



**ASLA HP-PPN HALS Subcommittee
2019 1st Quarter Conference Call**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 12 Noon EST

HALS Subcommittee

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Meeting Notes

1. Old Business

- a. Status of the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards. The NPS Solicitor's Office has released the document with no structural issues. After minor refinements, the document will be released in the Federal Register. Without a Secretary of Interior or a Director of the National Park Service in place, this process has stalled. Eventually once David Vela is confirmed as Director, a letter-writing campaign may help accelerate this effort.
- b. Update on efforts to develop guidelines for digital photography for the Historic American Buildings Survey, the Historic American Engineering Record and the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HABS/HAER/HALS). HDP is currently refining the method for receiving and storing the extremely large digital files that digital photography will entail. The new guidelines will be released in the next few weeks.
- c. Status of the pending confirmation of NPS Director Nominee David Vela. The failure of the U.S. Senate to take up David Vela's nomination as director of the National Park Service before the 115th Congress adjourned in December means his nomination must be resubmitted by President Trump. Vela, superintendent of Grand Teton National Park, sailed through his confirmation hearing in mid-November before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. He was first nominated for the director's job on August 31, 2018. Vela's nomination process has been delayed by the departure of Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke. President Donald Trump has nominated David Bernhardt to be the new Interior Secretary. Bernhardt's nomination is expected to take precedence over Vela's.
- d. There are 6 Vacant Chapter HALS Liaison positions: Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas (Prairie Gateway), Nebraska (Great Plains), Oklahoma, and South Carolina. There are only 3 states without any HALS documentation: Montana, North Dakota, New Hampshire.

2. New Business

- a. Dr. Charles Leider October 12, 1932 - January 29, 2019
Dr. Leider was a long time member of our ASLA HALS Subcommittee and a dedicated and productive friend to the HALS Program.
<http://obituaries.stwnewspress.com/obituary/charles-leider-1932-2019-1072506797>
&
[https://www.asla.org/uploadedFiles/CMS/Professional Resources/HALS/HALS CharlesLeider InMemoriam.pdf](https://www.asla.org/uploadedFiles/CMS/Professional_Resources/HALS/HALS_CharlesLeider_InMemoriam.pdf)
- b. Northeast and National Capital Region HALS Documentation Transmitted to the Library of Congress in December 2018: 6 2018 HALS Challenge Entries - New Britain World War Memorial CT-3, USDA WWI Memorial DC-61, Battery D Memorial MA-4, Miantonomi Memorial Park RI-3, American Academy in Rome, Thrasher-Ward Memorial US-10-A, and Monument Terrace VA-79. In addition, 2 NPS HALS sets of documentation were transmitted: Tidal Basin DC-59 and Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial US-1(A-B).
- c. The due date for all HALS Challenge entries is coming up, Tuesday, July 31, 2019!
The 2019 HALS Challenge Theme is *Historic Streetscapes*.
Check out the upcoming April and May issues of *Landscape Architecture Magazine* for the 2019 HALS Challenge ads!
<https://thefield.asla.org/2019/01/10/the-2019-historic-american-landscapes-survey-hals-challenge/>
- d. HALS Online Course/PDH is still available for \$40 to ASLA members. Chris Stevens presented a 60-minute ASLA Online Learning presentation Wednesday, August 30, 2017. Ann Mullins introduced the session titled: The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS): An Introduction to HALS and the Short Format Historical Report. The recorded presentation is available for purchase at:
<https://learn.asla.org/asla/sessions/357/view>

One Professional Development Hour (PDH) Credit is available after the post-test/evaluation. The webinar was hosted by the ASLA Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network. ASLA PPNs request volunteers to produce webinars that ASLA central offers, at a fee, to members for credit(s). For member prices to appear, please [log into learn.asla.org](https://learn.asla.org) using your existing ASLA username and password (the same login information you would use to log in to asla.org, the main ASLA website). All webinars offering 1.0 professional development hour (PDH) are: \$40 for full ASLA members, \$30 for Associate ASLA members, and \$20 for Student ASLA members. \$165 is the nonmember price.
- e. David Driapsa is hosting a 2019 HALS Challenge Webinar - *Documenting Historic Streetscapes* April 12, 2019 at 10:30 AM. Sponsored by Florida Department of Transportation - Florida Registered Landscape Architects Earn One Continuing Education Credit
- f. Roxanne Blackwell, Esq., ASLA's Director of Federal Government Affairs, and Daniel Hart, ASLA's Manager of Federal Government Affairs, joined the call to address some current legislative activities that pertain to National Parks. Prior to the call Roxanne had shared the following statement: "ASLA strongly supports addressing the NPS maintenance backlog and advocated for legislation that comprehensively addresses this issue. ASLA also worked diligently and had signed into law legislation to support the NPS's centennial and help address its maintenance backlog. It is true that ASLA does not support amendments that attempt to take dedicated funding (money that is specific set aside by law) from the LWCF and earmark it for other unintended purposes."

David Driapsa has been championing congressional funding of the Restore America's Parks Initiative campaign led by Pew Charitable Trusts through the HALS Subcommittee over the past year. He had asked me to share his recent concerns: “ASLA came out politically against funding the back-log of physical maintenance in the National Parks favoring the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Our HALS committee should insist that ASLA explain its position against funding the backlog of maintenance in the parks and reveal what lobbyists are influencing its position against that funding. Our professional society, ASLA, was among the strongest advocates for the National Parks early in the 20th century, and should continue as the leading advocate for them today.”

Roxanne stressed that it is a myth that the LWCF’s only purpose is to acquire new federal lands. It offers much more than land acquisition. It creates parks that ASLA members design and work on. Year after year, ASLA members rank it on top of surveys with their support. ASLA members view LWCF as a job creator. ASLA continues to advocate for BOTH the LWCF and the Restore Our Parks Act. It is not a zero-sum gain situation. ASLA has never picked one over the other. The two bills are not mutually exclusive. The [bill that permanently reauthorized LWCF](#) just happened to move through the House and Senate more quickly. There had been an effort last year by some Congressmen to divert National Park deferred maintenance funding into the LWCF. ASLA came out strongly against this effort supporting funding for BOTH bills. ASLA continues to support the Restore Our Parks Act, but this bill is moving through Congress at a slower pace.

- g. ASLA Government Affairs had advocated for Congressional funding for the NPS HALS Program for many years and came close to achieving it around the time the Great Recession began. In the years following that, ASLA ceased advocating for Congressional funding for HALS until the economy would improve. Are there any plans to renew this advocacy effort in the coming years? Roxanne asked that she and Paul discuss this soon and was receptive to preparing an ASLA letter to the new NPS Director in support of HALS as AIA has recently done for HABS. HAER has also actively been renewing its partnerships with ASCE, ASME, and IEEE.
- h. Paul Dolinsky is retiring from the NPS and HALS after almost 40 years very soon! Happy *Historic* Trails!!! Carol Yetken wished Paul the very best while lamenting the loss of his wealth of institutional knowledge. Paul will likely be retired by the end of March. His contact will be Paul.Dolinsky@gmail.com
- i. Succession Planning - Discussion of HALS Coordinator and HALS Subcommittee positions. With Paul’s imminent retirement, Chris Stevens will be acting as Chief of HALS. This is a required separate member of the HALS Subcommittee. It is time to find a new HALS Coordinator to replace Chris in this role. **Do you know of anyone that may be interested in serving as HALS Coordinator? With only one HALS staff member, we need a team! We are also seeking two more public sector and two more academic sector members for the HALS Subcommittee.**

HALS Coordinator – A member of the HALS Subcommittee designated to coordinate the work of HALS liaisons. The HALS coordinator is appointed by the HP-PPN chair in consultation with the designated ASLA support staff, and serves as the chair of the HALS Subcommittee. The HALS coordinator, in consultation with the HP-PPN chair, appoints the other members of the HALS Subcommittee. The HALS coordinator serves for a two-year term, and may serve up to three consecutive terms.

HP-PPN HALS Subcommittee of the Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network advises

ASLA on the implementation of the HALS. The Subcommittee is composed of 10-to-13 ASLA members, including: the HALS coordinator, as ex officio chair; *three* members from the private sector; *three* members from the public sector; *three* members from the academic sector; and up to three members at large. Other ex officio members of the HALS Subcommittee include the chief of HALS and the HP-PPN chair. In addition, the HALS Subcommittee may include up to three members designated by the Secretary of the Interior and/or the Librarian of Congress, who may or may not be ASLA members. Former HALS Subcommittee chairs may remain as members to the extent there is an opening on the Subcommittee. (*Currently 10 Private, 1 Public, 1 Academic*)

3. Other Business / Open Discussion

- a. Chris Pattillo reported via email that the Northern California HALS Chapter has been rather inactive in recent months, but that they have a plan to form an alliance with the California Garden & Landscape History Society group that is based mostly in Southern California. <https://www.cglhs.org/> They have been around longer than NOCA HALS and have done excellent research. They do not do measured drawings. Janet Gracyk had the idea that a collaboration would benefit both groups.

4. Closing Comments / Next HALS Subcommittee Teleconference Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 12:00 noon (EST)