

The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)

**2014 ASLA HALS Subcommittee Annual Meeting
Colorado Convention Center, Room 110
6:00-7:00 PM
Saturday, November 22, 2014**

Meeting Notes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Persons Present:

Shawn Balon, Hunter Beckham, Tina Bishop, Maureen Cameron, Susan Crook, Paul Dolinsky, Helen Erickson, Alexandra Hay, Ann Komara, Shalae Larsen, Brianna Lehman, Rachel Lingard, Kevin Lyles, Ann Mullins, Douglas Nelson, Chris Pattillo, Marion Pressley, Chris Stevens, Dusty Valero, Annette Wilkus, and Barbara Wyatt.

Chris Pattillo graciously volunteered to record meeting notes.

Chris Stevens, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed everyone. Attendees introduced themselves

II. ASLA Update

ASLA HALS Webpage Updates

Ali Hay, ASLA PPN Staff Representative reported that ASLA has added a new section to ASLA's HALS webpage—Documented Historic Landscapes. This page features the full list of documented HALS sites, which is provided by NPS and will be updated quarterly, with links to the documentation on the Library of Congress' website. There are currently 575 HALS sites on the list. Also on that page are a few "HALS Highlights," which will be updated quarterly and features a selection of HALS landscapes on a certain theme (right now, past HALS Challenge winners appear on that page).

LAM provided full page ad for the 2014 HALS Challenge

This year, ASLA provided a complimentary full page ad in the April and May issues of Landscape Architecture Magazine (LAM) to promote the 2014 HALS Challenge, "Documenting Landscapes of the New Deal." ASLA also included the 2014 HALS Challenge on the ASLA Website and HALS Flash Spots on the ASLA Home Page. The 2014 HALS Challenge, the fifth annual challenge, received 47 entries, the most ever, and more states were represented than in previous challenges' entries. Similar ASLA promotions are planned to promote the 2015 HALS Challenge.

ASLA provided HALS Table in the ASLA Commons at the 2014 Expo in Denver

ASLA hosted a HALS table with a computer and internet access at this year's annual meeting with a computer and internet access that enabled us to share and promote our HALS work to visitors to the Expo Hall. It was staffed by HALS volunteers.

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III. HALS Coordinator Annual Report

Chris Stevens read a thorough report from David Driapsa, HALS Liaison Coordinator. Highlights included the following:

Accolades

We thank Managing Director Susan Cahill, Hon. ASLA; Professional Practice Manager Debbie Steinberg; and Professional Practice Coordinator Alexandra Hay for their support and untiring guidance in helping to grow the HALS program.

We thank ASLA for again Including the HALS kiosk in the Commons during the annual meeting.

We also thank ASLA for providing full page adds in LAM promoting the 2014 HALS Challenge, for including the 2014 HALS Challenge on the ASLA Website and HALS Flash Spots on the ASLA Home Page.

We thank HALS Subcommittee members Tina Bishop, Jonathan Ceci, Paul Dolinsky, Christine Donhardt, David Driapsa (chair), Helen Erickson, Bridgit Kibelka, Andrew Kohr, Dr. Charles Leider, Elena Pascarella, Chris Pattillo, Chris Stevens, Carol Yetken, Thaisa Way, Crista Wollenzien, and Barbara Wyatt and recognize their leadership in the HP-PPN HALS Subcommittee.

We thank Tina Bishop for her interaction with the HALS subcommittee, and particularly recognize her communications to members regarding events, places to see in Denver, and other opportunities for members during this annual meeting, including Meet the Editors and serving as a volunteer to staff the HALS booth in ASLA Central.

We thank Andrew Kohr for his year of leadership as HP-PPN Chair and recognize his support of the HALS Program. We hope that he will continue serving as a member of the HALS Subcommittee.

We also thank Tina Bishop for stepping up to serve as the incoming HP-PPN Chair and welcome her as an Ex Officio member of the HALS Subcommittee.

We thank Paul Dolinsky and Chris Stevens of the NPS Heritage Documentation Programs of the NPS and recognize their national focus leading the HALS program.

Last, be not least, we thank each HALS Liaison and recognize your leadership in the Historic American Landscapes Survey program.

Subcommittee Goals & Objectives

Goal

The priority goal of the HALS Subcommittee is to establish HALS nationwide, with a HALS Liaison and an active program supported in each ASLA state chapter.

Objectives

Keep the HALS partnership visible with leadership representatives of the agreement (ASLA, NPS & LOC).

Include Historic Landscape Architects on the Secretary of the Interior's list of qualified Historic Preservation Professionals.

Include HALS kiosk in the Commons during ASLA annual meetings. ASLA offered the space for a HALS exhibit at no cost to the HALS Subcommittee. Volunteerism to staff the booth was low. We need to do better next year to staff the booth.

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Endorse an ASLA national awards category for historic preservation and lobby for an education session tract in historic preservation in the annual conference.

Include HALS on the ASLA Website and HALS Flash Spots on the ASLA Home Page.

Publish articles on HALS in LAND and The Field. (HALS related articles were published in the Field this year by David Driapsa (Smokey Hollow HALS FL- 9), Laurie Matthews (Gaiety Hollow HALS OR-5), and Chris Stevens (2014 HALS Challenge).)

Publish articles on HALS in Landscape Architecture Magazine.

Announce the winning results of the 2014 Challenge in LAM. Forty six fascinating and unique WPA/CCC sites were documented – great LAM article potential.

Place a notice and ads in LAM about the 2015 HALS Challenge.

Leadership for the HP-PPN

Beginning with the next annual conference call, the HALS Subcommittee will assist in seeking HP-PPN Chairs to serve in following three years. If you are from one of the chapters that will host upcoming conferences and would like to volunteer, or know of an ASLA member that would like to volunteer, please volunteer. We have had HP-PPN chairs from non-hosting areas like the current chair Andrew Kohr. Few HP-PPN members volunteer to chair the HP-PPN, so even if you are not from the hosting area, please volunteer. Please contact Tina Bishop, current HP-PPN chair, if you are interested.

Leadership for Vacant Chapter HALS Liaisons

Chapters with no HALS Liaisons are Connecticut, Nebraska, Illinois, New Hampshire, New York Upstate, and North Carolina. We would like to fill these positions. If you are from one of these chapters and would like to volunteer, or know of an ASLA member that would like to volunteer, please let us know.

Summary of Chapter Activity/Chapter Reports

Forty-six of the 53 ASLA chapters have a HALS Liaison. This is better than the previous year. The strong support from ASLA national has helped fill program vacancies in the chapters. ASLA now includes HALS Liaison on the list of chapter positions and recommends that chapter presidents include a HALS committee in the chapter executive organization and annual reporting.

Summary of Chapter Reports (See email attachment for full reports)

Thirteen HALS Liaisons submitted annual reports this year. That is down from fifteen last year. Responses from HALS liaisons to requests for reports are an important snapshot of the HALS Liaisons Network, which addresses issues that need ASLA support in the year ahead. We applaud the HALS liaisons who returned an annual report and urge every liaison to return a report next year.

2014 annual reports were received from the following Chapters:

Arizona
Boston
Colorado/Wyoming
Florida
Minnesota
Northern California
Oklahoma

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Potomac
Rhode Island
Southern California
Tennessee
Utah
Washington

The following is a synopsis of the annual reports received. Full reports are being emailed as an attachment.

Ten liaisons reported meeting on HALS business with their ASLA Chapter Executive Committee. Four reported no.

Nine liaisons reported their HALS program is included in the ASLA Chapter Executive Committee. Five reported no.

Nine liaisons reported their HALS program is supported by the ASLA Chapter Executive Committee. Five reported no.

Eleven liaisons reported that other members in the ASLA Chapter participate in the HALS program. Three reported no.

Five liaisons reported their HALS program meet with the State Historic Preservation Officer this year as an advocate of historic landscapes and HALS documentation. Five reported no.

Twelve liaisons reported it would be beneficial to the HALS program if the Secretary of the Interior included Historical Landscape Architects on the federal list of qualified historic preservation professionals. Two reported no.

Six liaisons reported that a HALS education session was presented for the ASLA members in the chapter. Eight reported no.

Two liaisons reported that an education session on HALS and historic landscapes was included in the chapter annual meeting? Twelve reported no.

Seven liaisons reported there will be submittals from the chapter to the 2014 HALS Challenge, "Documenting Landscapes of the New Deal?" Seven reported no.

Seven liaisons reported that the chapter HALS program participated in HALS documentation this year. Seven reported no.

Ten liaisons commented on how ASLA can better support the chapter HALS program. Four did not comment.

Three Issues become apparent from the liaison comments telling us how ASLA can better support chapter HALS programs.

Advocacy: Liaisons reported that advocacy is the leading issue. More support is needed to increase awareness of HALS. Put HALS back in ASLA Advocacy. Make HALS a keynote presentation to the full membership at an ASLA annual conference. Have NPS/HALS staff present at chapter conferences. Have ASLA and HALS leadership jointly write an open letter to chapter presidents, executive committees and members to underscore the values and importance of HALS. Issue guidelines to incoming chapter presidents on the role of the HALS liaison in the chapter executive committee. Advocate including landscape architectural history in college LA

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curriculum. Improve outreach about HALS documentation to firms actively managing preservation projects.

Process: Process is the second leading issue. More information is needed to train liaisons how to work with Chapter Executive Committees. Provide a list of recommended program features or annual milestones that the HALS liaison should discuss with the chapter executive committee and promoted to the membership. Include links from the ASLA Chapter website to Chapter HALS websites. Help members understand that the HALS Short Form of documentation is easy to complete. Provide more assistance with growing local volunteers. Make each HALS Challenge a two-year process to complete the document.

Funding: Funding is the third leading issue. Liaisons want to share ideas on how to make a HALS program self-sustaining, identify the opportunities for generating revenue for HALS programs, and chapter funding for travel reimbursement and direct project expenses in conducting fieldwork to document important historic landscapes.

IV. NPS HALS Update

Chris Stevens dispelled a misconception that a HALS standard format historical report requires measured and/or interpretive drawings as well as large format photographs be completed with it while completion of a HALS short format historical report does not. The HALS collection is open ended, and any or all forms of documentation can be completed at any time with or without the other types.

Tally of donated HALS Documentation for the past year

Chris Stevens reported that we now have a total of 603 landscapes with varying levels of documentation in the Library of Congress collection added since the establishment of HALS in 2000. The collection includes sites from 40 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the US Minor Islands. The list is available on the ASLA website.

Some additions this year from HALS subcommittee members included 3 Utah submissions from Susan Crook— two of which were prepared as mitigation documentation. David Driapsa submitted drawings for Tallahassee, Florida's Smokey Hollow Community (<http://thefield.asla.org/2014/02/28/smokey-hollow-a-hals-landscape/>) along with a standard format historical report and large format photography from his team. Some other mitigation projects included full documentation of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, Missouri; the Sunshine Speedway in Pinellas Park, Florida; and Site Summit Nike Hercules Installation in Anchorage, Alaska. Also a HALS report for Red Rocks Park near Denver, Colorado is being prepared concurrently with a National Historic Landmark nomination.

Holland Prize Competition Results

The 2014 Leicester B. Holland Prize was selected by a jury held on August 5, 2014. The Holland Prize, an annual competition open to both students and professionals, recognizes the best single-sheet measured drawing of an historic site, structure, or landscape prepared by an individual(s) to HABS/HAER/HALS standards and guidelines. The prize honors Leicester B. Holland (1882-1952), FAIA, who in the 1930s was chairman of the AIA's Committee on Historic Buildings, head of the Fine Arts Division of the Library of Congress (LOC) and first curator of the HABS collection, a co-founder of the HABS program, and the first chair of the HABS Advisory Board. It is administered by the Heritage Documentation Programs and the Center for Architecture, Design & Engineering in the Library of Congress, and is supported by the Paul Rudolph Trust, and American Institute of Architects.

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The prize is intended to increase awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of historic resources throughout the United States while adding to the permanent HABS, HAER and HALS collection at the LOC, and to encourage the submission of drawings among professionals and students. By requiring only a single sheet, the competition challenges the delineator to capture the essence of the site through the presentation of key features that reflect its significance.

2014 Leicester B. Holland Prize Winner: Publication of the Winning Drawing in "Preservation Architect" the online newsletter of the American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee, a \$1000 Cash Prize and a Certificate of Recognition. Project: Broadview Park Pavilion (HABS TX-3610), Fort Worth, Texas. Delineator: Paul M. Dennehy, AIA, of Dennehy Architects, Inc.

2014 Honorable Mention: \$500 Cash Prize and a Certificate of Recognition Project: Streetcar Depot, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers (HABS No. CA-336-A), Los Angeles, California, Delineator: Jean-Guy Tanner Dube of Appleton & Associates, Inc.

2014 Honorable Mention: \$500 Cash Prize and a Certificate of Recognition Project: Allegheny College, Bentley Hall (HABS PA-5955), Meadville, Pennsylvania. Delineator: Steven Utz; Adjunct Professor Allegheny College

While no HALS drawings won prizes in 2014, a HALS drawing won honorable mention in each of the 2011, 2012, and 2013 Holland Prize Competitions. For more information on the Holland Prize, visit:
<http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/competitions/holland.htm>Current

HALS Office Projects

In 2014, the NPS HALS office completed the documentation for Flanders Cemetery American Cemetery and Memorial in Waregem, Belgium. This was a complete documentation project that included written histories, measured drawings, and large format photographs. NPS staff also completed full documentation of the 60 acre Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin this year. Staff is currently wrapping up full documentation of Ellis Island National Monument in the New York Harbor. For 2015 the NPS office plans to prepare mitigation documentation for San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. Staff will also return to Europe next spring to document Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial near Verdun, France.

Update on the pending amendment of the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards (See email attachment for final draft)

Chris Stevens reported that the NPS is very close to accepting the revised 1997 draft of the Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards that includes Historical Landscape Architects as final. Qualified landscape architects across the country will then be eligible to access information and compete for contracts that require such approval. The language in the policy document has been revised, reviewed by a few members of the HP-PPN and the HALS Subcommittee, and should be published in the Federal Register in January 2015. There will be a one month review period prior to final approval.

This issue was initially raised by Janet Gracyk in 2008. It has taken a long time to get to this point but we are almost there. The original standards came out in 1983 without historic landscape architects which meant that landscape architects have been unable to compete for mitigation jobs with federal funding or from bidding

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on National Park jobs. Offices also use this list when hiring firms for this type of work. Adding Historical Landscape Architect to the Standards is a critical step. Documentation of historic landscapes and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places will take a huge leap forward when historical landscape architects are added on SHPO nomination teams.

Proposal to amend the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) to include “landscape” as a property type

Barbara Wyatt who works for NPS for the National Register and National Historic Landmarks Programs shared information regarding a NPS proposal to amend the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) to include “landscape” as a property type. For the past 50 years there have only been 5 property types so this is a controversial big step given the current political climate and risks associated with opening the act to amendment. Barbara explained how the existing 5 property types such as “site” and “district” have been effectively applied to significant landscapes. Barbara also mentioned the ongoing National Register Landscape Initiative (NRLI) that is seeks to improve the process and guidance for nominating landscapes within the existing system. For example guidance bulletins such as Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form will be updated and new white papers will be created.

Other NPS HALS Office Updates

*The Library of Congress (LOC) has been backlogged in recent years, so please be patient with viewing this year’s HALS submissions on the LOC online site (www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/). The LOC spends \$2 million every year in maintaining and expanding the HABS/HAER/HALS collection. The HALS office transmits documentation to the Library quarterly by region: Mid-March (Midwest and Intermountain Regions), Mid-June (Pacific-West and Alaska Regions), Mid-September (Southeast Region), and Mid-December (Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions). The Library usually has the documentation uploaded and available by the following quarter after receiving it.

After searching for a historic landscape or building online, click the “surveys only” square to condense all HALS documentation for that site into one link. Then when you open that link, you will see up to 4 icons on the left depending on what types of documentation exist: “Photos,” “Drawings,” “Data Pages,” and/or “Photo Captions.” Due to the Library’s backlog of digitizing large format negatives, you will see “Not Digitized” on the “Photo” icon for most HALS projects with large format photographs that have been transmitted since 2008.

*The Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) is creating “SAH-Archipedia,” a carefully selected subset from an authoritative online encyclopedia of the built world, containing histories, photographs, and maps for historic U.S. buildings. It is online now and growing day by day: <http://sah-archipedia.org/>

* Thaisa Way, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, University of Washington, is creating a digital map showing each of the 603 HALS landscapes documented to date along with the url for their HALS documentation at the Library of Congress website. Once Chris Stevens has assigned decimal degree coordinates to HALS records missing that information, this dynamic map will be uploaded and shared via the ASLA website. You will be able to zoom in on this interactive map and see what landscapes have been documented for HALS in your part of the country.

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V. Open Discussion

*Paul Dolinsky asked us all to acknowledge Chris Stevens for his passion and dedication to advancing HALS. Chris has done remarkably fine work for HALS. Paul noted that he is pleased with what we are discussing now – incredible progress has been made with HALS.

*All members of the HP-PPN and HALS Subcommittee are encouraged to write articles for media such as ASLA's *The Field* to raise awareness of historic landscape preservation. For example, Chris Stevens is planning to write an article for *The Field* that will encourage preparing HALS documentation from National Register and NHL nominations, cultural landscape reports (CLR), and project drawings prepared by practitioners and firms.

*Universities are working with HALS regularly teaching documentation in their curricula and having students prepare documentation.

VI. HALS Challenge (See email attachment for 2015 HALS Challenge Flier and Press Release)

2014 HALS Challenge: Documenting the Landscapes of the New Deal
Announcement of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes, a brief description of each project, and presentation of certificates

The *2014 HALS Challenge: Documenting New Deal Landscapes* garnered 47 entries many of which were excellent. Entries came from private professionals, professors and students, and groups. In the five years of the HALS Challenge, this year marks the highest number of HALS short format historical reports entered in the competition – in fact the number of entries has doubled since 2013! Six entries included measured drawings, and seven entries included large format photographs. Each submission was reviewed by Katherine Lavoie, Chief of HABS, and Paul Dolinsky, Chief of HALS. Paul Dolinsky reported that with so many outstanding entries, it was challenging to only select 3 winners. The NPS judges decided to add an Honorable Mention category. The judges looked for clean, declarative writing and a strong statement of significance. Short statements are fine provided they clearly state what is significant. Up to 10 photographs is about right. The judges gave 5 extra points when measured drawings and/or large format photographs were included. The amount and range of types of New Deal landscapes that were documented is impressive.

Five Honorable Mention awards were given to:

*7 Arizona New Deal Landscapes: The Tucson Plant Materials Center HALS AZ-11; Tumacàcori National Historical Park HALS AZ-12; Phoenix Historic Homesteads HALS AZ-13; Prescott Armory Historic District HALS AZ-14; Colossal Cave Mountain Park HALS AZ-15; South Mountain Park, Entry Complex HALS AZ-16 & Kinishba Ruins HALS AZ-17. Prepared by Aaron Allan, Gina Chorover, Jim Coffman, Helen Erickson, Caryn Logan Heaps & Jennifer M. Levstik with University of Arizona Student Team Members: Ismat Ayman Abdulhamid, Jeff Braun, Megan Brooks, Alexis Cardenas, Rebecca Caroli, Cannon S. Daughtrey, Deryn Davidson, Jonathan Dugan, Allison Dunn, Elondra Ome Eichenberger, Cristina Urias Espinoza, Starr Herr-Cardillo, Brianna Lehman, Steven Santillan, Barry Price Steinbrecher, Stephanie Stiscia & Cortney West and Arizona State University Team Members: Jasmine Ballard, Corinna Barber, Jordan Buckley, Dallen Olsen, Peter Price, Christine Seime & Erin Torchia

* Everett Forest Tree Nursery, Peninsula, Summit County, Ohio, HALS OH-6.
Prepared by P. Jeffrey Knopp, ASLA.

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*9 Florida State Parks: Fort Clinch HALS FL-8, Highlands Hammock HALS FL-10; Ravine Gardens HALS FL-11; Florida Caverns HALS FL-12; O'Leno HALS FL-13; Gold Head Branch HALS FL-14; Hillsborough River HALS FL-15; Myakka River HALS FL-16; Torreya HALS FL-17; David Driapsa, ASLA with Gary R. Crumley, ASLA; Kale Hicks, ASLA; William "Bill" Lutrick, ASLA; & G. Kevin White, ASLA.

*Gum Springs Recreation Area, Winnfield, Winn Parish, Louisiana, HALS LA-9. Prepared by William C. Hartman III, Assistant Professor, Louisiana Tech University.

*4 South Carolina State Parks: Poinsett HALS SC-3; Table Rock HALS SC-4; Edisto Beach HALS SC-5; & Lake Greenwood HALS SC-6. Prepared by Claire Achtyl, Amber Anderson, Jacqueline Don, Alison Dunleavy, Katie Dykens, Taylor Johnston, Frances Pinto, Sarah Sanders, Justin Schwebler, Melanie Weston & Laura Lee Worrell, 2015 Masters of Science Candidates with Andrew Kohr, Adjunct Professor, Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, Clemson University / College of Charleston.

The third place 2014 HALS Challenge winner:

Mount Greylock State Reservation, Lanesborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, HALS MA-2. Prepared by Pamela Hartford, Jean Cavanaugh, Allison Crosbie, ASLA, & Marion Pressley, FASLA, Pressley Associates Landscape Architecture/Site Planning/Urban Design

The second place 2014 HALS Challenge winner:

Mount Tamalpais State Park, The Mountain Theater, Mill Valley, Marin County, California, HALS CA-107. Prepared by Douglas Nelson, ASLA, Principal, RHAA Landscape Architects

The first place 2014 HALS Challenge winner:

Allegheny National Forest, CCC Camp ANF-1, Duhring, Forest County, Pennsylvania, HALS PA-25. Prepared by Ann E. Komara, ASLA, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, with assistance from Susan Martino, Jennifer L. Thomas, et al - MLA Students, LDAR6700 Adv. landscape architecture design studio (2008), College of Architecture and Planning, University of Colorado Denver.

This group of students and their instructors spent two weeks on site and caused quite a stir in the community who were curious about what was going on. Once the students explained, residents were eager to help and contributed resource information and recollections about the park. Students taught each other how to do the various tasks that were needed.

Ann Komara is encouraged to write an article for *The Field* article about the experience. This new extensive documentation for this wide array of New Deal landscapes will make a great article subject for LAM. Paul Dolinsky and Chris Stevens will reach out to the magazine.

Announcement of 2015 HALS Challenge

The 2015 HALS Challenge theme is Documenting Modernist Landscapes. Documentation of regional designs by lesser known modernists, which tend to be the most threatened, is especially encouraged.

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Chris Stevens also noted that sponsors will be sought to support the HALS challenge so prizes can be larger next year. If you know of any potential sponsors, please contact the NPS HALS office.

VII. Closing Comments

Chris thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited everyone to join us for dinner. The next HALS Subcommittee quarterly phone meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 12:00 EST.

VIII. Adjourn

Attachments:

HALS Liaisons Annual Reports;

Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards – Final Draft

2015 HALS Challenge Flier and Press Release