

- Responsible for identification and documentation of cultural and historic resources and focus on site and ensure their protection.
- Works with developers to protect the historical site and to interpret cultural resources for the public. Ensure Restoration Projects are undertaken annually.
- Responsible for nomination and registration of highly significant sites for inclusion in the Palau Register.

Program Area: Public Education

- Educate the public and to make them aware on the importance of protecting and preserving the Palau's culture heritage and historic and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generation.
- Educate the public to make sure they understand the Bureau's mission and purpose.
- Coordinate with concerned affiliations regarding planned and ongoing cultural or traditional activities and events.

Affiliates

The Bureau of Arts & Culture works in close partnership with other affiliations including the U.S National Park/ Department of the Interior, U.S National Conference of State Historic Preservation, U.S Preservation Action, Micronesia Endowment for Historic Preservation, Palau Environmental Quality Protection/Agency Board, Belau National Museum, Palau Visitors Authority, Palau Conservations Society, etc.

**Bureau of Arts & Culture
(Historic Preservation Office)
Ministry of Community & Cultural Affairs**

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Disclaimer Statement

This publication was put together by the Bureau of Arts & Culture/Historic Preservation Office in partnership with the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, United States of America. However, the contents and information contained herein does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior.

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The Palau Bureau of Arts & Culture also known as Historic Preservation Office receives US. Federal financial assistance for recordation of Oral Histories and Traditions, identification and protection of cultural and traditional historic sites and properties. The US. Department of the Interior strictly prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of Federal Assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, US Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O Box 37127, Washington D.C 20013-7127.

**Bureau of Arts &
Culture
(Historic Preservation
Office)**

Programs & Services

*“Keeping Our
Heritage Alive”*



**Omekerreu, Omecheliu,
Mengeluolu, e Klekar a Ibetel
a Cherechar er a Belau**



Office of the Bureau of Arts & Culture

Authority: The Bureau of Arts & Culture was established in 1978 by the Palau Historical and Cultural Preservation Act as Title 19 of the Palau National Code. Additionally, the Bureau implements Section 106 of US Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. The Bureau also helps in the implementation of applicable Historical Preservation Laws in the sixteen states of Palau.

Mission Statement The Bureau of Arts & Culture, in accordance with enabling legislations and applicable regulations and standards, is responsible to protect and preserve the tangible and intangible historic and cultural resources of Palau and to ensure that opportunities for education and enjoyment of Palau's cultural heritage are available for everyone.

Organization

The Bureau of Arts and Culture also known as Palau Historic Preservation Office is one of the Bureaus under the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs. The Bureau receives funds from both the Palau National Government and Historic Preservation Funds from the U.S National Park Service, Department of Interior. The Bureau operates with five major program areas: Administration and Planning, Survey & Inventory and Project Review/Archaeology, Oral History and Ethnography, the Palau Register of Historic Places and Site Development, and Public Education. The Bureau has total of 14 staff members. It operates with the advice and assistance of the 16-member Palau Historical and Cultural advisory board, 16-member Society of Historians, and 5-member of Technical and Professional Review Committee

Program & Services

Program Area: Administration and Planning

- Seeks support through grants, donations and special projects.
- Increase cooperation with various agencies and organizations in order to achieve bureau's objectives.
- Helps to coordinate and organize major cultural activities.
- Oversees the overall operation of all program areas.

Program Area: Survey & Inventory and Project Review/Archaeology

- Manages historical sites of Palau including underwater sites.
- Carry out annual site inventories.
- Conduct project reviews.
- Compile identified cultural and historical site into database.
- Work cooperatively with universities researchers and also works closely with Palau Community College and other schools in Palau in education program and outreach for all age group.

Program Area: Oral History /Ethnography

- Works to preserve the cultural resource.
- Works with elders to ensure their knowledge are recorded and saved.
- Responsible for collection of oral histories and information of sites.
- Codify and publish oral history and Traditional Customary Practices.

Program Area: Palau Register of Historic Places & Development

- Serves as the official inventory for historical sites and cultural properties.
- Managing non-renewable and priceless cultural resources.