonprofits, to market Sitka as an Arts and Culture destination, highlighting our historic architecture, culture and history. This has resulted in Sitka's designation as a *National Trust for Historic Preservation Distinctive Destination* in 2012, and the Alaska Tourism Association annual meeting in 2013, The Fine Art of Tourism, hosted on the Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark.

**Local Historic Preservation Plan:** The project supports both Purpose, #3: "to encourage local support of historic preservation" and Goals, #5: "To increase public awareness and appreciation of historical preservation in the City and Borough of Sitka."

Both of these are met by this project, a highly visible project that will have public presentations and publicity.

### 3. PROJECT LOCATION

This proposed project will take place at the Japonski Island Marine Ways, 1490 Seward Street, Sitka, Alaska. All work will take place in, on or adjacent to the building. (Map and site plan attached)

### 4. WORK PLAN

**Explain how the work will be accomplished.** Even before the grant is awarded, we will submit the project to the State Office of Historic Preservation for review per Section 106 of the NHPA. The property already has a historic covenant, which we will extend if appropriate.

We already have a building permit for the entire addition, which we received in 2017 for the foundation and utility work. Upon award of the grant, we will solicit proposals for building the addition shell. We will begin planning and scheduling volunteer work parties to repair the wall where the deck is attached, and, once the shell is complete, to build the deck, stairs and ramp. We will order if necessary or buy materials we will need (such as stainless fasteners).

All work will be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, 1995, Standards for Rehabilitation. It will all be to the detailed construction drawings for the rehabilitation by NorthWind Architects, which have been approved by the SHPO. Part of the construction of the addition shell is to cover the wall above the addition with 1/2-inch plywood, and new siding to match the original.

Any new siding will be fabricated from Number One Douglas fir or western red cedar, which will look like the original, clear Douglas fir siding.

We already have the roofing and roof insulation and fasteners and gutters, purchased as part of the replacement of the roof on the existing building.

The siding on the building is actually ship-lap sheathing, which has been applied to the building as if it were clapboard. In some parts of the building, such as this west wall, most of it is applied flat, like sheathing.

**Work schedule.** All of the work will happen through the spring, summer and fall months of 2018, starting with soliciting proposals, choosing a contractor, and the contractor phase, building the shell and adding layer to the gable above the addition.

This will be followed by volunteer repair of the wall where it will be covered by the new deck. Then, volunteers will construct the deck and ramp.

On completion of the work, we will hold a public event at the Boathouse to promote and celebrate the project, with tours and a display and presentation of the history of the Naval Operating Base and its post-war history for the federal Public Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

**Planning studies, research reports or publications, or other sources of information relevant to the proposed project.** We have complete construction documents for rehabilitation of the Boathouse, by NorthWind architects, approved by the State Historic Preservation Office. They were also reviewed by the National Park Service.

All work will follow the *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, 1995, Standards for Rehabilitation. Other resources on historic preservation and repair will be consulted, compiled, and shared with participants as appropriate, including National Park Service Preservation Briefs.

We also have historical photographic documentation, in particular images from during WWII and a photograph from a survey in 1966.

We also have oral history interviews with the sons and daughters of the man who ran the facility in the

1960s, 70s and 80s, and with others who worked there. In addition, we have documents from the National Archives related to this facility.

## **5. PROJECT PERSONNEL**

**Personnel** Sitka Maritime Heritage Society Executive Director Dr. Jenya Anitchenko will manage the overall project, submitting quarterly reports and tracking expenditures.

### **Contract**

Attached is the resume for Construction Manager and volunteer coordinator Anthony Vlahovich. Anthony will be in charge of the volunteer work on the building, and he will also be the inspector on the contractor's work on the addition. Both are deeply qualified in historic preservation work.

Selection of the contractor who will build the addition foundation will be reviewed by the SHPO. The SMHS will advertise for proposals, per City and Borough of Sitka requirements we need three proposals and have to take the least expensive, but we will make the criteria explicit enough that the contractor will be qualified for this kind of work. The chosen contractor will be made familiar if they aren't already with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

**Local government personnel** will be the City and Borough of Sitka Grant Accountant, who will review and submit quarterly reports on behalf of the SMHS.

The Sitka Historic Preservation Commission reviews Certified Local Government grant applications. The Commission has been enthusiastically supportive of the work on the Japonski Island Boathouse since it first began. The SMHS also presents regular progress reports to the commission.

**Volunteer personnel** Attached is a resume for Rebecca Poulson, who will oversee the overall project, and ensure compliance with federal historic preservation standards. Dr. Brinnen Carter, Chief of Resources at the Sitka National Historical Park has worked extensively with historic preservation projects with the National Park Service. He will create a plan for the volunteer work on the building.

Other volunteers will come from the SMHS membership and the public, and include professional carpenters and builders. They will be trained in historic preservation methods as they are overseen by Anthony Vlahovich.

approved by the SHPO. This includes a layer of siding above the addition.

Publicity and documentation of all work on our website ([www.sitkamaritime.org](http://www.sitkamaritime.org)) and on social media, and through local psa's on the radio and in the newspaper.

Final presentation and open house on the history of the building and the Sitka Naval Operating Base and the rest of the NHL, and post-war history as a federal community of Mt. Edgecumbe.

If this project receives only partial funding, we would try to fund raise to come up with the balance needed.

## **8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Attached are:**

- Resume for Construction Inspector/Volunteer Leader Anthony Vlahovich
- Resume for (Volunteer) Construction Project Manager
- Photographs of building
- Plans of building with new addition
- Project location maps
- Japonski Island Boathouse site plan
- Property boundaries
- Letter of Support Sitka Sound Science Center
- Letter of Support Sitka Historical Society

# ANTHONY VLAHOVICH

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3316B Halibut Point Rd, Sitka, AK 99835

Ph: 253-820-7291

avlahovich@hotmail.com

## Professional Summary

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Responsible, intelligent, and professional shipwright and commercial fisherman. Uniquely experienced in both the modern commercial maritime industry, and non-profit maritime heritage organizations.

## Skills

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- Natural leader and educator
- Talented shipwright
- Familiar with non-profit business model
- Responsible vessel owner/operator with experience in heritage-based charters and commercial fishing

## Education

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USCG 100-ton Masters License Aug 2012

Crawford Nautical School - Seattle, WA

Wooden Boatbuilding May 2008

Bates Technical College - Tacoma, WA

## Experience

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Captain Jun 2013-Present

Sunlight Fish Co. - Naknek, AK

- Vessel owner/operator in Bristol Bay sockeye drift gillnet fishery. In charge of vessel operation in a highly demanding environment with long hours, adverse weather, and intense vessel traffic. Responsible for all pre and post-season maintenance, upgrades to wooden hull structure, nets, and propulsion, hydraulic, electrical, and refrigeration systems. Also responsible for hiring and managing crew throughout fishing season.

Captain Aug 2013-Oct 2014

Coastal Heritage Alliance - Gig Harbor, WA

- Captain of 65' historic wooden purse seine vessel, converted for charter work. Conducted heritage-based sightseeing and educational charters in the waters of Puget Sound. Duties as captain include: navigation of vessel in challenging and busy waterways, ability to work with inexperienced and volunteer crew, and act as "cultural interpreter" for guests unfamiliar with the commercial fishing industry of the north Pacific. Further developed skills in maintenance of marine diesel, hydraulic, electrical, and marine sanitation. Also responsible for leading annual haul out and have experience in many aspects of wooden vessel annual maintenance.

Shipwright/Project Manager Jan 2009-Aug 2014

Coastal Heritage Alliance - St Michaels, MD

- Project lead at Skansie Netshed in Gig Harbor, WA. Headed on the ground restoration efforts of ~100 year old structure, interfacing with volunteers, board members, donors, contractors, and city employees. Also responsible for program development
- Worked as shipwright on numerous projects in Chesapeake Bay, Puget Sound, and Alaska. Major projects include complete foredeck, bulwark, and stern guard replacement on historic F/V Commencement; complete reframing and replanking of 100 year-old skipjack F/V Kathryn; and a 100% re-caulk of Bristol Bay gillnetter F/V Sunlight III.

*Deckhand*

*Jun 2007-Jul 2012*

*Various Employers - West Coast*

- Hired as commercial fishing deckhand for various West Coast fisheries. Experience includes SF Bay herring and crab, Puget Sound salmon gillnet and seine, Southeast AK salmon seine and halibut longline, Bristol Bay salmon gillnet, and Bering Sea cod longline.

*Shipwright Apprentice*

*Oct 2006-May 2007*

*A. Michael Vlahovich - St Michaels, MD*

- Worked as apprentice under master shipwright on major restoration of skipjack Caleb Jones. Learned traditional large vessel construction design principles and restoration techniques. Trained in various traditional and modern skills including ship's caulking, wood lamination, large timber milling techniques, pattern making, and all manner of hand and electrical tools.

Rebecca Poulson  
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Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Phone (907) 747-3448 email: Rebecca\_Poulson@hotmail.com  
www.theoutercoast.com sitkaartblog.wordpress.com

### **Education**

M.F.A. Tyler School of Art, Temple University, 2000  
Certificate Wooden Boatbuilding International Boatbuilding Training Centre, Lowestoft, U.K. 1989  
B.A. Biology, Reed College, Portland, Oregon, 1986

### **Professional Experience**

**1995 to present** Self-employed printmaker, publisher *The Outer Coast* calendar of art and poetry  
**2017** Director public interpretation project *Voices of Sheldon Jackson School and College*  
**2004-present** managing Historic Preservation projects on Japonski Island marine ways and Sheldon Jackson School National Historic Landmark, and writing pamphlet on its history  
**2001 – present** Artist in the Schools and Instructor Sitka Fine Arts Camp, and (2000-2003) Adjunct Instructor, University of Alaska Southeast: Drawing, Printmaking, Graphic Novel, Watercolor  
**1982 to 1995** Commercial fisherman and shipwright (repairing wood fishing boats)

### **Community Service and Volunteer Activities**

**2016-2018** Alaska Historical Commission  
**2011-present** 7<sup>th</sup> grade Literature Circle, 7<sup>th</sup> grade poetry performance, and childrens theater  
**2013- present** Alaska Historical Society Board of Directors, President 2014-2016  
**2014-2015** “Celebrate Katlian Street” (Sitka's Historic Native Village) Steering Committee  
**2002-present** Board Sitka Maritime Heritage Society

### **Awards**

**2017** Grant awards from Alaska Humanities Forum and the Rasmuson Foundation for Voices of Sheldon Jackson School and College  
**2016** Research Grant award, “The Battle for Alaska,” State of Alaska Treaty of Cession Grant  
**2014** Rasmuson Foundation Individual Artist Award  
**2013** Alaska Humanities Forum award Sheldon Jackson School and College Oral History Project  
**2013** Alaska State Council on the Arts Career Opportunity Grant for Sheldon Jackson Installation

### **Recent Exhibitions and Creative Work**

**2015-present** Creating sets for 8 plays and musicals, youth and community theater  
**November 2016** Director of live radio theater play with Sitka Community Theater  
**December 2015** Writer and director, live radio theater play *A Fairy Tale*  
**May 2014** *The Past Inspiring the Present* Sitka Historical Society and Museum, Sitka, Alaska  
**January 2014** *A Wood Engravers Menagerie* Zygote Press, Cleveland, Ohio  
**March 2013** *The Mission* interactive multimedia installation, Sheldon Jackson Campus, Sitka  
**March 2013** Solo show of wood engraving prints at Fireweed Gallery, Homer Alaska

### **Publications and Presentations**

**May 2018** “The Davis Case,” article in *Forum*, the magazine of the Alaska Humanities Forum  
**2010 to present:** Presentations at 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 Alaska Historical Society conferences, at the 2010 Russian American History Conference (published in *Over the Near Horizon: Proceedings of the 2010 Russian American Conference*, NPS, 2012), 2015 and 2017 Sharing Our Knowledge Conference of Tlingit Clans, at the Sheldon Jackson Museum (Alaska State Museums), and in Sesquicentennial Speakers Series 2017.  
**2014** Film *Surprises and Contradictions in Oral History of Sheldon Jackson School and College*

### **Permanent Collections**

Rebecca Poulson's work is in the permanent collection of the Alaska State Museum and of the Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.



## Japonski Island Boathouse, Sitka, Alaska



General view, looking West from O'Connell Bridge over Sitka Channel. Downtown Sitka is on the right, on Baranof Island. The Boathouse is left of center on Japonski Island. Behind it are other buildings of the former Sitka Naval Air Station. Also in the picture are two of Sitka's harbors and the public work float (at left). 730/16.



Historical view of the Japonski Island Boathouse (right of center) during World War II. View is from the top of a gravel conveyer. The causeway in the foreground is adjacent to the current bridge across the channel. Photo Sitka Historical Society, Johnson Collection.

# Japonski Island Boathouse, Sitka, Alaska



Above, west (rear) elevation, after the outbuilding was relocated. 10/1/17.

Below, south elevation. 7/30/16.



Japonski Island Boathouse, Sitka, Alaska



Above, north side (before removal of addition). 7/30/16.

Below, the primary, East, elevation. 7/30/16.



## Japonski Island Boathouse, Sitka, Alaska



Aerial photo of Sitka, Alaska, showing Japonski Island at the top. The approximate boundary of the Sitka Naval Operating Base and U.S. Army Coast Defenses National Historic Landmark is marked in red.

The NHL includes Mt. Edgecumbe High School, University of Alaska Sitka Campus, and part of the Southeast Regional Health Corporation campus, as well as the Japonski Island Boathouse, in the former Navy Base.

The Causeway, above, was the Army's Fort Rousseau and is now the Makhnati Island Causeway State Historical Park.



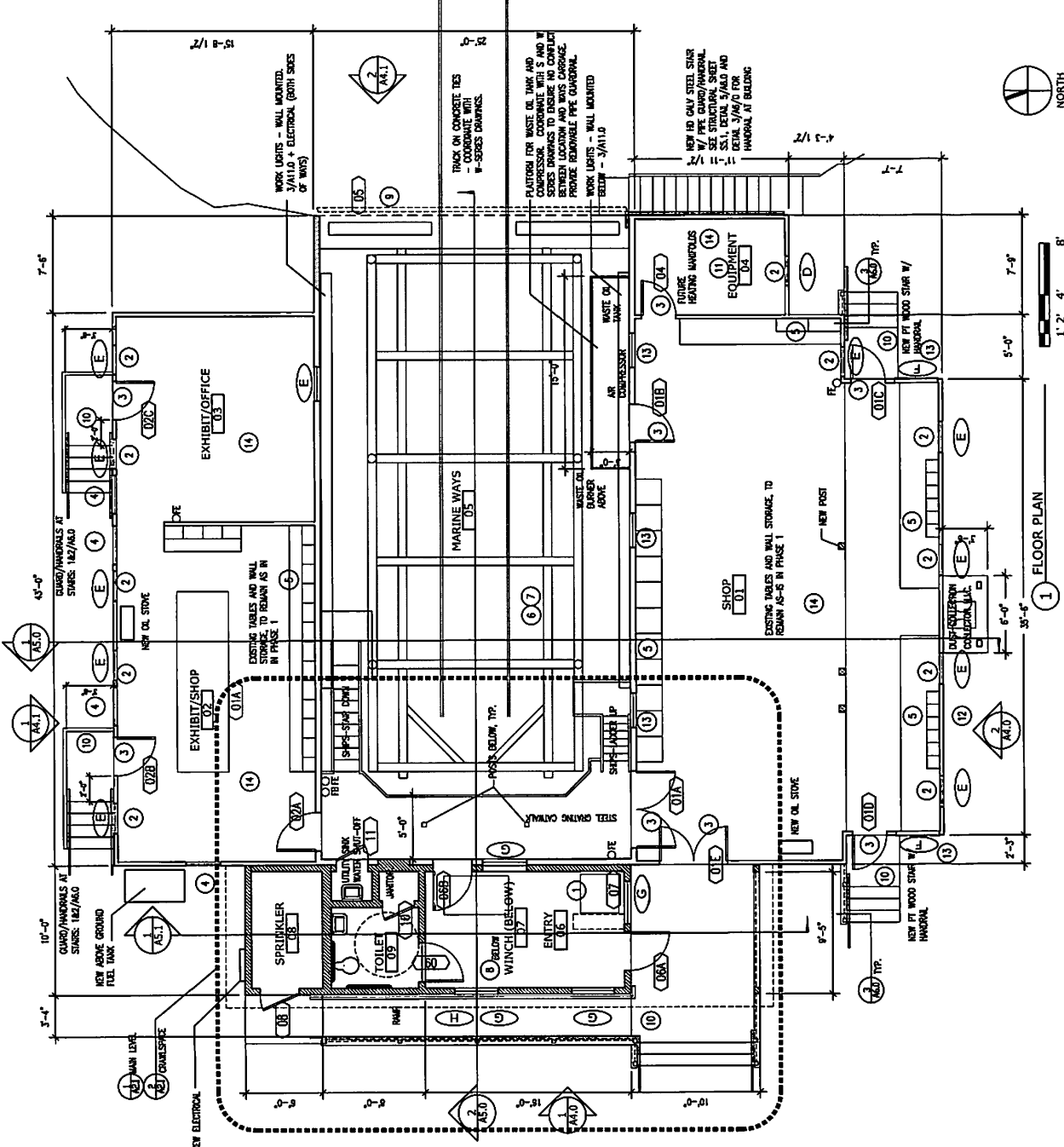
**NorthWind Architects LLC**  
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IF THE ABOVE DIMENSION DOES NOT EQUAL EXACTLY 1', THE DRAWING HAS BEEN ENLARGED OR REDUCED, AFFECTING ALL UNLABLELLED DIMENSIONS.

**JAPONSKI ISLAND BOATHOUSE**  
 PHASE I ADAPTIVE RE-USE  
 SITKA MARITIME HERITAGE SOCIETY  
 SITKA, ALASKA

**FLOOR PLAN NOTES**  
 DATE: JAN. 31, 2011  
 DESIGNER: X  
 CHECKED BY: SB  
 DRAWN BY: SB  
 SHEET #

**A2.0**



**GENERAL PLAN NOTES**

GOALS: REHABILITATE EXISTING MARINE WAYS AND BUILDING TO THE HIGHEST REMAINING HISTORIC INTERIOR OF THE EXISTING FACILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE AND REASONABLE, UTILIZING WITH LATEST EDITORS AND GUIDELINES FOR REHABILITATING HISTORIC BUILDINGS. THIS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL COORDINATION OF ALL TRADES TO BE CONSIDERED ON BEHALF OF THE OWNER AND PRESERVATION, UNLESS DIRECTED OTHERWISE BY ARCHITECT.

1. COORDINATION OF ALL TRADES TO BE UNDERSTOOD WITH PROJECT GOALS IN MIND. NEW TECHNOLOGIES SHALL BE INTRODUCED, BUT AS A RULE SHALL NOT BE IN CONTRAST TO THE HISTORIC BUILDING.

2. CONCRETE FLOOR LITCHING IN EXISTING SHOP SPACES IS TO BE CANCELLED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN EXISTING CONSTRUCTION. THIS WILL REQUIRE REMOVAL AND REINSTATEMENT OF EXISTING BOARD CEILING, BUT SHOULD NOT REQUIRE REMOVAL AND REINSTATEMENT OF MORE THAN 15% OF CEILING AREA IN ROOMS 01, 02, AND 03.

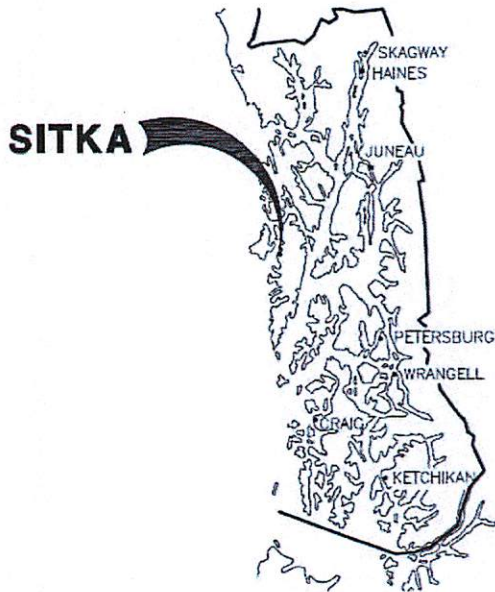
- KEY NOTES**
- AREAS OF NEW CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE FINISHED IN CHARACTER WITH EXISTING BUILDING REHABILITATION.
  - INSTALL REPAIRED AND/OR RECONSTRUCTED WINDOW UNITS IN EXISTING FRAMING OPENINGS. FLASH INTO AN/VOR BARBER LAYERS AS DETAILED. FINISH WINDOW ASSEMBLIES ARE TO BE TRADITIONALLY GLAZED AND PAINTED. REPLACE MISSING ASSEMBLIES WITH IDENTICAL REPLACEMENT IN THE ORIGINAL PROFILE AND FINISH, USING WHOLE EXISTING WINDOW AND FRAME UNITS AS BASIS OF DESIGN.
  - INSTALL REPAIRED AND/OR RECONSTRUCTED DOORS AND FRAMES INTO EXISTING OPENINGS. FLASH INTO AN/VOR BARBER LAYERS AS DETAILED. FINISHED DOORS ARE TO BE PAINTED, AND DOOR HAPPHOLE REFINISHED AS SCHEDULED.
  - INSTALL INSET PANEL AT ORIGINAL OPENINGS AS DETAILED. AIR BARBER TO BE EXTENDED CONTINUOUS BEHIND PANEL, WITH FINISH TRIM AS DETAIL 1/A11.1
  - WALL UNLATCHED QUANTITY AND MATERIALS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE WORK TO BE REPAIRED AND REINSTATEMENT AT ORIGINAL LOCATION. COORDINATE PLACEMENT OF ELECTRICAL, POWER SUPPLY WITH WORK SURFACES AND NOTED EQUIPMENT LOCATIONS.
  - INSTALL RESTORED MARINE NEW CHAIRS. COORDINATE WITH W-SERIES DRAWINGS FOR WAIS REHABILITATION.
  - INSTALL NEW TRACK, TEES, CONCRETE SLABS AND SCUMPER SLUMPS AT MARINE WAIS BAY. COORDINATE WITH W-SERIES DRAWINGS FOR WAIS REHABILITATION.
  - INSTALL NEW WENCH AND ASSOCIATED NEW STRUCTURE AT EXISTING WENCH SLUG. COORDINATE WITH W-SERIES DRAWINGS FOR NEW WENCH, AND F-SERIES DRAWINGS FOR ELECTRICAL AND CONTROLS.
  - INSTALL NEW OVERHEAD FABRIC DOOR ASSEMBLY AND WEATHER SHROUD. COORDINATE WITH SHEET A11.2 FOR DETAILED ASSEMBLY AND INSULATION.
  - INSTALL NEW TREATED WOOD DECK AND CIVIL ASSEMBLY AT NOTED ENTRY LOCATIONS. PROVIDE STEEL GRATING INSERT AT MARKED LOCATIONS. COORDINATE WITH STRUCTURAL DETAILS ON SHEET SLO AND ARCHITECTURAL GRID AND FINISHING DETAILS ON SHEET A11.2.
  - AT WALLS AND CEILINGS, INSTALL FIBERGLASS BATT INSULATION, MEGABREAK VAPOR BARRIER, AND NEW PAINTED SHIP-LAP SKELING TO MATCH OTHER EXISTING INTERIOR PANELING AT BUILDING.
  - COORDINATE REINSTATEMENT OF EXISTING BEILING INTERPRETIVE. COORDINATE WITH OWNER.
  - REINSTALL REHABILITATED HANGER ACCESS PANELS IN EXISTING OPENINGS. PROVIDE REPAIRED PANELS WITH FINISH TRIM AS DETAILED. PROVIDE REPAIRED SUNKEN FLOOR LAYERS INDICATED TO REPAIR SURFACE. PROVIDE TWO LATCHES - ONE AT EACH LOWER CORNER - AT PANELS EXPOSED TO WEATHER.
  - INSULATE EXISTING WALLS OF CONCRETE WITH 2" RIGID INSULATION FROM EXISTING WALLS TO NEW CONCRETE REPAIR WALLS OF WAIS. INSULATE 2" RIGID INSULATION ANCHORED. BELL HOOKS WITH PRESSURIZED TREATED PLYWOOD FOR THERMAL PROTECTION WHERE EXPOSED TO CHANGING ATMOSPHERE. INSTALL CONTINUOUS 6 MILS POLYETHYLENE VAPOR BARRIER ACROSS ENTIRE CONCRETE FLOOR AREA.



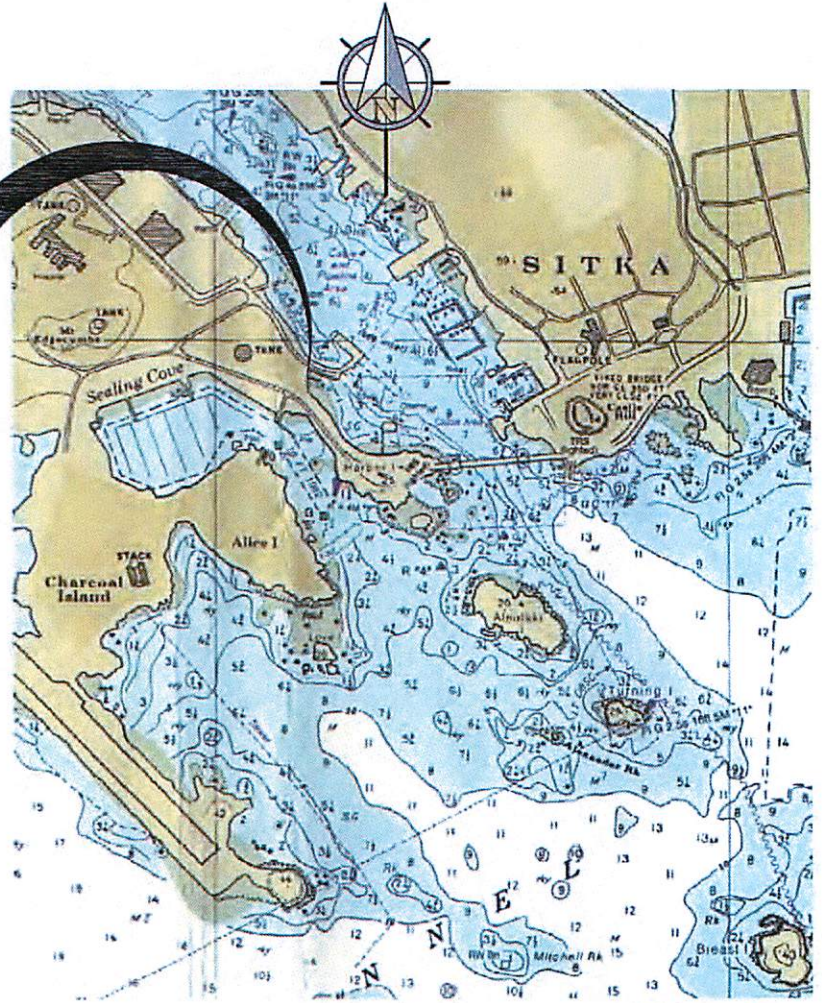


**LOCATION  
MAP**

**PROJECT  
LOCATION**



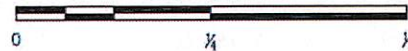
**SOUTHEAST  
ALASKA**



FROM NOAA 17327  
SITKA HARBOR AND  
APPROACHES

**VICINITY MAP**

SCALE IN MILES



**PURPOSE:**

RENOVATE EXISTING RAIL HAULOUT  
AND CREATE BEACH ACCESS

**DATUM:**

MLLW = 0.0 FT

HTL = 12.7'  
MHW = 9.1'  
MLLW = 0.0'

CITY & BOROUGH SITKA  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.  
100 LINCOLN STREET  
SITKA, AK 99835

PND PROJECT NO. 092020.02

**JAPONSKI ISLAND  
BOATHOUSE**

IN: SITKA CHANNEL  
NEAR: USCG DOCK  
AT: SITKA, ALASKA

APPLICATION BY CITY &  
BOROUGH OF SITKA

DATE: 3/15/10 SHEET **1** of 1

Japonski Island Boathouse Doors and West Wall  
Site Plan

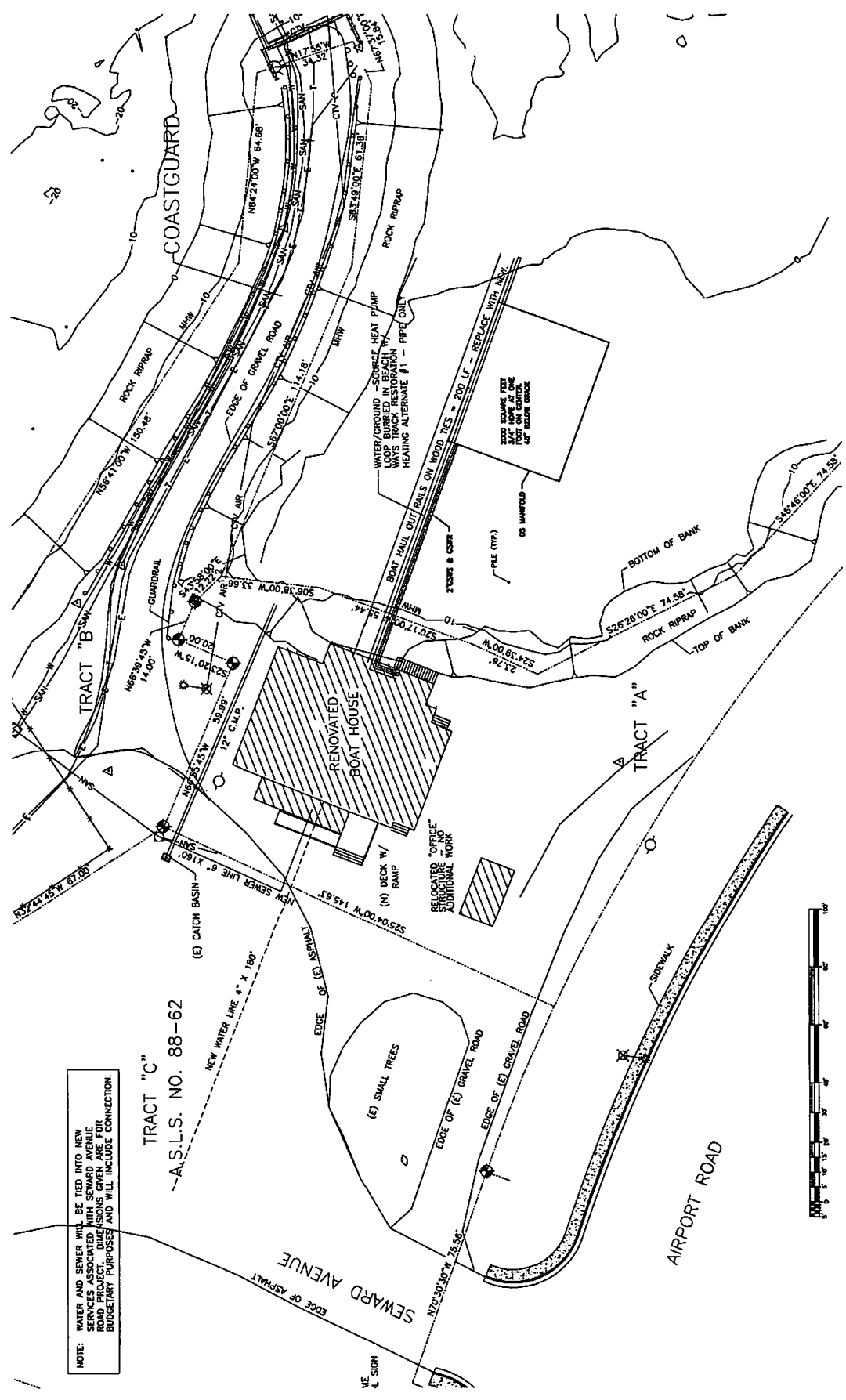
DESIGN  
DEVELOPMENT  
SUBMITTAL

**NorthWind Architects LLC**  
104 240 ST  
JUNEAU, AK 99801  
PHONE: 907.586.9800  
FAX: 907.586.9800  
WWW.NORTHWINDARCH.COM

**HEBRY & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
CONSULTING ENGINEER  
1000 W. 10TH AVE. SUITE 200  
JUNEAU, AK 99801  
PHONE: 907.586.9800

**JAPONSKI ISLAND BOATHOUSE**  
PHASE I ADAPTIVE RE-USE  
SITKA MARITIME HERITAGE SOCIETY  
SITKA, ALASKA

DATE: FEB 22, 2010  
REVISION: DM  
QUANTITY: K/B  
SCALE: M3.0



NOTE: WATER AND SEWER WILL BE TIED INTO NEW SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH SEWARD AVENUE ROAD PROJECT. DIMENSIONS GIVEN ARE FOR BUDGETARY PURPOSES AND WILL INCLUDE CONNECTION.





**SITKA SOUND  
SCIENCE CENTER**

834 Lincoln Street, Suite 200  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Admin Phone: 907.747.8878  
www.sitkascience.org



The Alaska Historical Commission  
Judith Bittner, State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of History and Archaeology  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

October 12, 2016

Ms. Bittner and Alaska Historical Commission:

This is a letter of support for the Japonski Boat House Accessibility and Plumbing project.

The Sitka Sound Science Center(SSSC) is a non profit organization dedicated to improving understanding of the marine and terrestrial ecosystems through science education and research. Our facility is on the national historic register and our own renovations have been done in accordance with federal historic guidelines.

SSSC has worked with the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society on a number of educational programs and have found them to be reliable, professional and an important group in our community. Their group is hard working and dedicated to the maintaining a wonderful piece of Sitka's history. With our strong fishing fleet, and our history, Sitka's maritime heritage is valued by many in our community including our organization.

The Sitka Maritime Heritage Society is already putting on heritage programs that are well attended and provide historical context for current events. These well designed and strategic restoration improvements to the building, which will be done in accordance to federal historic guidelines, will benefit the entire community and visitors.

We strongly support this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Busch'.

Lisa Busch  
Executive Director  
Sitka Sound Science Center

Executive Director - Hal Spackman  
Curator - Kristy Griffin



**The Sitka History Museum**

210 Seward Street  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
907-747-6455  
907-747-6588 FAX

**Board of Directors**

Ernestine Massey - President  
John Stein - Vice-president  
Kathy Hope Erickson - Secretary  
Sheila Finkenbinder - Treasurer  
Patricia Roberts Alexander  
Simon Connelly  
Barbara DeLong  
Sabra Jenkins  
Linda Williams

**Mission:** To preserve and promote the events, stories and artifacts of the human history of Sitka, as part of the Pacific Northwest coast of North America, to inspire, educate and benefit the Public and future generations.

[www.sitkahistory.org](http://www.sitkahistory.org)



The Alaska Historical Commission  
Judith Bittner, State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of History and Archaeology  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

RE: Letter of Support for the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society

Dear Ms. Bittner and the Alaska Historical Commission,

I am writing to the Alaska Historical Commission in support of the Sitka Maritime Heritage Society and their application for the Certified Local Government Grant. This grant would help SMHS continue the rehabilitation of the Japonski Island Boathouse in order to convert it into a public maritime heritage center for the promotion and preservation of southeast Alaska's maritime history.

This grant would help this organization bring this historic building up to recommended code, according to approved federal historic preservation standards. The current phase of restoration is the repair of the west wall, to bring water, sewer and electrical to the boathouse, and to build the foundation for an addition that will have an accessible restroom, entrance and mechanical room. This new addition is an essential component in opening this building to the public. The heritage center will continue to preserve and perpetuate maritime history, culture and technology through classes, research projects, a boat haul-out, and educational programming. SMHS is currently active in the community, including oral history programs at their annual meetings, and the restoration of the Japonski Island Boathouse will allow for the society to continue and grow their programming.

The Sitka Maritime Heritage Society has worked diligently over the years to restore the boathouse and to establish their organization as one that stands to preserve Sitka's rich maritime history. In the past, SMHS has successfully used and managed grants over the years, to replace the roof and foundation, to stabilize and paint the boathouse, conduct an inventory and rehouse historical artifacts, restore windows and doors and rewire the main shop. As the executive director of the Sitka History Museum, I can speak to the importance of the preservation of Sitka's rich history and the continued restoration of the Japonski Island Boathouse will benefit the community for generations to come and will also promote cultural tourism. Thank you for this opportunity to provide a letter of support.

Sincerely,

Hal Spackman  
Executive Director

*Sitka Historic  
Preservation  
Commission*

~~~~~

*City and Borough of Sitka  
100 Lincoln Street  
Sitka, AK 99835*

*Commission Members*

*Anne Pollnow, Chair*

*Roberta Littlefield, Native  
Community, Vice Chair*

*James Poulson., Historical  
Society, Secretary*

*Ana Dittmar, At Large*

*Robert Sam/Martha Moses, STA*

*Scott Saline, At Large*

*Kitty Sopow, At Large*

*Aaron Bean/Steven Eisenbeisz,  
Assembly Liaison*

*Samantha Pierson, Staff Liaison  
and Secretary*

~~~~~

*www.cityofsitka.com*

October 16, 2017

Jenya Anichenko  
Sitka Maritime Heritage Society  
PO Box 2153  
Sitka, AK 99835

Dear Ms. Anichenko,

On October 13, the Sitka Historic Preservation Commission considered your CLG grant application for the Japonski Island Boathouse Accessible Entry Shell. After discussion, the Commission took the following action:

**M-Saline/S-Dittmar moved to recommend approval of the CLG grant application for the Japonski Boathouse Accessible Entry Shell submitted by Sitka Maritime Heritage Society. Motion passed 5-0.**

Thank you for your patience while working with us on this matter. Best of luck on your project!

Sincerely,



Samantha Pierson, Staff Liaison  
Sitka Historic Preservation Commission