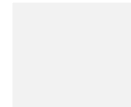


**New Construction of Concessioner Employee Housing  
in  
Denali National Park & Preserve**

Cultural Resource Report No. 2024-DENA-012

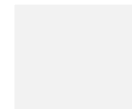
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## **ABSTRACT**

Denali National Park & Preserve (the Park) is proposing to construct a new concessioner employee housing building in the front country of the park. This project would help address employee housing needs.

The area of potential effect (APE) for the project is 0.5 acres. The APE was most recently surveyed in 2022 and there are no known historic properties or other cultural resources within the APE. Additionally, the construction of the proposed structure would not be in the viewshed of any historic property.

As designed, the project would not affect any historic properties. It is recommended that DENA approach National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, consultation under 36 CFR Part 800.5(b) as "No Historic Properties Affected".

## 1 Description of Undertaking

Denali National Park & Preserve (the Park) is proposing an undertaking to construct a new concessioner employee housing building in the front country of the park. This project would help address employee housing needs.

The proposed building would be two stories, contain 12 bedrooms, and be approximately 3,300 sq.ft. in area. The exterior of the building would be clad in 1x6" spruce battens over rough sawn plywood with a wainscoting of fiber cement lap siding. It would have a roof of green metal roof panels. The windows would be vinyl, brown in color with wood trim.

The building would be constructed near existing concessioner housing and associated structures, just north and west of the Murie Science Learning Center. It would be located northwest 200 yards of Mile Post (MP) 1.4 of the Park Road (outside of the Park Road Historic District) and would not be visible from the road.

## 2 Legal Location for the Undertaking and Local Environment

The project area is located within the Healy C-4 USGS Quadrangle Map. The overall project area is in the frontcountry of the Park; northwest 200 yards of Mile Post (MP) 1.4 of the Park Road. The project area is located within Section 4, T14S, R7W of the Fairbanks Meridian.

The project area is within a portion of the state characterized as the northern foothills of the Alaska Range. This area as flat-topped east-trending ridges 610-1,370 m (2,000-4,500 ft) in altitude, 4.8-11.2 km (three to seven mi) wide, and 8-32 km (5-20 miles) long, separated by rolling lowlands, 215-460 m (700-1500 feet) in altitude and 3.2-1.6 km- (two to ten mi) wide. The area is comprised of upland glacial topography (kettle and kame) (Wahrhaftig 1965). Vegetation is mixed spruce with ericaceous shrub undergrowth.

## 3 Area of Potential Effect

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is 0.5 acres and includes the footprint of the proposed building as well as utility connections to existing infrastructure.

## 4 Results of Inventory and Records Check

DENA cultural resource records, previous cultural resource surveys reports from the area, GIS data, and Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRS) information were reviewed. The APE was most recently surveyed in 2022 (Caselman, Hruban, Gilbert, Fuels Management Survey FY22).

#### 4.1 AHRS Sites located within the Project Area

There are no documented historic properties or other cultural resources located within the APE. The APE is a forested area that has not been disturbed in the recent past.

### 5 Recommendations

All ground disturbance would be monitored by a cultural resource specialist. If cultural resources or items protected by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act are discovered during project implementation, all project-related activities in the vicinity of the discovery would be stopped and the park archaeologist would be notified immediately. The Park in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and other consulting parties would determine a course of action per 36 CFR Part 800.13.

As there are no historic properties or other cultural resources within the APE or visible from the APE, as designed, the project would not affect any historic properties. It is recommended that DENA approach National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, consultation under 36 CFR Part 800.5(b) as “No Historic Properties Effected”.

## 6 Maps & Figures

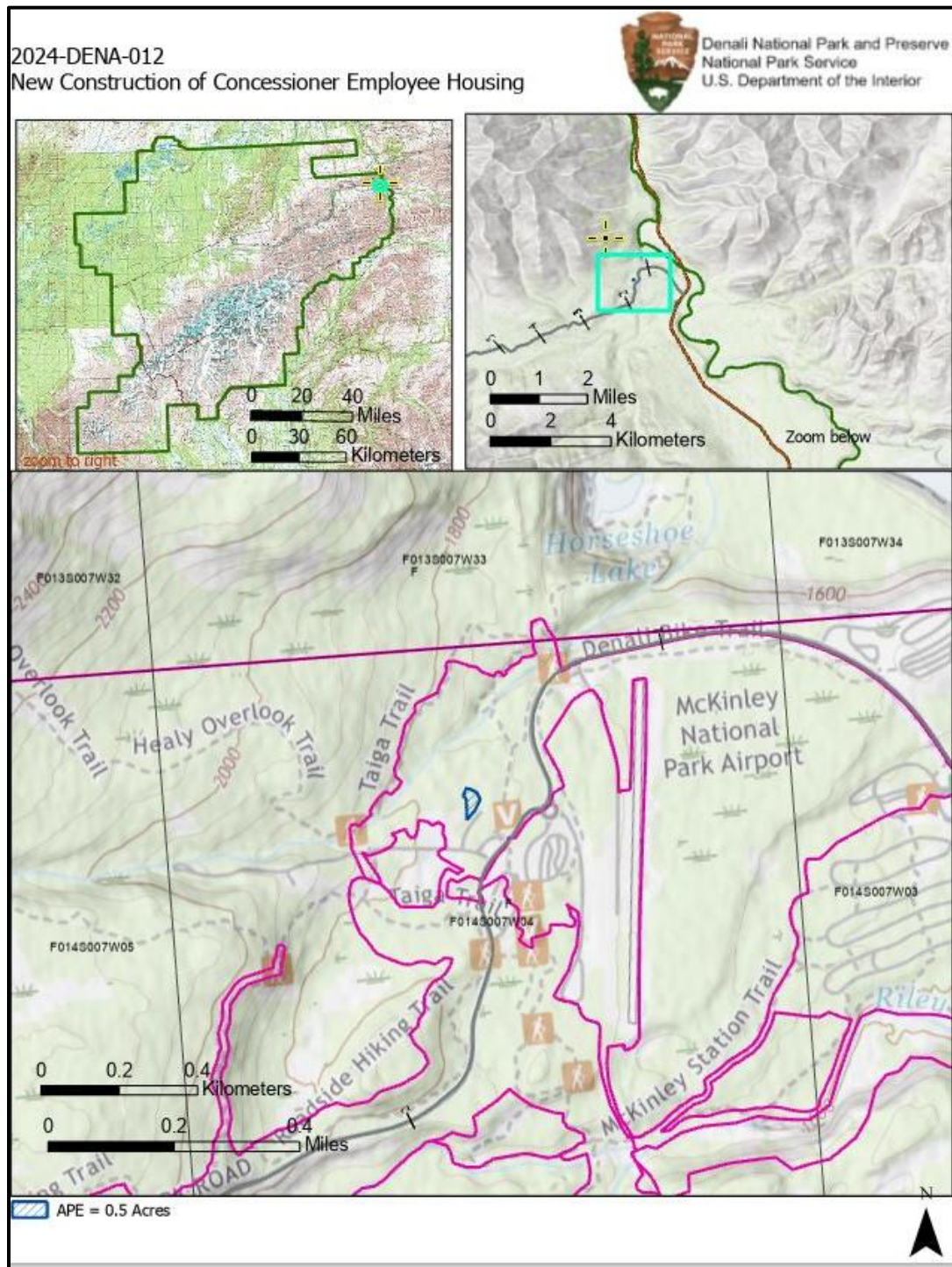


Figure 1- Overview of APE (0.5 Acres). Pink line indicated extent of 2022 survey; AHR sites are in yellow.

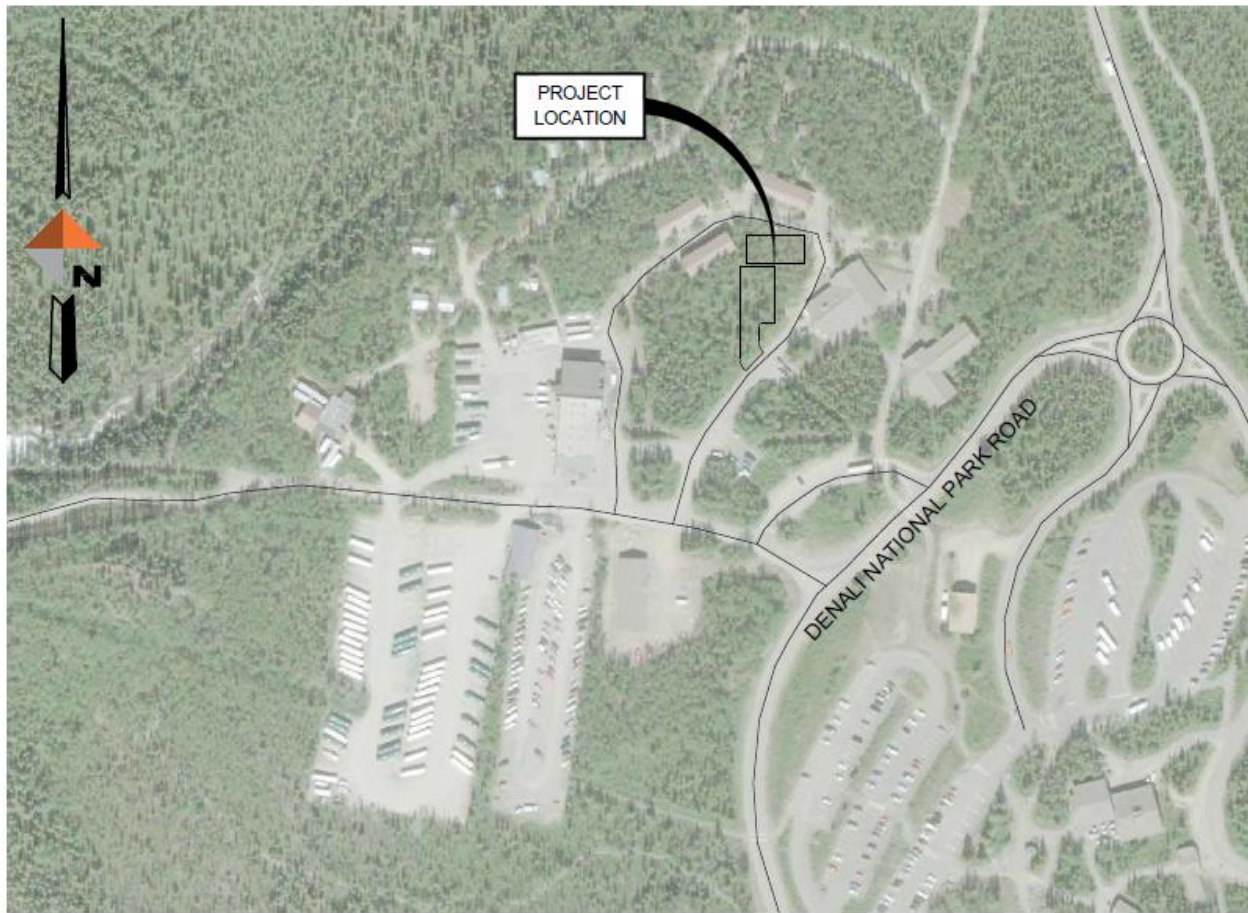


Figure 2- Proposed Building Footprint (from 100% designs).



Figure 3- Schematic of proposed building including exterior treatments and green metal roofing.

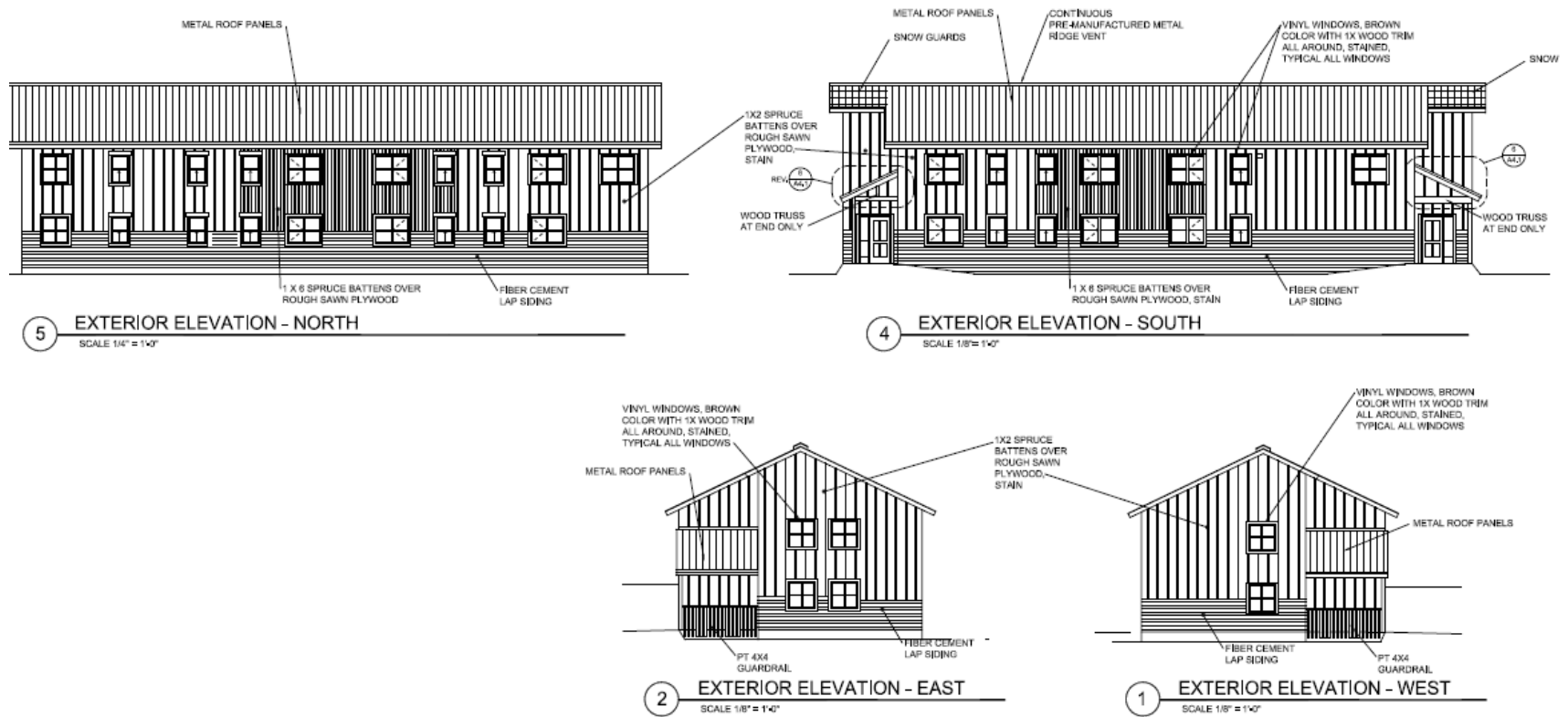


Figure 4- Plan Views of elevations with exterior treatments.

## 7 References

Wahrhaftig, C.

1965 Physiographic divisions of Alaska. *U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper* 482:23.

Prepared by: Phoebe Gilbert.

