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Native American Program News November 2008

Quapaw Chairman John L. Berrey Named New ACHP Native American Council Member

John L. Berrey, chairman of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, has been appointed by President George W. Bush as the new Native American Representative to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Berrey replaced G. Peter Jemison (Seneca) upon the expiration of his term.

Berrey, who is a member of both the Quapaw and Osage Nations, serves as the chairman of the Quapaw Tribal Business Committee, as well as the chairman of the Quapaw Downstream Development Authority. He is also a fourth generation rancher on his family's original allotment on the Osage Reservation north of Tulsa, Oklahoma. "I have had the great



fortune to be part of Indian Country my entire life," Berrey said. "My grandmother greatly influenced me. She ensured that I had a strong foundation rooted in our native culture and religion."

ACHP Membership Adopts Policy on Interaction with Native Hawaiian Organizations

On May 13, 2008, the 23 council members of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) adopted the ACHP Policy Statement on the ACHP's Interaction with Native Hawaiian Organizations. The policy sets forth principles that will guide the ACHP's interaction with Native Hawaiian organizations (NHOs) as it carries out its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act in Hawaii. It also provides guidance to the ACHP and its staff and serves as the foundation for ACHP polices and procedures affecting Native Hawaiian issues.

The policy recognizes there are particular challenges for NHOs in participating in the national historic preservation program and in having their voices heard in federal decisions that impact historic properties of religious and cultural

significance to them. Therefore, the policy commits the ACHP to working with NHOs to develop and implement measures to address these challenges. The first step toward this goal is the adoption of this new policy.

In response to the new policy, Shad Kane, the Native Hawaiian representative on the ACHP's Native American Advisory Group (NAAG), said, "A big mahalo [thanks] to ACHP Chairman John Nau, former NAAG Chairman Fred Cachola, and former ACHP Council Member Raynard Soon for having such wisdom and foresight in the drafting and support of the Native Hawaiian Policy Statement. They have provided us with a means by which Native Hawaiian organizations can be more effective in the preservation of historic and cultural properties and the assurance that our traditional cultural practices and beliefs will be acknowledged in the Section 106 review process."

Former NAAG Chairman Cachola recalled that "urging the ACHP to adopt such a policy was the first recommendation that came from the Native American Advisory Group at a meeting of the ACHP in May, 2005. It was based on several meetings and listening sessions in Hawaii during 2004 and it culminates the continuous efforts by Chairman Nau and the Native American Program to insure the active participation of NHOs at all levels of historic preservation in Hawaii."

ACHP Announces New Handbook on Tribal Consultation

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has just announced the release of a new publication, "Consultation with Indian Tribes in the Section 106 Process: A Handbook." Created by the ACHP's Native American Program, this handbook provides valuable guidance for consulting with Indian tribes in those cases where a federal undertaking may impact historic properties of religious and cultural significance to Indian tribes.

Tribal consultation, which is mandated by the National Historic Preservation Act and its Section 106 project review process, has often presented challenges for both federal agencies and Indian tribes. This new handbook clarifies the federal responsibility for tribal consultation and provides a helpful and detailed road map to guide practioners through the entire Section 106 process.

The handbook also explains the parameters for consultation for undertakings located on and off tribal lands, and provides valuable and insightful tools and tips that can greatly increase the overall effectiveness of consultation with Indian tribes. For example, the handbook chapter on Consultation Tools provides informative sections on "Consultation Agreements," "Summits and Meetings," and "Guidance Materials and Training."

"Consultation with Indian Tribes in the Section 106 Process: A Handbook" is an essential resource, not only for federal agency personnel and State Historic Preservation Offices, but for tribal cultural resources personnel and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers as well. The publication is free and available for download at http://www.achp.gov/regs-tribes2008.pdf.

The ACHP's Native American Program wishes to thank the members of the United South and Eastern Tribes Culture and Heritage Committee, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and the members of the ACHP's Native American Advisory Group for providing their thoughtful comments and suggestions which contribued greatly to this handbook.

ACHP Chairman Addresses National Congress of American Indians

Phoenix -- John L. Nau, III, chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) addressed the National Congress of American Indians on October 21, 2008 at NCAI's 65th Annual Conference. As part of a panel discussion entitled "Improving Tribal Consultation in the Next Administration," Nau discussed how to continue the momentum achieved over the past seven years toward better consultation and coordination between tribes and federal agencies.

Nau's remarks focused on three areas: training for the federal work force, executive-level coordination and oversight, and collaboration with Indian tribes. "The importance of continuing interagency collaboration on tribal issues is critically important," Nau said. "We need interagency groups such as the Indian Affairs Executive Working Group to continue in the next Administration. This working group was established by the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to promote greater coordination and collaboration among federal agencies, and it is making a difference." The staff of the ACHP's Native American Program serve on the Indian Affairs Executive Working Group.

ACHP Makes Presentations at 10th Annual NATHPO Meeting

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) hosted two panel discussions at the 10th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers , which took place September 24-27, 2008 in Washington, D.C. The first panel, "Documenting Cultural Landscapes," featured a presentation about how historic and cultural landscapes are currently being documented with an overview of the cultural landscape methodology developed by the National Park Service. Following the presentation, the panelists and audience discussed the pros and cons of applying this approach in the Section 106 process when addressing properties of religious and cultural significance to Indian tribes. ACHP panelists included Nancy Brown, historic preservation specialist; Reid Nelson, assistant director, Office of Federal Agency Programs; Valerie Hauser, Native American Program coordinator; and William Dancing Feather, Native American Program assistant.

The second panel discussion, "ACHP Listening Session," included a report on the ACHP's current involvement in the development of major federal agency program alternatives. ACHP staff also sought tribal input on their challenges in the Section 106 process and the consultation process. Panelists included Nelson, Hauser, and Monique Fordham, Native American Program specialist.

William Dancing Feather Joins ACHP Native American Program

William Dancing Feather has joined the staff of the ACHP's Native American Program. He will serve as program assistant and manage databases and communications, research policy recommendations, prepare training and outreach materials, and support the ACHP's Native American Advisory Group.

Dancing Feather was raised in Carson City, Nevada. Following time spent on



active duty in the United States Army, he went home to Carson City and after performing with the Carson City Chamber Orchestra and the WNCC Jazz Band, he moved on to receive a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Nevada-Reno. While attending UNR he served a term on the Washoe Tribal Council and served as vice chair for the Carson Community. He has since worked for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California as the cultural resources coordinator and as the Washoe tribal historic preservation officer. He has also spent time as chairman of Indian Territory, a non-profit marketing arm of the Nevada Commission on Tourism.

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