

House of Wickersham Building Restoration Phase 1**FY2007 Request:****\$200,000****Reference No:****41497****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Deferred Maintenance**Category:** Natural Resources**Location:** Juneau Areawide**Contact:** Nico Bus**House District:** Juneau Areawide (HD 3-4)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2406**Estimated Project Dates:** 03/15/2006 - 06/30/2008**Appropriation:** Agency Wide Deferred Maintenance**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The House of Wickersham project consists of building restoration which will allow this significant state historic park to be, once again, open to public. The requested general funds will provide required match for a FY03 National Park Service "Save America's Treasures" grant earmarked to the Wickersham House project by Congress. The first and second floors will exhibit the Wickersham collection and be used by the public for meetings and receptions. Site development will improve storm water drainage and accessibility. The project will develop and converse a historic park property.

Funding:	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$200,000	\$200,000					\$400,000
Total:	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

In 1990, \$250.0 was allocated for roof and foundation repairs.

Project Description/Justification:

Judge James Wickersham was appointed U.S. District Court Judge in 1900 by President Teddy Roosevelt and held that position until 1907. He served as Alaska's third representative to the U.S. Congress from 1909 to 1920 and again from 1930 to 1932. Wickersham retired to Juneau in 1920 and bought a house three blocks above the Capitol in 1928 and lived there until his death in 1939. The House of Wickersham stayed in the family until it was purchased by the Alaska Legislature and became the Wickersham State Historic Site, a unit of the Alaska State Park system in 1984.

Judge Wickersham played a very important role in the early history of Alaska. His home has been preserved as a living museum and from the mid 1960s to 1984, was operated by his niece, Ruth Allman, as an historical tour open to the public. With state purchase in 1984, operation of the House of Wickersham came to Alaska State Parks. While State Parks has provided minimum maintenance on the structure of the House, it has never been able to rehabilitate the house interior or apply the necessary resources to adequately tell the historical story of Alaska as seen through the eyes of Judge Wickersham and in the context of his time.

Parks has attempted on several occasions to contract operation of the facility to a private operator, but that has not worked out. For a few summers the historic park opened in the summer only with the assistance of a unique volunteer willing to learn the Judge's story. The House of Wickersham State Historic Site is currently closed.

Utilizing the Judge’s historic home and historical collection housed there, the House of Wickersham State Historic Site provides a prime opportunity to tell the early history of Alaska through the eyes of one of its most prominent citizens, Judge James Wickersham. To provide this opportunity to residents and visitors alike, Alaska State Parks is proposing to rehabilitate the home and develop a self-guided interpretive program that could be operated by volunteers regardless of their knowledge of Judge Wickersham or Alaska’s history. A self-guided program provides a consistent and informative historical tour without requiring any single person to learn all the stories or be on-site for each and every tour.

The requested general funds will match a FY03 National Park Service “Save America’s Treasures” grant earmarked to the Wickersham House project by Congress. The grant requires a 50% match. A historic structure report, completed in 2000, was used to identify needed work and develop the project cost estimate.

Why is this Project Needed Now: A \$300,000 Save America’s Treasure’s grant received by the State requires a 50% match. This \$200,000 CIP request provides some of the needed match. Phase II will provide the remaining match and additional funds to develop interpretive materials. The federal reimbursable grant funds will be lost if matching state funds are not secured.

Specific Spending Detail:

The exterior and the interior of the house will be restored to their appearance between 1928 –1939. The first floor will also be used as a public facility for meetings and receptions. The basement and third floor will be adapted for secure storage of the Wickersham collection not on display. A work area and office will be located on the second or third level.

The scope of work includes:

Phase I:

Foundation repair and installation of foundation insulation, moisture barrier and drainage.
Removal, cataloging, storage and restoration of historic electrical and plumbing fixtures, wood trim, doors and windows.
Installation of wall and roof insulation and vapor barrier.

Phase II:

Removal of the non-historic porch addition and reconstruction of the porch to match the original design.
Relocation of the existing accessible ramp and rehabilitation of the north entryway stairway and landing.
Rehabilitation of existing interior and exterior wall assemblies and restoration of original paint finishes.
Restoration of original floor finishes.
Development of interpretive materials including video, web based interpretive program, and brochure.
Display of collection.

State Parks Office of History and Archaeology, Design and Construction Section, and Southeast Regional Office will provide the majority of project design, contract preparation and construction administration services necessary to plan and implement the rehabilitation program. Administrative overhead costs are included as indirect costs.

Line Item Expenditures:

Personal Services	\$ 25.0	Contract administration, project design development
Travel	\$ 5.0	Travel to job site.
Services	\$170.0	Restoration/construction work.

Project Support:

Friends of Wickersham, a non-profit organization