DIVISION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
1981-1986

Alaska Regional Office
National Parklands in Alaska

1. ANIACKA
2. BERING LAND BRIDGE
3. CAPE KRUSENSTERN
4. DENALI
5. GATES OF THE ARCTIC
6. GLACIER BAY
7. KATMAI
8. KENAI FJORDS
9. KLONDIKE
10. KOBUK VALLEY
11. LAKE CLARK
12. NOATAK
13. SITKA
14. WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS
15. YUKON-CHARLEY RIVERS
DIVISION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES
1981-1986

Alaska Regional Office

National Park Service
Anchorage, 1987
To the Memory

of

T. Stell Newman
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Alaska Regional Office

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BRANCH OF ARCHEOLOGY

BRANCH OF SURVEY & RESEARCH

BRANCH OF HISTORY
It is mid-summer and the superintendent of Wrangell-St Elias park has called three times in one day: a Native cemetery is washing away, a miner is pushing to build a pull-out on the road to his claims and near the Nabesna Historic District, and the owner of the fourteen-story concentrator at Kennecott National Historic Landmark wants to donate it to the park. It's crisis season.

This anecdote is offered as part explanation for why the report is finally coming out in July instead of January, as well as why we need to stand back and look at where we've been. The impetus behind the report is twofold: as cultural resource specialists we find value in reflecting on the past to help assess the present and to refine and clarify our goals for the future; a less prosaic, but equally important, reason is that we are attempting to catch up with a program objective of producing an annual report that tracks the divisions activities, expenditures, and accomplishments. The enactment of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act on December 2, 1980 provided for the establishment of an Alaska Regional Office, thus our beginning date of 1981.

This report is as much a retelling of personal experiences as it is a chronicling of professional tasks completed. Over a dozen years ago, when the Alaska Task Force was studying the proposed Alaska parklands, I met Stell Newman, key man for what would become Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. He also acted as anthropologist for the task force, a dynamic group of people who were setting plans and goals for the future. The goals for Cultural Resource Management were put in report form by Stell in 1978. That same year, while on a special detail to Washington, D. C. related to the park land debate, I worked with the Alaska group -- all of whom left lasting impressions. I recall tales by cultural anthropologist Ray Bane about his and Barbara Bane's life in a log cabin at the edge of the Gates of the Arctic, Bill
Lois Hull
Program Assistant

Rene' Spears-Davila
Secretary

Martha Olympic
Cooperative Education Student
Brown's eloquent descriptions of the Yukon River and its peoples, Bob Belous' photographs and understanding of the coastal Inupiat people, Zorro Bradley's epic orchestration of subsistence studies, and, of course, Stell Newman's words about how the new Alaska parklands would need to be managed, that "beyond the static resources of historic sites, structures, and places exists a panoply of dynamic resources." He talked of the native people, subsistence and the need to manage a unique combination of natural and cultural resources as one. These heady new ideas increased my desire to be part of the Alaska experience. On December 18, 1978 President Jimmy Carter signed the monuments proclamation. Bill Brown reflected on the period with remarks in the 1979 CRM Bulletin Alaska issue and added: "The work lies ahead...and also the adventure."

Shortly after my arrival in 1981 it became apparent to all of us that management of dynamic resources was being transformed by state and local forces, and external and internal pressures. The Cultural Resource Division was too small and too consumed by other tasks. A personally painful break of subsistence out of Cultural Resources was necessary in order to move forward. The division's focus shifted to develop a program that fit into the traditional historic preservation format, but retained a flexibility that got critical jobs done. These six years have been years of build up, of challenges, of education. The often heard phrase that Alaska is different hampered us and we had to find a way to show our similarities to the rest of the NPS regions in order to get support to build up a basic program. That task and its successes is presented in the following pages. The Alaska Region Division of Cultural Resources has come a long way. In 1981 the phone call from the superintendent would have gotten a long pause in response to his cry for help. Last week his requests were passed quickly to a competent staff and responded to by an archeologist dispatched to the park to meet with Native landowners and park staff, by the mining compliance staff pulling files on the Nabesna road and sharing data with park and mining staff, and a response to the Kennecott proposal being drafted by the regional historian and regional historical architect in coordination with other branches and divisions.

Yet I come back to the goals set forth in 1978. Our roots are also our future -- the hopes of working toward the management of a panoply of dynamic cultural resources, of managing the Alaska parks with the view of cultural resources and natural resource management being one; that we understand the Native peoples; that we understand the international aspects of Alaska's cultural past and our need to cooperate with our neighbors to the east and west to understand all aspects of these pasts. These are our future goals. It has already begun. As I write historian Bill Brown is air bound home after ten days of exchange of parkland ideals with Soviet park managers and scholars... The work and the adventure continues.
Branch of Archeology

TED BIRKEDAL
BRANCH
OF ARCHEOLOGY
REGIONAL ARCHEOLOGIST
GS-12

SUSAN MORTON
NATIONAL REGISTER
PROGRAM ARCHEOLOGIST
GS-9

PAUL GLEESON
SENIOR STAFF ARCHEOLOGIST
(COMPLIANCE)
GS-11

JEANNE SCHAFF
STAFF ARCHEOLOGIST
(COMPLIANCE)
GS-9

TEMPORARY PROJECT
ARCHEOLOGIST
(MULTIPLE COMPLIANCE PROJECTS)
GS-9

TEMPORARY PROJECT
ARCHEOLOGIST
(SINGLE PROJECT-KLGO)
GS-9

SIX TO TEN
SEASONAL ARCHEOLOGISTS
(GS-5 & GS-7)
Introduction: A short perspective on the scale and scope of park service archeology in Alaska.

First, a few random points of information to give some perspective on Alaskan archeology and the need for a strong archeology program.

1. In a sense, Alaska is the Native American's Ellis Island. Because Alaska once formed the eastern end of the Beringian corridor, the ancestors of all Native Americans either passed across its central land mass or migrated along its coastal shelf, thus Alaska's earliest archeological sites may be legitimately viewed as part of the cultural heritage of every Native American now living in the New World.

2. Human beings have been a major and integral element in the Alaskan environment for at least 14,000 years. Although Native American populations were distributed all across Alaska, the coastal areas, with their rich supplies of fish and marine mammals, oftentimes supported population densities that rivaled those found among the settled agricultural societies of the southeast and southwest United States.
3. Contrary to some distorted notions, Alaskan archeology is not the repetitive study of a monotonous array of lithic scatters and melted igloos. In actual fact, Alaska's prehistory is dominated by a surprising degree of complexity and variety. It involves the adaptations and interactions of three major Native American groups---Aleut, Eskimo, and Indian. It also encompasses such diverse themes as the rise of the Tlingit chiefdoms, the emergence of the "Magicians" of Ipiutak, the development of maritime Athapaskan culture, and the evolution of the sophisticated foraging strategies of interior hunters and gatherers, to name but a few.

4. Further, historical archeology has its place in Alaska. The physical record of the Russian colonial era and the early American period and Gold Rush is scattered across much of the Alaskan landscape; and the archeological study of this record has already begun to tell us a great deal about the lives of the trappers, miners, fishermen, businessmen, and others who have shaped Alaskan history.

5. The park areas of Alaska enclose approximately 53,000,000 acres of Federal land; essentially 70 percent of the total acreage under the management control of the National Park Service. To provide several frames of reference (the choice is yours), this amount of land is equivalent to the combined area of England and Scotland, three times the size of Ireland, or the entire state of Idaho. If the Alaskan park areas were placed over a map of the Lower 48 states, they would span an area that runs from Atlanta, Georgia; in the east to Wichita Falls, Texas, in the west; and north to Aberdeen, South Dakota. The largest Alaskan natural park, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, could absorb six Yellowstone National Parks; and Cape Krusenstern, a moderately-sized unit established primarily for its archeological values, could easily swallow up twelve Mesa Verde National Parks or 14,500 Tuzigoot National Monuments. The purpose of this comparison is not to brag, but to indicate that the archeology program has a job to do. It is estimated that the Alaskan park areas minimally contain 100,000 to 200,000 archeological sites. Less than 2,000 of them have been recorded to date.
A Brief History of the Alaska Regional Archeology Program

The first park-oriented archeology unit in Alaska was the offspring of the old Cooperative Park Studies Unit (CPSU). This legendary program—located at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks—flourished between 1972 and 1983 and was headed for most of its existence by the equally legendary Zorro H. Bradley.

Between 1978 and 1979, Dick Ping Hsu, Project Leader for one of the major CPSU field studies, the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Survey, provided archeological resource management services to the Alaska Area of the National Park Service as an adjunct to his research duties. At the end of the Petroleum Reserve Survey, Hsu left Alaska for a job in Midwest Region; and in the latter part of 1979, three archeologists from his project staff were reassigned to the newly created Alaska Area Office in Anchorage to serve as an area archeological staff under the general supervision of Bill Brown, Chief of the Branch of Cultural Resource Management. This first officially recognized archeology unit was loosely structured and may be best described as the "three guys" archeology program. None of the three archeologists was given supervisory authority and they essentially sorted out their own roles on the basis of personal interest and expertise. Craig Davis, because of his inclination toward programmatic matters emerged as the "acting" Staff Archeologist for the Area Office while Harvey Shields and Ken Schoenberg assumed "Research Archeologist" positions.

To give additional structure to their work they developed the "Area Archeologist" concept and divided the Alaskan park units into three separate geographic zones or areas. Under this division of labor, Craig Davis took responsibility for the Interior; Ken Schoenberg for the Northwest, North, and Southeast; and Harvey Shields for South Central and Southwest Alaska. As an adjunct to the program, Catherine Blee of the Denver Service Center was assigned direct responsibility for the specific performance of archeological clearance investigations in advance of architectural rehabilitation work at Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park and at Sitka National Monument. A role she performed until 1986.

Each "Area Archeologist" wore two hats and served as compliance and research archeologist for the parks within their designated geographical zones. To stretch dollars and staff time they used a technique which became locally known as the "Portfolio Approach". Each time the "Area Archeologist" visited a park he attempted to complete as many tasks as possible beyond the primary purpose of the visit. For example, if the archeologist was at the park area in order to conduct a clearance survey, he might also spend two or three days gathering critical
research information for the general management plans, take a morning to meet with the superintendent on 10-238's, and provide informal training to the park staff on the historic preservation process. In those early "frontier" days, the expense of an additional day's stay would only require an extra $3.00 in field per diem; the big ticket item was the high cost of travel coupled with the nightmarish logistical difficulties of traveling in remote areas. A single trip might involve several fixed wing flights, a helicopter ride or two, miles of river running by raft, coupled with long hours of walking over rough-terrain with a heavy pack. Craig Davis coined the term "slogging, humping, and mucking" to describe the latter mode of travel.

In December of 1980, Congress formally established Alaska Region and the wild and woolly ways that had often prevailed on the National Park Service's Alaskan frontier began to change as the new Regional bureaucratic structure was put into place. When Leslie Starr Hart arrived in 1981, she immediately began to enlist the aid and cooperation of the loose-knit and slightly unruly staff of the Branch of Cultural Resource Management in the creation of a full-fledged Division of Cultural Resources. Under her tutelage and direction, the "three guys" archeological program was transformed into the Branch of Archeology. Craig Davis was appointed the Acting Regional Archeologist and Branch Chief. In 1982, after Craig Davis had been officially hired as Alaska Region's first Regional Archeologist, he abandoned the old "Area Archeologist" approach and assigned Harvey Shields to serve as Compliance Archeologist for the Region and Ken Schoenberg to serve as the Research Archeologist. When Harvey Shields left the Park Service in 1984, Paul Gleeson was specifically hired to fill the role of Compliance Archeologist. In 1985, Craig Davis took the job of Staff Archeologist with the Division of Anthropology, WASO, and his leaving marked the end of an era. The pioneer days of the Alaska Archeology program had come to a close.

The Branch of Archeology accomplished a great deal in the first five years of its existence. Archeological clearance became an accepted and routine procedure in the park units. Also, a well-planned and concerted research program was developed and put into action to acquire the critical inventory data that was essential to effective cultural resource management in the park units. This research program stressed multi-year projects and a multi-disciplinary approach which combined historical investigations and the documentation of historic architecture along with baseline archeological studies. A multi-disciplinary perspective was a natural outgrowth of the "Portfolio Approach" of the pre-Region era. The staff placed particular emphasis on report production and publication. In addition to publishing the last batch of CPSU reports, they managed to quickly get out draft and final reports on the results of Branch's research efforts.

Record keeping and proper artifact processing were given
equal stress. A Cultural Sites Inventory housed in a paper file system was developed. Site forms and other archeological records were scrupulously organized, maintained, and updated. Similarly, an artifact catalogue system was established and put into effect. Each collected artifact ended up in its own box, correctly labeled and stored so that it could be easily retrieved if the need arose.

Not all these activities were accomplished by the "three guys" on their own. They established a cadre of highly experienced seasonals that provided the required technical labor. Contracting for archeological services was immensely expensive in Alaska during the pipeline and petroleum exploration period and the seasonal hire of archeologists was the only reasonable alternative. These dedicated temporary employees also contributed much to the overall success of the Branch of Archeology's formative years. Three, Gene Griffin, Susan Morton, and Jean Schaaf, have since become members of the permanent staff of the Division of Cultural Resources.

Finally, the three Branch archeologists raised Regional sensitivity to the importance of recognizing and preserving archeological resources. Craig Davis was an especially zealous advocate. Craig viewed NPS-28 as the "good book" and he preached its contents unhesitatingly to willing or unwilling park superintendents and staff. Reluctant audiences reportedly made little difference to him and it was hard to escape the range of his powerful voice. Legend has it that Craig once phoned the Superintendent of Denali and spoke energetically for several minutes before he realized the line had been dead for the entire time. What makes this phone call legendary is that the Superintendent reportedly heard everything that Craig said anyway.
Harvey Shields

Ken Schoenberg in field at Kurupa Lake, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, 1980.
Branch of Archaeology 1986

Organizational Changes

In 1986, responsibility for the execution of long-term archaeological research was assigned to the newly established Branch of Survey and Research. This separate branch, under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Schoenberg, is charged with the conduct of multi-year, multi-disciplinary research projects. Its functions are described fully in a separate section of the annual report.

Branch of Archaeology Staff

Regional Archeologist (Branch Chief)---Dr. Ted Birkedal, GS-12

Senior Staff Archeologist (Compliance Archeologist)---Dr. Paul Gleeson, GS-11

Staff Archeologist (Assistant Compliance Archeologist)---Jeanne Shaaf, GS-9
   (as of March 1987)

Staff Archeologist (National Register Programs Archeologist)---Susan Morton,
   GS-9 (as of March 1987)

Role and Function

The general mission of the Branch of Archaeology is to advise the Region's park areas in the management of their archaeological resources. In his capacity as Regional Archeologist, the Branch Chief serves as primary advisor to the Regional Director in archaeological matters. Staff support for the Regional Archeologist is provided by the other Branch Archeologists.

A list of specific functions includes:

1. Performance of necessary archaeological studies and consultations in advance of Park Service undertakings to assure the preservation of significant archaeological resources, in compliance with section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended 1980).

2. Review of all Regional planning documents to ensure that archaeological resources are given appropriate consideration in conformance with applicable legislation, regulations, policies, and procedures.
3. Delivery of external archeological services.
4. Assistance with the review of and the processing of all archeological permits (including archaeologically-related special use permits).
5. Technical advice and assistance in the conduct of anthropological studies and the treatment of ethnographic sites.

The bulk of the Branch's work takes place within two major program areas. These are described below:

Archeological Compliance Program

This is the workhorse of the Branch of Archeology. Paul Gleeson is the lead archeologist for the program and is responsible for planning, coordinating, and carrying out archeological "clearance" services for the park area within the Region. Archeological "clearance", or more accurately preservation compliance, involves a whole host of activities including: project tracking and review, report preparation, and consultation with outside parties (i.e. SHPO, Advisory Council, etc.). The operation of the program is necessarily reactive and driven by the diverse, and often unexpected, "clearance" needs of the park areas.

In order to reduce encumbrances to park planning and minimize redundancy of effort, stress is increasingly being placed on the issuance of zone clearance for headquarters areas and other large tracts of land that are scheduled for long-term development and ground-disturbing maintenance activities. Another area of current emphasis is the production of small-scale compliance management overviews on an opportunistic basis. The format, scope, and intensity of these overviews vary with need and available resources, but they are all designed to improve the quality and efficiency of the archeological clearance process by providing a contextual framework for decision-making.

Finally, it should be mentioned that "clearance" investigations make a substantial and cumulative contribution to the overall archeological data base of the Region. For some park areas, they represent the only sources of information that will be available to park staffs for years to come. "Clearance" investigations also help to challenge old assumptions about the archeological record, for they frequently take place in areas that are not considered to have high research potential. Every now and then, new and unexpected discoveries come to light that confront our preconceived notions of the past and help us to better understand the archeological record the National Park Service is mandated to preserve.
Archeological Compliance Projects
Branch of Archeology

NUMBER OF PROJECTS

YEARS

AVERAGE WORKLOAD
PROJECTED AVERAGE WORKLOAD
ACTUAL YEARLY WORKLOAD

* INCREASED WORKLOAD
IN RESPONSE TO REGION-WIDE CONSTRUCTION UPSURGE IN 1987
Historian Frank Norris (right) and Archeologist Scott Zimmerman (left) mapping the historic Chilkoot Trail, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, 1986.
Compliance Archeologist Paul Gleeson mapping the stratigraphy under the Mascot Saloon, Skagway, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, 1986.
Nicole Von Gaza, "Local Hire" Seasonal Archeologist, at work under the Mascot Saloon; Skagway, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, 1986.

One such discovery occurred this year at Skagway (Klondike) under the Mascot Saloon building. Here Branch archeologists found unanticipated evidence of the earliest Mascot Saloon, which had apparently been little more than a tent frame in early 1898. Careful analysis of the patterns of discarded glass has told us not only what the earliest "Stampeders" drank, but also which alcoholic beverages they favored and how they drank. For example, beer drinkers were few and tended to take bitters with their brew; on the other hand, whiskey drinkers were numerous and these exclusively guzzled Moore's Kentucky Whiskey. Evidence of this early and previously undocumented aspect of Klondike life would have been lost forever if the rehabilitation work on the Mascot Saloon building had proceeded without proper compliance studies.

Over 30 separate compliance investigations were conducted in Region this year. Several of the more interesting studies are described below:

**Chisana, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve**

Archeological tests conducted in advance of limited structural rehabilitation at Chisana, one of the last boomtowns of the gold rush era, indicated that the proposed work would have little impact on important archeological deposits associated with the U.S. Court House, Women's jail, and Commissioners Residence. Nonetheless, the recovered information suggests that archeology could contribute a great deal to understanding early life at this log cabin town. This finding is important because most of the records were lost years ago in a fire. Although the recovered artifacts were not numerous, a few had interpretive value for future park exhibits (for instance, a Chisana metal token). Further, the test investigations suggested that life at Chisana was a great deal more "rough and ready" than at Skagway. Glassware, for example, was almost nonexistent and its relative absence points to the difficulty that was once experienced in supplying this remote Alaskan mining town with the amenities of life.

**Skagway, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park**

Archeological compliance activities associated with the rehabilitation of downtown Skagway date back to 1978. From 1979 to 1985 most of the field research was conducted by Catherine Blee of the Denver Service Center (DSC). Her fine work has yielded a great deal of information about early Klondike life that would have been otherwise lost.
In 1986, the compliance workload at Skagway increased substantially as a result of a Congressional add-on. Blee who had other responsibilities on the Western Team of DSC and who needed to devote more time to getting out reports on her more recent work at Skagway, was not in a position to tackle the problem. The Branch staff consulted with DSC and the Acting Park Superintendent decided that the investigations would be handled by a seasonal staff under the general supervision of Paul Gleeson. The required fieldwork took five months using an average crew size of three. A temporary field laboratory was set up to process the huge quantity of recovered artifacts.

The archeological tests centered on the Mascot Saloon Complex, the Martin Itjen House location, and the Lynch & Kennedy Building. The major find under the Mascot Saloon is highlighted earlier in this report. The other tests also yielded important discoveries, including a unique layer of pure early Klondike (1898-1899) deposits from what was once the waterfront and warehousing area of old Skagway. Another intensive season of research is planned for this year and the results will be incorporated in a consolidated final report scheduled for completion in 1989. Catherine Blee of DSC continues to play an integral role as expert consultant, compliance liaison, and planner. A compliance-oriented overview to guide future compliance decision-making is scheduled for completion in 1988. In addition, a cooperative assistance of the National Park Services Division of Archeological Services in Atlanta has been recruited to provide project peer review and guidance in preservation planning. The latter unit is noted for their expertise in historical archeology and the production of cost-effective compliance plans.

Headquarters Area, Yukon-Charley National Rivers

Compliance investigations in the headquarters area alerted the Superintendent to existence of important prehistoric and proto-historic archeological deposits in the immediate vicinity of the park area headquarters. Nonetheless, Branch archeologists were able to define a number of "no-impact" zones where the scheduled park projects could take place.

Chilkoot Trail, Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park and Preserve

The Branch provided technical supervision for the third year of the park's management-oriented survey of the Chilkoot Trail out of old Dyea. Karl Gurke, who conducted the fieldwork, documented a number of important finds along the trail, but most importantly he was able to discover and record several sections
of the original trail. His most interesting finding was that the trail often broke up into three separate parallel branches.

Archeological Services Program

In Alaska, archeology forms a major component of the Service's National Register Programs. For this reason, responsibility for the archeological aspects of these programs now resides with the Branch of Archeology. This has not always been the case. Until 1985, the National Historic Landmarks Program was entirely under the supervision of the Regional Historian. Similarly, the Archeological Assistance Program (the former Interagency Archeological Services Program) was administered by Dr. Floyd Sharrock in his capacity as Special Assistant to the Associate Regional Director for Technical Services. When Dr. Sharrock became Chief of the Division of Minerals Management in 1986, direction over the archeological assistance program was assigned to the Regional Archeologist.

This new arrangement allows for the more effective integration of external and internal archeological services; makes possible the most efficient use of existing (and limited) staff, equipment, and support facilities; and insures greater consistency in the National Park Service's stance relative to the archeological resources of Alaska. Moreover, because this consolidation of archeological functions parallels an earlier and similar consolidation of historical activities under the Branch of History, it enhances the organizational and functional unity of the Alaska Region's cultural resource management program.

The two main sub-programs of the Archeological Services Program are described below:

National Historic Landmarks Program

Eighteen landmarks of primary archeological significance have been established in Alaska. Many more have associated archeological values. The Branch of Archeology, in partnership with the Branch of History, monitors the status of these highly significant resources, conducts boundary reviews, and assesses threats to their integrity as full-fledged National Historic Landmarks. The Branch also studies proposals for the establishment of new landmarks and the decertification of existing landmarks whose values have been compromised. Reports and recommendations are prepared and sent to Washington for final decision-making.

This year a boundary review at the Bering Expedition Landing Site National Historic Landmark, resulted in the discovery of an
old stand of blazed trees that may correspond to a similar stand mentioned in the early archival records. This tentative discovery has generated a great deal of scholarly interest for it challenges our current ideas about the geography of the Berin Expedition's landing on Kayak Island. A follow-up study is planned for 1987. The first phase of a de-designation study for Old Sitka National Historic Landmark and boundary reviews for Ipiutak, Leffingwell Camp, and Cape Nome Discovery Sites Minimum District National Historic Landmarks were also completed.

Archeological Assistance Program

The primary role of this program is to advise and assist Federal agencies, states, and other groups in archeological resource preservation and management. In 1986, staff limitations severely constricted the services that could be offered. However, technical advice and information in archeological resource protection were provided to the State of Alaska, the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Forest Service, and some Native Alaskan corporations. With a full-time archeologist assigned to the Archeological Services Program in 1987, we should be able to offer more help and also begin participation in the development of the Alaskan portion of the National Archeological Data Base.

Susan Morton,
National Register Program
Archeologist
Curatorial Services
Curatorial Services

JEAN SWEARINGEN
REGIONAL CURATOR
CURATORIAL SERVICES
GS-12

3 SEASONAL MUSEUM TECHNICIANS
GS-7
At the end of calendar year 1986, Alaska's fifteen national park areas have 14,209 objects, or groups of objects, cataloged, located and stored. At that same time, approximately 12,000 draft Catalog Record, Form 10-254, have been completed, awaiting the arrival of the final Automated National Catalog System application program.

As good as that news is, according to the accession records the backlog of uncataloged objects lingers around 52,000 for those collections in the parks themselves. At this reckoning, a less-than-conservative estimate has been put at 200,000 for single objects in collections held in non-NPS repositories, museums, and universities. This figure includes collections made in pre-park days for those new parks established in 1978. Most of those collections were made on federal lands so they qualify as federal property, no matter who the caretaker was at the time.

In order to show how we have arrived at this status, as well as how we are progressing in quantum leaps, the following chronology highlights the major hurdles we have cleared, with a touch now and then on those we ran into headlong!
1981

Curatorial work part of ancillary duties of Frank Deckert, Regional Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services, Craig Davis, Regional Archeologist, Ken Schoenberg and Harvey Shields, Archeologists, and Joaqlin Estes, National Register Historian.

This group carried on the work of a Regional Curator until July of 1984.

1982

* First requests for Cyclic Maintenance increase for Cultural Resources, Curatorial.

1983

* Archaeologists let a contract for Denali National Park and Preserve, Curatorial Inspection and Cataloging Project. The Earth Technology Corporation of Anchorage and Seattle was the contractor. The five phase project included inventorying, accessioning, cataloging, documenting, assessing storage conditions, with recommendations for duplicating documentation treatment and appraising artifacts.

* Request for funding of similar contract for Katmai National Park and Preserve with Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

* Funds acquired to complete ten Scope of Collection Statements for the new Alaska parks, and Denali. Work to be done at Harper Ferry Center, Curatorial Services, by Diana Pardue.

1984

* Regional Curator chosen for Alaska Region. First time all ten regions have fulltime curators. Jean Rodeck Swearingen, Management Assistant, Redwood National Park, arrived on duty the end of July. Curator attended first meeting of Regional Curator
at Mather Training Center, training for Trainers for the Revised Museum Handbook, Part II, Museum Records. Catalog Record For 10-254 revised to accommodate computer cataloging. Attended American Association of Museums meeting where first session of the proposed AAM Ad Hoc Committee of the Parks and Monuments Committee was held under the auspices of Chief Curator, Ann Hitchcock.

* Status of records in the state included five old parks with established accession books and catalog systems, the other eleven new parks had varying degrees of supplies, handbooks and minimal records.

* Chief Curator's office distributed six Key Elements for National Park Service Curatorial Strategy, 1984-1990:
  1. Bring storage and exhibit conditions to an acceptable state for all collections.
  2. Achieve responsible levels of accountability for all collections.
  3. Provide necessary preservation care to objects in collections.
  4. Strengthen the level of curatorial expertise applied to collections care.
  5. Incorporate curatorial review into the planning process.
  6. Provide field curators with needed management tools and policy guidance.

* Denali contract completed, 20 collections inventoried, approximately 12,500 objects inspected, inventoried, or cataloged. Report on record at the park and region.


* Curator surveyed ten park collections, storage situations and record status. Acquired files kept faithfully (and fortunately) by Frank Deckert, which allowed a quick course on what had gone on the last few years.
* At the instigation of, and with the continued cooperation of, the archaeologists in the Division of Cultural Resources, fun1 is being included in all Cultural Resource Inventories and other excavations for the final cataloging of all current and future work into the National Park Service National Catalog system. This is a benchmark action that will have the immediate effect of stopping the increase of backlog work for the parks.

* Curator chosen as Acting Superintendent at Yukon-Cha Rivers National Preserve for three months. Superintendent by day and Curator by night kept both the park and the region covered.

* The Office of Inspector General for the Department of Interior doing an audit on several national park areas "to evaluate the adequacy of NPS's (1) accounting controls, security procedures, and storage facilities for museum property and (2) procedures for the disposition of surplus museum property." As a result of this audit, Curatorial Services are initiating a set of guidelines, special directives, revisions to existing policies and practices.

* Revised Museum Handbook, Part II, distributed to all parks. New three-part forms with tractor feed also distributed. Fcuratorial training held in conjunction with Alaska Native History Association meetings in Anchorage. Personnel from all parks participated, becoming familiar with the new forms and handbook.

* Curator attended Western Museums Conference representing national park service in Alaska. Entered into the ranks of Alaska museums association as well, Museums Alaska, Inc.

* Scope of Collection Statement drafts received and distributed for review.

1985

* "Curatorial Designees" identified in each park--distributed among interpreters, resource management specialists, and range Superintendents designate personnel as accountable officer instead regarding park museum property.

* Region has no permanent curatorial positions in any of the parks. All curatorial work done by the above, or seasonal personnel. Only Klondike Gold Rush and Sitka National Historical Parks, and Denali National Park and Preserve have seasonal personnel hired solely for curatorial work.

* New Scope of Collection Statement format issued from Chief Curator's office. By November, all parks in the region...
approved Scopes, not all on the new format, however. (Leaves something for us to do next year.)

* Curator attend first Automated National Catalog System training at Clemson University. The system, envisioned nearly 20 years ago, is now becoming a reality. It is a slow, painful process for those in Washington, requiring many people and many hours. Test parks are working the glitches out of the system.

* Curatorial Designees from two more parks trained in the revised record system while cataloging the Kenai Fjords National Park collections on-site. Using actual collections during training results in upgraded collections and hands-on experience that benefits both the folks and the park. It's actually more fun that way!

* Archaeologists prepare draft catalog records for all Inventory and Survey work done during the 1985 field season. Funding designated as part of each project used for cataloging by the field personnel. Time records indicated that staff familiar with the materials can catalog onto draft forms approximately 4 times as fast as a curator trying to catalog materials several years later from old records. (See Archaeologists report for projects.)

* Approximately 8000 draft Catalog Records are ready for ANCS. Until these drafts are entered in the computer on the Revised Catalog Record, SF 10-254, they are considered backlog. Since the ANCS application program was to be completed at any time, the decision was made not to hand type all these drafts, but wait until it could be done on the computer. Valuable staff and seasonal time can be spent actually cataloging, rather than typing.

* Final AUDIT OF MUSEUM COLLECTION MANAGEMENT, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, by the Office of Inspector General, received by the Washington office. The findings and recommendations were listed in four categories:

  1. ACCOUNTING FOR MUSEUM PROPERTY. A substantial portion of the museum property . . . was vulnerable to theft and misappropriation because the accounting controls over objects were not adequate."

  2. SECURITY AND STORAGE. Museum objects . . . were susceptible to fire damage or theft because the parks did not have adequate fire detection/suppression or intruder alarm systems in all buildings where objects were kept . . . also noted
that museum objects were not kept in controlled environments to protect them from extreme temperature and humidity changes."

(3) SURPLUS MUSEUM OBJECTS. . . . parks were storing and keeping records on thousands of objects that did not fit the parks' scope of collection statements."

(4) ARCHEOLOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL MATERIALS. NPS needs to improve controls over archeological and archival collections. Most archeological and archival collections have not been accessioned or catalogued upon receipt . . . . NPS cannot be assured that the collections are intact or complete."

Recommendations made by the OIG are being implemented by the parks through the aid and abettance of the Chief Curator's office and the regional curators.

* Curator presented program on Scope of Collection Statements at Curatorial Methods course at Mather Training Center. Attended rest of the session with Curatorial Designee Martin from the three Northwest Areas. Also participated in the combined Western Museums Conference and Mountain Plains Museums Association meeting in Salt Lake City. On the way back home, she presented a session on Scope of Collection Statements at the annual meeting of Museums Alaska in Wrangell, Alaska.

1986

* Collections Management Report for 1984 submitted to Washington early in the year: 239 accessions, 988 catalog records complete, 26298 estimated backlog of objects to be cataloged.

* Director's SPECIAL DIRECTIVE, 80-1, "Guidance for Meeting National Park Service Preservation and Protective Standards for Museum Collections" issued to begin to remedy deficiencies indicated in the OIG Audit.

* Received $1000 training funds that were parlayed into training and updating collections simultaneously for eight parks, monuments, and preserves, plus one interagency visitor center. This frugal use of funds was possible only with the cooperation of the parks and the generous personnel who made per diem stretch forever by opening their homes to the curator at no cost to the government!

* Trained Resource Management Specialist and Archaeologist at Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, and seasonal Museum Technician and Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services at Denali National Park and Preserve, using their
collections. Worked with the Manager of the Fairbanks Alaska Public Lands Information Center to catalog the loan collection on exhibit there. Trained Resource Management Specialist at Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, again accessioning and cataloging collections up-to-date. More training and cataloging at Northwest Areas, catching up Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Kobuk Valley National Park and Noatak National Preserve collections. Brief training sessions with Resource Management Specialists for Bering Land Bridge National Preserve and Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve before they left for their field assignments. All training and catalog resulted in nearly a thousand draft record forms, ready for computer entry.

* Attended Automated National Catalog System training at Clemson University with ADP Computer Assistant Kathy Justice. The light is beginning to dawn! And, because of Kathy, the light at the end of the tunnel is not an oncoming train as was feared. She will stand us in good stead with the computer end of this application program. Funding from Curatorial Services in Washington helped with the acquisition of a Compaq Deskpro 286 and NEC Spinwriter 8850 printer. We are ready!

* Special Directive 80-1 report, INSPECTION CHECKLIST FOR MUSEUM STORAGE AND EXHIBIT SPACES, compiled and sent to Washington. Findings showed Denali, Klondike Gold Rush, and Sitka generally the best off curatorially. The new areas still require dedicated storage, minimal environmental controls, and general housekeeping standards. The region is well on its way to meeting minimum NPS standards, which is what we are concentrating on at this time. Pie-in-the-sky comes next.

* Position Description completed for GS-5 Museum Technician to work on ANCS entry of draft records when funds become available.

* Collections Management Report for 1985 submitted to Washington: 245 accessions, 5372 catalog records complete, 48,208 estimated backlog of objects to be cataloged. Backlog includes approximately 12,000 draft catalog records piling up for the computer.

Collections Management Report for 1986 submitted to Washington: 115 accessions, 6416 cataloged, 84087 estimated backlog of
objects to be cataloged (this figure does not match the estimated backlog from the Backlog Report that accompanied these two reports). The BACKLOG REPORT that accompanied the above two reports estimated 63,242 backlog within the parks, with an additional estimate of 200,000 in non-NPS repositories. The truth probably lies between those two in-park figures, with hopes for resolution lying in fY1988.

* Proposal for an Alaska Regional Curatorial and Archaeological Services facility in preparation.

* Curator attended workshop at Western Museums Conference in Los Angeles on earthquake-proofing exhibits and collections. Presented at American Association for State and Local History in Cerritos, California.
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding History</th>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Division initiated 10-237 for Regional Curator, travel, supplies and air support</td>
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| 1982 | Increase for Cultural Cyclic Maintenance requested.  
- PRIP, KLGO Pkg. 107, Phase I, Chilkoot Trail Curatorial $6,000.  
- PRIP, SITK, Conservation of Objects, $3,000.  
TOTAL $9,000 |
| 1983 | Scope of Collection funding request, $7,500.  
- DENA Building 101 Rehabilitate with Curatorial space upstairs, interpretive downstairs ca.$65,000.  
- CRPF, DENA Pkg 235, Preservation of Artifacts, Contract, $45,000.  
- CRPF, KLGO Pkg 107, Phase II, Chilkoot Trail Curatorial, $20,000.  
- CRPF, SITK Preservation of Artifacts at HFC $25,000.  
- CRPF funds requested for KATM Pkg. 150, Preservation of Artifacts request for $75,000. Not received by fy1987.  
- Cyclic Maintenance funds for SITK, Totem carving, $20,000.  
- Cyclic Maintenance funds for SITK, Totem treatment $2,275.  
TOTAL $184,775 |
| 1984 | HFC, Curatorial Services, Museum Storage Equipment, (unfortunately not all spent) $ 8,500.  
- PRIP, DENA Curatorial work $ 8,000.  
- CRPF, GAAR, Kurupa Lake collection curatorial, $44,500.  
- Last of the PRIP monies.  
TOTAL $61,000 |
| 1985 | HFC, Curatorial Services, Museum Storage Equip. $ 2,700.  
- Cyclic Maintenance, DENA curatorial, $ 6,000.  
- Cyclic Maintenance, SITK curatorial, $17,900.  
TOTAL $26,600 |
| 1986 | HFC, Curatorial Services, Museum Storage Equipment $2,700.  
- WASO, Curatorial Services, Automated National Catalog System, $ 4,000.  
- ARO, training, $ 1,000.  
- Cyclic Maintenance, DENA curatorial, $ 6,000.  
- Cyclic Maintenance, KLGO curatorial, $ 8,000.  
- Cyclic Maintenance, SITK curatorial, $11,000.  
TOTAL $30,000 |
GENERAL

During the brief tenure of the incumbent regional curator, there have been repeated requests for report upon report. Two very large and onerous reports have been completed, the Special Directive, 80-1, and the Collection Management Report with Backlog Report attached. With these reports in the hands of the Chief Curator, and brought to the attention of the Director and the Regional Directors, the hard work of the areas is paying off. Funds have been advanced specifically for cataloging the backlog in the Alaska region in 1987 fiscal year.

All of the areas have a member of the staff designated as responsible for the collections, as a very ancillary part of their regular jobs--interpretive rangers, protective rangers, resource managers. They have been subjected to this new annoyance called the Regional Curator and have done yeoman service in living with this annoyance. Without exception, the park staffs have helped gather the information, do the work, and endure the training with a great deal of good grace. They are all the reason that it is finally working!

Park collections are heavy on archeological material, mostly stored in non-NPS institutions and the regional office. Natural history materials exist in all but one park, from several thousand herbarium sheets, insects and study skins to a few herbarium sheets and a couple skulls. Historic collections are concentrated in Sitka and Klondike Gold Rush, with new parks and Denali with mining areas entering into the historic object arena in a rather big way. Archival materials are coming into their own, a closer look at these numbers and problems will have to be addressed soon.


Phone requests for information include classification designations in addition to Nomenclature, catalog instructions, proper object attachment for objects on exhibit, funding requests, references for care of collections, object identification, conservation requests, help with report preparation, and all the day-to-day niggely little things that come up when one is working with collections.
A limited cache of curatorial supplies and materials are kept in the region for quick distribution to the parks. However, Curatorial Services at Harpers Ferry Center sends things with such dispatch that it is not worth keeping much in the limited space here at the region.

LOOKING FORWARD

Short Term Goals

One goal of curatorial services in the region is to have every object in all the collections in all fifteen parks accessioned and stored at minimal NPS standards by the end of the 1987 fiscal year. With some diligence, accessioning will not ever fall behind again... she said confidently.

Another short term goal is to have most of the 12,000 draft 10-254 Catalog Records entered in the ANCS program by the end of this fiscal year. CRPF money, $50,000, has been allocated to the region for this purpose. Establishing the position for a Museum Technician to enter these records into the computer system is in progress. That person will spend several months entering existing draft records into the ANCS application program which has not arrived yet.

Achieving goals is sometimes a little like walking up a steep sand dune, one goes up on step and back two, but we are determined!

Long term goals

Realistically, our long term goals will include bringing down the cataloging backlog of objects kept in parks at this time. The objects that are being found or excavated during Cultural Resource Inventories and Mining Compliance Surveys are now being cataloged after the materials are analyzed at the end of each project. With care, no additional backlog will be created by ongoing projects ever again.
The search for collections from existing park areas residing in institutions throughout the world is another long term goal. With luck, it will be initiated in 1897, but there is speculation on a completion date. Our objective is to have those collections accessioned into each park, and an inventory and publications in the accession folders. The next step would be to catalog that material, wherever it is. The institution will know that we are willing to take the collections should they have no further use for them.

Establishing a regional curatorial and archaeological service center is another goal, preferably a short term one, that can benefit the parks financially and personnelwise. The facility will act as a repository for collections improperly stored in the parks, in non-NPS repositories, or stored improperly in the region. It will act as a center for the ANCS consolidating draft catalog records with a trained computer technician hitting the backlog hard and fast, saving everyone time and money.
"I'm lucky. I get paid for doing what I love."
Historic Architecture
Historic Architecture

DAVE SNOW
REGIONAL HISTORICAL ARCHITECT

1-2 SEASONAL H.A.B.S. ARCHITECTS
69-7
"Get the job done and done right the first time," could be the motto of the branch of historic architecture. Although working with a minimal or nonexistent staff and with an equivalent budget, the branch has been able to accomplish an impressive number of projects -- such as restoration of gold rush-era structures, developing a field guide for recording historic log cabins, and in accomplishing an international project. Until 1984 the regional historical architect was detailed to Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Skagway; since then he has been located in the regional office.

The Skagway Years 1981-1984

Skagway, in Southeast Alaska, is comprised of wood-frame, structures built during the Klondike gold rush. The National Park Service owns fifteen of the town's historic structures, all located along the main street, Broadway Avenue. These structures were acquired 1976-1979 and quickly became a major preservation headache; piecemeal work on the buildings had begun by the time the regional office was established, but long-term direction was sorely needed. In 1981 Dave Snow was transferred to Skagway from the Denver Service Center, where he had worked as part of the service center's team assigned to the Skagway project. He was detailed to Skagway to ensure this major project received
direction. He also served as the regional office's first historical architect.

The largest restoration and adaptive use project was the White Pass and Yukon Route Railroad Depot and Administration Building. This structure was a run-down, turn-of-the-century building donated to the National Park Foundation in 1969. The National Park Service recognized its utility for the headquarters and visitor center of the proposed Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. The building became the park's first acquisition after the passage of the park enabling act in 1976. The eighty-three year old Depot was in poor condition when work began in earnest in 1981. Three years later, in the summer of 1984, the building was opened on schedule and under budget. The 13,000 square foot structure was an immediate success at a cost just under 1.5 million dollars.

On-site architectural design and construction supervision for the duration of the Depot project assured efficient and sensitive management at Skagway. Design services from the Denver Service Center and the Anchorage Regional Office were brought together in a coordinated and timely manner, which kept the job on schedule. The completion of the Depot restoration exceeded all of management's expectations.

Meanwhile, emergency stabilization of twelve other Park structures began with a unique approach: painting. Nearly all historic buildings in Skagway had endured years of neglect and "sand blasting" by the North Wind (The Tlingit Indian word for Skagway means "home of the North Wind"). Grey and weathered buildings predominated along Broadway Avenue. Painting the Park owned structures set a new example, reintroduced historic color schemes, and initiated a positive change in the overall appearance of the historic district. Private property owners followed the park lead and painted their buildings in the historic color schemes.

In addition to ongoing restoration of Park historic structures, cooperative design services were provided directly to the community. One on one assistance to private property owners became a part of the on-site work, a task which was a beneficial good neighbor policy and one which avoided potential disasters. A major success was the design of a historically compatible facade for a new hotel and restaurant constructed on Broadway for the Westours Corporation. Westours had originally planned a three story, "plywood box" to be constructed in the historic district. In the end, by popular demand from the city of Skagway and as instructed by the town's historic district commission, Westours worked cooperatively with the National Park Service's historical architect to ensure that the new building would fit into the historic environment of Broadway.
As the Regional Historical Architect, Dave Snow also assisted the external programs by disseminating information on grants and tax credits for historic preservation projects. He also assisted the National Historic Landmark (NHL) boundary review program by mapping the entire town, photographing all significant historic structures, and evaluating the architectural significance of Skagway's historic structures. The Skagway and White Pass National Historic Landmark overlaps the Park, but the majority of the NHL structures are owned by private individuals.

Simultaneous with the intensive project work on the Depot, the assistance to private property owners, and the NHL work, the regional historical architect's duties were increased so that by 1984 he had responded to the needs of other park areas in the region. Katmai, Sitka, Denali, Yukon-Charley, and Wrangell-St. Elias received professional services. This work, begun while at Skagway, is discussed below.

The Anchorage Years 1984-1986

The historic architecture program was finally settled into the regional office in mid-1984. The Depot restoration project was complete. Dave Snow was transferred to Anchorage. The restoration of the remaining twelve structures at Skagway was turned over to the western team of the Denver Service Center. As of the end of 1986, four additional structures in Klondike were completed or nearing completion with two leased back to the private sector.

Dave took hold of a nascent regional historic architecture program that had developed haphazardly while he was in Skagway. With the regional historian, he worked to integrate the external and internal programs in order to respond to the needs of the parks. Massive surveying and planning efforts were initiated using a unique combination of the Historic Structure Report process and the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) program. This provided the much needed summer staff support for documentation of remote historic structures.

In quick succession Historic Structure Reports were prepared by seasonal HABS staff and the regional historical architect; historical data sections were prepared by the regional historian and his staff. HSRs were completed for the log cabins at Chisana in Wrangell-St. Elias and the Fure's cabin in Katmai; restoration of these structures is now underway.

This unique combination of HABS drawings with treatment recommendations in the final Historic Structure Reports was a National Park Service first. The new HSR format allowed for the reduction of treatment drawings to 8 1/2 x 11 inches. Additionally, the HABS drawings gave more flexibility to the
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compliance documents (HSRs), allowing the drawings to stand on their own as mitigation if required. This "mitigation through documentation" has become necessary for the isolated, but significant cabins scattered throughout Alaska's parklands that will be left to molder and decay. A side benefit of the HABS program has been the training of talented young historic architects, some now in private practice in Alaska.

Besides the work on the HSRs, Dave Snow developed the Log Structure Field Survey form to tap the limited and remote field personnel who will visit isolated cabins. Data gathered on these forms is currently being used to improve the List of Classified Structures and in developing the Historic Structure Report drawings. The forms serve as a permanent field record of the historic log cabins.

While surveys of new areas proceeded, the Alaska region's first Historic Structure Preservation Guide was prepared by Regional Historical Architect Snow. This HSPG used as-built drawings from the Depot complex in Skagway to develop an inspection format. The HSPG was in the park's hands before the final touches were made in the restoration. The Denver Service Center, western team, is now preparing HSPGs, for all remaining work in Skagway and the Russian Bishop's House in Sitka.

Another highly successful tool in the Alaska Region was the use of Initial Assessment Reports and Design Guidelines. Case in point is the recently designated historic district at Denali National Park and Preserve. In this situation, park headquarters buildings that are highly impacted by Park use are evaluated according to their significance as resources versus a program of new construction in the historic district. Design Guidelines were produced within several months to address the critical issues and then followed up by a comprehensive Historic Structure Report. This allowed management enough time to begin intelligently weighing alternatives even before the Historic Structure Report was completed. This approach provided them with a clear and concise description of the resources significant elements.

An international project was undertaken in 1986. A 200 year old British fortification was surveyed and documented in the West Indies on the island of Dominica. The fort, being stone ruins, was a definite departure from work in Alaska, but the tools and experience gained in the isolated field areas of Alaskan parks was applied to the situation there. The resultant product was a Historic Structure Report written while on site; the report was complete with cost estimates, design guidelines, adaptive use design and field drawings of twenty ruins. A final report was prepared back in Anchorage which contained refined data from the field report with the addition of over 300 photographs.
In summary, most of the major project documents were completed with little or no help. Direct assistance to the Historic American Building Survey program was in the form of technical supervision and actual drafting to meet compliance schedules and management goals. A true combination of internal and external programs resulted out of necessity. The end result has been a positive one for both programs, in that experience was introduced where needed and consistent archival documentation where required.

The Future

The historic structure report and assessment will continue to be the primary driving documents for treatment of historic structures. With the advent of computers and maintenance management, there will be more and more accurate accounting and planning for future work. Unless new areas are added, the focus of work will be shifting from that of survey and documentation to more of a maintenance mode.
South Elevation, Depot and Administration Building, 1979
South Elevation, Depot and Administration Building, 1986
The Skagway Historic District
Klondike National Historical Park

1. Railroad Depot and Administration Building
   (Park Headquarters and Visitor Center)

2. Martin Itjen House
   (lease back)

3. Lynch Kennedy
   (lease back)

4. Mascot Saloon
   (Park use)

5. Pacific Clipper Line
   (lease back)

6. Boas Tailor & Furrier Shop
   (lease back)

7. Verbauwhedes
   (lease back)

8. Pantheon Saloon
   (lease back)

9. Peniel Mission
   (Park use)

10. Moore Cabin
    (Park use)

11. Moore House
    (Park use)

12. Goldberg Cigar Store
    (Park Use)

13. Boss Bakery
    (lease back)
SKAGWAY, ALASKA
National Park Service
Historic Structures
Proposed For
Restoration

LONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
Historic Structure Preservation Guide
Inspection Form

The forms to the right were designed to incorporate as drawings as a graphic aid for inspection of historic structures. Comments can be drawn right on the reduced graphics to indicate location and extent of problems. A complete set of inspection forms include all relevant drawings and disciplines.
### NORTH ELEVATION

**SPRING & FALL INSPECTION SCHEDULE**

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### FIRST FLOOR ARCHITECTURAL INTERIOR FINISHES & SPECIALTIES

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Log Structure Field Survey Form

This double sided, single page form was designed to be folded to shirt pocket size. It is used for survey documentation of remote log structures. Field notes can be taken right on the form. The directions are on one side and notes the other.
Design Guidelines

Excerpts from the Design Guidelines for Mt. McKinley Historic District are shown to the right. All facets of unique rustic architecture were assessed with drawings and photographs to call attention to specific significant elements.
Mt. McKinley Park Headquarters Historic District

The group of structures to the right encompass the newly created historic district in the headquarters area of Denali N.P. one of the most visited parks in Alaska.

Building 105, north elevation of Rustic Dog Barn.
Historic American Building Survey drawings were made of structures in the Mt. McKinley Park Headquarters District. Student architects were supervised by the Historical Architect in order to provide existing co-
drawings to be used for the Historic Structure Report.
Recommended Treatment Drawings

Recommended treatment drawings for the Mt. McKinley Headquarters Historic District are shown to the right. These drawings are used in the Historic Structure Report to illustrate recommended treatments and evaluation of effect for compliance with standards.
Dog Patrol Cabins

On going Historic Structure Report work includes project the Dog Patrol Thematic Resources. A number of remote and remote cabins are included.

Lower Savage Cabin during restoration.
Pearson Cabin Cache

Pearson Cabin looking north.
PEARSON CABIN

During the summers of 1927 and 1928, Park Rangers Fritz Henders, Lee Swisher, and Grant Pearson constructed a 13 x 13 shelter cabin near the Toklat River crossings, with 1½ for window glass, hinges, and nails. They completed the structure, the closest along the Park Road. The cabin was built from local spruce, axed and whittled to fit, and chained with moss and dirt eight dog kennels and a cache, 10 feet above ground. Add to the typical Alaska shelter cabin site. Ranger Pearson, a well-known guide turned ranger, carved his career at McKinley Park by becoming superintendent.

Documentation of the Pearson Cabin was undertaken by the Alaska Regional Office National Park Service as part of the Pearson Cabin Historic Structure Report. Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska. The project was executed under the general direction of Robert J. Lardner, Chief Historian and Roger Connors, Regional Director. Field work was conducted in the summer of 1984 by Regional Historical Architect David E. Snow, Regional Historian Robert L. Spude, and James Schallor, Architect, with support from the staff of Denali National Park and Preserve.
As the years passed from the days of the Klondike gold rush, the old men and women reminisced about their experiences: their heroic efforts of crossing the Chilkoot Pass, floating the Yukon River to Dawson, thawing and working the hundreds of tributary golden streams. It all became one glorified grand adventure, a Homeric Iliad set in the north. Forgotten now were the hardships, frustrations, and even the failures to attain great bonanzas.

Historians are tempted to draw analogies. Earlier, we of the history branch faced difficult conditions created by fast developing changes in administrative organization and task demands. As we look back now it is easy to describe our improvisations under pressure as cunning adaptation of our master plan. In reality we fought our way through, as did the Klondike stampeders, but we may now imbue our hectic days with a golden glow reflecting sound planning, firm purpose, and splendid triumphs.

A Beginning

At the beginning of 1981 the branch did not exist. Bill Brown had determined to step down as chief of the cultural
resources division, passing the gavel to Leslie Starr Hart, to become the region's first regional historian. Bill wore many hats during 1980-1, during the formation of the Alaska Regional Office, assisting the new unit managers with the most basic quick-hit inventories, outlines of future work, and management guidelines. Quick response compliance capability was essential, but the demands for inventorying 54 million acres and maintaining credibility by strict adherence to such guidelines as NPS-28 verged on the insane. Delivering all these guidelines and regulations to the new unit superintendents and their skeletal staffs, Bill said, was like giving a sailor in a lifeboat the fire drill manual for the Queen Mary.

This was a period of hostility to the parks from Alaskans who resented the new parks and did not understand the park service mission. Once in a Skagway cafe, Bill overheard a fellow yelling: "Those goddam commie NPSers." Bill, not one to sit idly by, left his plate, confronted the muscular complainer, bought him several drinks, graciously lost some arm wrestling contests, and listened. Eventually Bill got a chance to explain some things and, to some extent, converted a critic. Bill's field heroics are legendary.

The host of critical immediate park related needs kept Bill running from park to park on special assignments, advocating the new regulations, and working on special projects, including his well received book on Alaska's parklands, This Last Treasure. This latter task, assigned by regional director John Cook, kept Bill hidden at a desk in the Tudor Road building for part of 1981, 1982, and into 1983. Published by the Alaska Natural History Association, it won the cooperating associations' Directors Award.

An Organized Branch

Meanwhile, in February 1981, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) was abolished and its functions assumed
by the National Park Service. This brought new responsibilities -- grants management, tax act certification, Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Historic Landmarks and the other "external" (non-park) programs. The HCRS Alaska office staff was absorbed as a separate unit within the regional organization, and in the spring of 1982 two historians, Bob Spude and Joaqlin Estus, joined the Cultural Resources Division. Between February 1981 and the fall of 1982 position titles and supervisors shifted with perplexing frequency, but eventually Bob and Joaqlin settled into the history branch under the regional historian.

Since the fall of 1982 the history branch has had the lead on external programs, administering tax act certification, Historic American Building Survey/ Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Technical Preservation Services, and National Historic Landmarks. Historic Preservation Fund grants management was administered by the branch until 1984 and then was reassigned the task in 1986. Dr. Floyd Sharrock administered the grants program in the interim, as well as the inter-agency archeological assistance program. As the former HCRS Chief of Cultural Resources, Floyd's assistance was often sought while he served as the region's Chief of Office of Technical Services and, later, Chief, Minerals Management Division.

Leslie, as Chief of Cultural Resources Division worked with the historians to define new functions and responsibilities. Besides the integration of the internal and external (HCRS) functions in 1982, there were overwhelming demands for assistance in the parks. Although no additional funding for internal history staffing was allocated, rational management dictated that the external programs would be managed with an eye to assisting the parks. The staff of three historians began working together as a unit, somewhat in harmony. Bill developed a circuit rider approach to the assistance to parks, similar to what he had done when regional historian in the Southwest Region. Bob utilized the strengths of the HABS/HAER program (guidelines for inventory, a large talent pool formed by national application process, and the loan of WASO staff) to initiate inventories in parks as well as the required assistance to other federal agencies.

Bob also completed work on the Iditarod National Historic Trail management plan which was undertaken by the Bureau of Land Management with the cooperation of HCRS during 1980-82. He also assisted Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park's ongoing preservation work (Bob had worked at the park as contract historian 1978-1980). During 1982-1983 he completed the history data sections of historic structure reports and a work on the architectural development of Skagway, titled Skagway, District of Alaska.
WRST INVENTORY: Architect Russ Sackett inventories one of the historic sites, a Native cemetery, within 13 million acre Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

THE WRST CREW PLUS TWO: Left to right, Dave Anderson, Dave Snow, Kim Hoagland, Leslie Starr Hart, Mike Lahey, Bob Spude, and Russ Sackett.
DRIFT MINING
1920 - 1930

GAAR INVENTORY: Architect Jim Creech working with historian Brown prepared Historic American Engineering Record Drawings. The "Ace" Wilcox was a typical small mining operation.
Joaqlin administered the grants program and brought the National Historical Landmark program together, initiating the first in a long series of boundary reviews, site visits, and organized regional files. She also finished the Alaska Native village histories program, an HCRS program which hired ten individuals, mostly Natives, to write histories of their villages.

In 1982-1983 the new region received its first history projects funds for 1) a Historic Resource Study for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve and 2) a historic structures inventory for Lake Clark National Park & Preserve. Bob coordinated the projects. Kim Hoagland of the HABS Washington staff conducted the Lake Clark inventory using HABS standards and with much support from the park, was able to complete a useful inventory. The Wrangell-St. Elias Historic Resource Study (HRS) received minimal funding but with assistance from the park identified some 300 significant sites, completed a handful of National Register forms and a Historic Structure Report for buildings within Chisana Historic District. Subsequent funding for rehabilitation of three of the historic cabins was received and this work is now underway. Michael Lappen, one of the seasonals on the inventory team, also completed a master's thesis on the park's administrative history titled: "Whose Promised Land?"

The Wrangells project was the first major project and the model for other Alaska Historic Resource Studies. Because of the size of the Alaska parks, summer field crews were hired to do field inventories, while a full time historian worked on the narrative. Close working relations with the park was critical in order to coordinate field logistics and take advantage of park assistance for the field crews. Field crews were in contact with local residents who shared their sometimes hostile views of NPS. Most residents appreciated the sharing of information about their area's history and developed a good neighbor relationship. But it was a time of high tensions, when the Wrangells crew was yelled at, threatened, and, on one notable occasion, intimidated with weapons.
Reorganization

Internal history projects limped along without adequate funding until FY 1984, when the first major funding package arrived for an internal Historic Resource Study. At that time the history branch was reorganized with Bob reassigned as regional historian and Bill reassigned as research historian. Bill's first task was the Gates of the Arctic Historic Resource Study, which is now being considered for publication by Howe Brothers. He also directed Kim Hoagland and the seasonal HABS architects and historians, and worked closely with the archeology crew. During the seasons of 1984 and 1985 the crew inventoried structures, completed HABS drawings of select buildings within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and at Wiseman, and prepared historic base maps for Bill's narrative.

In addition to the Gates of the Arctic history the region received funding for a major administrative history of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. This task was completed by Denver Service Center historian Frank Williss. It is an excellent work and useful tool for management. The ANILCA study was coordinated by Bill, who had served as keyman during the study days (1975-1978) at Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. Frank Williss followed the ANILCA project with the Historic Resource Study of Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, which was another excellent history.

Assistance to Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park continued. Assistance to management include studies of the Chilkoot Trail and historic preservation issues. Seasonal Frank Norris was hired to do research on the historic townsite of Dyea. He did research into the local deed books in order to recreate a townsite map. This research was coupled with information in historic photographs, newspapers and other sources to prepare a historic business directory and land use map. Frank has continued on at Klondike as a seasonal research historian doing various tasks including the park National Register documentation and National Historic Landmark boundary.

During the 1982-4 period Joaqlin Estus completed the National Register form and History Data section for the Fure's Cabin Historic Structure Report, Katmai National Park and the documentation of the Russian Bishop's House, Sitka National Historical Park. She also coordinated public service announcements on historic preservation tax incentives and helped organize the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation, becoming its newsletter editor.

Additionally, on the "external" side, the tax act program was growing. The $6 million dollar rehabilitation of the Fairbanks old court house was the largest project approved and that of the historic Hardware store at McCarthy was the smallest.
The National Historic Landmark boundary survey program also grew as additional support from WASO meant additional seasonal hiring and completion of quality documentation of National Historic Landmarks which previously had questionable or no boundaries. Barbara Smith completed a series of excellent Russian America National Historic Landmarks boundary studies. These included the St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, the Erskine House (now the Russian-America Company Magazin), the Holy Assumption Russian Orthodox Church at Unalaska, and the Holy Ascension Russian Orthodox Church in Kenai. Other National Historic Landmarks studies were completed by Sandra Faulkner (now the history branch's grants historian) and Susan Morton (now the National Register archeologist in the archeology branch).

The biggest component of the external programs and Bob's passion has been the HABS/HAER efforts. Robert Kapsch, HABS/HAER Chief, WASO approved the use of WASO talent and during 1982-5, loaned WASO staff to the Alaska Region for seasonal HABS projects. Each summer since crews of historians and architects have been hired to undertake recording projects. Photographer Jet Lowe was brought from the Washington office to take record photographs of historic structures. Some projects were internal, such as the recording of structures in Wrangell-St. Elias, Gates of the Arctic, and Yukon-Charley, while others were external reimbursable projects. Examples of the latter include the major recording project at Naval Operating Base Dutch Harbor and Fort Mears, Unalaska Island National Historic Landmark during 1985-6. The Corps of Engineers' Defense Environmental Restoration Project funded this project as part of a major clean-up of military debris left from World War II.

Since then, the region has prepared stipulations for recording similar sites under contract by the Corps of Engineers demolition program. The regional HABS program has recorded tramways along the Chilkoot Trail within Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, the fur trappers cabins in the Yukor River Valley within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, the isolated mining sites in the Brooks Range within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, and the major copper concentrator at Kennecott within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. The active HABS/HAER program was recognized by the Alaska Congressional delegation by an Alaska Day celebration in the House Rayburn building, Washington in October 1986.

Through innovative combination of the external HABS program and the internal need for Historic Structures Reports, the region has developed the mechanism to get these documents completed with minimal funding. Working with the regional historical architect the history branch has completed, given support to, or has underway history data for historic structure reports at five parks.
External crews have also completed National Register of Historic Places forms for sites within the parks: Gail Evans and Kate Lidfors completed nomination forms for Denali, Sande Faulkner and Kim Hoagland completed nomination forms for Yukon-Charley, Kate Lidfors and Sande Faulkner initiated work on park documentation of Sitka, and Frank Norris initiated work on park documentation of Klondike Gold Rush.

In August 1984 Joaqlin Estus resigned to take a job with the State of Alaska in Juneau and was replaced by Kate Lidfors, who transferred from Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Kate continued the work begun by Joaqlin and saw to the completion of all but two of the WASO mandated boundary reviews of National Historic Landmarks. Kate also coordinated a major National Register program that saw to the completion of National Register of Historic Places nominations for the Yukon River Lifeways cabins in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, the Mt. McKinley Headquarter historic district, the Patrol cabins nomination, both in Denali National Park and Preserve and the National Register documentation for Sitka National Historical Park and Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park (in draft).

New National Historic Landmarks have been designated in Alaska, the majority being associated with a nation-wide survey of War in the Pacific sites. Bob completed a nomination of Kennecott, a significant mining site, which became a National Historic Landmark in 1986, and Kate completed nomination of Building 29, Sitka, a significant Russian America theme site, which was designated in 1987. Bob and Kate continued active outreach programs by participation in the statewide history conference, local and statewide historic preservation groups, and by developing a close working relationship with the State Historic Preservation Officer and her staff.

1986

The history branch has grown within the past year. The National Register programs has provided funds for a grant's historian. Sandra Faulkner was hired in April 1987. She brings her expertise in Russian America history and Russian translation as well as strong connections with the University of Alaska-Anchorage where she teaches part time.

Kate Lidfors returned to Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in December 1986. Dr. William S. Hanable will replace her as National Register Historian. Bill is a former Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer and brings to the office strengths in maritime and military history.

Upon completion of the Gates of the Arctic history, Bill Brown worked the 1986 season as a circuit rider historian, doing special projects on the Denali road, the Charley River cultural
GRANTS HISTORIAN
SANDE FAULKNER

HISTORIAN
BILL HUNT
resources component and other quick hit projects. Late in 1986 Bill began preparing for his second big Historic Resource Study, this one for Denali.

The mining compliance project is a major new program. It began in 1986 as a result of a court suit over National Park Service failure to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act and other environmental laws. Working closely with the Survey and Planning branch, the History Branch provides technical advice on the history component for the field survey underway of mining areas within the parks. The special study of the history of mining in Alaska's parks is being prepared by Dr. William R. Hunt. Bill, a former professor at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, has a strong background in Alaska history and a number of books to his credit.

The branch continues to emphasize the integration of internal and external programs, where feasible. A major change occurred in 1986, whereby external archeology and HABS architecture staff were placed under the regional archeologist and regional historical architect, respectively. The circuit riding historian approach continues, as quick hit projects and compliance are completed at the parks by the regional historian and his staff.

Our program for the future will be to assist parks in attaining their own capabilities in completing history projects, either through park historians, where logical, or cultural resource specialists.

Park inventory and National Register work has just begun with only four of the Alaska units with Historic Resource Studies. An active administrative history program has been developed, with a history of Sitka, the oldest Alaska unit, presently underway. Funding and staff are needed to complete these and other tasks. The cry for funds has echoed like a litany of woe since the creation of the region.

But it is better to end with an upbeat note than a cry for help. We can say proudly that despite the inadequacy of funding for the many projects that have been undertaken we made significant contributions to preservation of cultural resources, and will make more. We will continue to be flexible and creative, overlapping professional expertise with program and park responsibilities. We look forward to the next five years.
GARR INVENTORY: Architect Jim Creech records the Vincent Knorr Cabin on the upper reaches of Mascot Creek in the North fork drainage of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve.

DENA STUDY: National Register historian Kate Lidfors inspects one of the 1930s structures at Denali National Park and Preserve.
Major Projects for 1985-1986

BERING LAND BRIDGE NATIONAL PRESERVE

As part of interdisciplinary team, Denver Service Center historian Frank Williss prepared "It is a hard country, though," the historic resource study for the preserve. Fairhaven ditch was nominated to the National Register as part of the study. The preserve staff assisted with the Historic American Engineering Record recording project of the M.V. Donaldsen, a National Register vessel beached at Nome and slated for demolition. The Donaldsen was a coastal trading ship, which once served the preserve area.

DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

Continued assistance to park with documentation of historic sites. Temporary hire Gail Evans prepared draft National Register nominations for the park's historic patrol cabins and for the Mt. McKinley Headquarters Historic District. From this data and with the regional historical architect as lead, a three volume Historic Structure Report for the headquarters buildings was prepared. A portfolio of history data on the Denali park road was prepared to assist the superintendent. Jurisdiction of the road is in dispute. Gail Evans is writing her Masters Thesis at the University of California, Santa Barbara on the history of the park road. A historic resource study for the park has been initiated for FY 87-88.

GATES OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

An interdisciplinary Cultural Resources Inventory of the park included a major historic resource study and inventory. The narrative history is in final draft preparatory to in-house printing. Howe Brothers publishers are considering Bill Brown's work for publication for a wider audience. The HABS field crew, Kim Hoagland, Jim Creech, Russ Sackett, and Mark Schaar completed an inventory of structures and HABS drawings. National Register of Historic Places forms for the Yale cabin and Knorr cabin are in draft.

KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Temporary hire Frank Norris is preparing the park documentation for the National Register of Historic Places, and completing the boundary reviews (new nominations) for the Skagway and White Pass National Historic Landmark and the Chilkoot Trail and Dyea National Historic Landmark. Frank has prepared maps of the Dyea area and has completed the history component of a ground survey of the Dyea area. History data sections for Historic Structure Reports are in progress for the structures along the Chilkoot Trail and the White Pass & Yukon Route depot and administration
KLGO STUDY: Dyea business map ca. 1898

YUCH PROJECT: HABS crew arrives at Slavens Cabin on the Yukon River.
building, Skagway. History data has been collected on the history of use of the Chilkoot Trail through the Native allotment claims. Review and assistance is ongoing for the Harpers Ferry Center directed wayside exhibits, the visitor center exhibits and displays, the Mascot Saloon exhibit design, and other projects.

LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

Assist park and archeology branch with Socio-cultural study. Park temporary hire Sarah Hornberger prepared draft history of the area.

NORTHWEST AREAS


SITKA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

An administrative history contract was awarded to Bill Hanable and Jo Antonsen in 1985. A draft of the history is completed and ready for final review and editing prior to printing. Kate Lidfors and Sande Faulkner with the assistance of Gary Candeleria at the park have completed the park documentation for the National Register of Historic Places. Review and assistance is ongoing for the Harpers Ferry Center directed wayside and Russian Bishop's House exhibits. Assistance is also being given for the Second International Conference on Russian America, August 19-22, 1987 co-sponsored by the University of Alaska-Fairbanks and the National Park Service. A contract for a special study of the Indians of Southeast Alaska, with special emphasis on the Sitka Tlingit, is out for bid.

WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

Assistance continues on the restoration project at Chisana Historic District. Completion of National Register nomination forms for the mining camps at Bremner, Green Butte, North Midas, and Coppertown. Participation in the park's outreach public speaking programs and seasonal orientation. Ongoing work, when possible, on Historic Resource Study narrative history.

YUKON-CHARLEY RIVERS NATIONAL PRESERVE

National Register of Historic Places nomination forms have been completed for the Yukon Lifeways structures. History data collection is assembled for the Historic Structure Report for the Slaven's cabin. Cultural Resources components of resource management plans have been prepared for the Charley River; data is being assembled for the Coal Creek dredge National Register nomination and the recommendations for management.
KENNEDOT COPPER CORPORATION
KENNICOTT, ALASKA

This project was undertaken by the Department of the Interior, Division of the National Park Service, in cooperation with the Kennecott Copper Corporation. The project was directed by the Architectural Service, and by the staff of the National Park Service.

In 1979, photographs were taken of the Kennecott Copper Corporation in Kennicott, Alaska. The high-grade copper ore, coming up to a concentrating plant to the main substation, is loaded into hopper cars. The ore is then transported by rail to the copper refinery, where it is smelted and refined. The refined copper is then transported to markets throughout the world.

The Kennecott Copper Corporation was founded in 1906, and is one of the largest copper producers in the United States. The company operates a large mining operation in Kennicott, Alaska, and has been a major contributor to the regional economy.

KENNEDOT PROJECT: Lunch break for the HAER crew, left to right, Jet Dave Anderson, Nan Anderson.
Complete documentation of Naval Operating Base Dutch Harbor and Fort-Mears, Unalaska Island, National Historic Landmark. The record included 63 drawings, 256 photographs, and a written narrative history. Other sites being demolished by the Corps of Engineers were mitigated through HABS recordation either by a contract photographer or by the Corps photographer and contract architects. HABS/HAER photographer Jet Lowe prepared record photographs for in-park sites and National Historic Landmarks such as Sourdough Roadhouse and Eagle Historic District. The Kennecott Mines NHL was documented by photographs and HAER drawings of the mill complex. Other HABS/HAER projects were undertaken at Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, and at Holy Ascension National Historic Landmark.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH: Part of the HABS record of the Holy Ascension church at Kenai.
NAVAL OPERATING BASE
DUTCH HARBOR
and
FORT MEARS
Unalaska Island, Alaska

In response to Japan's expansionist policy in Eastern Asia during the 1930s, the United States established a naval aviation shore facility at Dutch Harbor in 1940. Construction of 117 acre Island was undertaken to prevent sea power from the Japanese mainland. The base was not completed until 1942, but not appreciably damaged by the Japanese forces occupying Korea and Japan. The battle of the only Japanese forces in 1940 was fought on North American soil. American invasion forces attacked at Dutch Harbor as a diversion. The attack was a failure - Japan's disastrous defeat at Midway turned the tide of the war against Japan. In addition, the bombing of Dutch Harbor caused an uproar in the United States which removed the U.S. from the war.

The building of naval operating base Dutch Harbor and Fort Mears, predominantly frame structures erected between 1940 and 1944, were built according to standard military construction plans. However, the buildings reflect the efficiency and speed with which they were erected. The naval operating base was decommissioned and all personnel, except those in 1944. Fort Mears was sold for use by civilians. Many of the buildings have been re-utilized for commercial and residential use by civilians. The majority have been altered since 1944 and will be razed in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Documentation of naval operating base Dutch Harbor and Fort Mears on Unalaska and Adak Island was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey of the National Park Service in cooperation with the Alaska District, Corps of Engineers. The project was administered by W. J. Schapp, Architect, chief, HABS/HAER, NAIRA. Assistance was provided by Robert Spick, project director; Carl Fredrickson, architectural historian; F. S. Bartolome, Jr., photographer; and David Van, historical architect.
DUTCH CREW: Cliff Goodhart points out details on Larry Hunter's sheet. Crew chief, Carey Feierabend is in the background.

DUTCH DISPLAY: Drawings and photographs at the Dutch Harbor airport during the last week of the project.
TAX ACT PROJECT:
Rehabilitation of the Alaska Steam Laundry,
Juneau.
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

Completed NHL boundary reviews of the St. Michael's Cathedral, the Seal Islands, the Russian-America Magazin, the Church of the Holy Assumption, the Church of the Holy Ascension, the Nome Discovery sites, the Leffingwell camp, and other NHLs which were designated without adequate boundaries. Expanded Technical Assistance program contracted with architecture firm to evaluate four NHLs. New NHL designations included War in the Pacific sites, Kennecott and Building 29, Sitka.

TAX ACT CERTIFICATION/ TECHNICAL PRESERVATION SERVICES

The Alaska Region tax act certification is of limited scale. Sixteen private property owners were assisted. The projects have ranged from a cabin/gift shop in the small town of Talkeetna to the major rehabilitation of the former court house in Fairbanks, Alaska. The court house is now the center of a downtown redevelopment plan. The Technical Preservation Services outreach programs have included participation in workshops on the National Register Programs at Homer, Wasilla, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Anchorage.

Northeast Point, St. Paul Island, the Pribilofs, Seal Island NHL; Kate Lidfors on Seal observation platform.
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Spude, Robert L.  


Spude, Robert L., Daniel Taylor and Michael Lappen  

Willis, G. Frank  

The Branch of Survey and Research was established in 1986 to handle an increased workload of multiyear and multidisciplinary projects. The capabilities and expertise that were concentrated by the establishment of the Branch, involving continuity of projects, equipment, logistics, staff experience and concentration of resources made this the logical way to go. Handling largescale field projects in Alaska means dealing with some very complex problems; including wilderness conditions, difficulty of access, crazy quilt patterns of land status and ownership, very short field seasons, extremely high costs, large new parks with major information gaps and very small staffs, specialized logistics and safety requirements, and limited analytical and curatorial space. The capability to deal with these problems through programming, project design, field experience and staff development can be traced to roots in pre-ANILCA days.

The first major archaeological survey conducted by the National Park Service in Alaska was the 1977/78 National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska (NPR-A) archaeological reconnaissance survey. The project archaeologists were Schoenberg, Shields, Linck and Davis; project manager was Dick Ping Hsu with administration handled through the Cooperative Park Studies Unit.
at the University of Alaska. This was a multidisciplinary multiyear effort, emphasizing archaeology and cultural anthropology but covering other cultural resources disciplines. It taught us a great deal about field operations in the Alaska environment. The project led to a five volume report that was printed in 1981 and titled "Slogging, Humping and Mucking Through the NPR-A" which is a reference to the predominant landform, tussock tundra, on the north slope of Alaska.

The second major research project in the nascent Alaska Region grew out of the "Portfolio Approach" in which a compliance action led to a major and influential research effort. Beginning in 1979 and continuing for two full field seasons and part of a third, a cultural resources inventory was undertaken around Kurupa Lake on the north side of Gates of the Arctic National Monument (as it was until passage of ANILCA in December 1980), in an area proposed for land exchange. The survey identified the need for data recovery at a threatened site. The accomplishment of that goal resulted in a report, "The Archaeology of Kurupa Lake" published in 1985. Another side benefit was the development of laboratory, curatorial, and analytical capabilities in order to handle the data from such a project.

With the establishment of the Alaska Region in December 1980 and the initiation of the GMP process, it became evident that there was an urgent need for baseline inventory data on cultural resources over most of the 52 million acres in Alaska's national parks and preserves. In order to speed the process, cut down on logistical, administrative and equipment costs by avoiding the need for multiple visits to the parks (which lacked support capabilities at that time), and the local communities, by 1982 an inventory process was developed that utilized a multidisciplinary (archaeology, history and historic architecture) approach. These large, multiyear projects were designed to be done in consecutive phases, so that funding and regional priorities could be taken into account as the project proceeded and data would not be lost. Each park was divided into logical geographic areas that could be addressed in each phase and written up as a comprehensive report of that phase. Among the final products from such a project would be thorough photographic and cartographic documentation of sites for the CSI and LCS data files, Master File maps of site locations, an HRS, appropriate National Register nominations, 10-238s for inclusion in the park RMP for needed future work, and an overview and assessment of cultural resources in that area. Thus these projects will provide the basis for the development of cultural resources preservation, management and research directives in the parks.
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<td>MALASPINA FORELANDS SHIPWRECK</td>
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<td>BERING LAND BRIDGE CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY</td>
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<td>LAKE CLARK SOCIOCULTURAL STUDY</td>
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<td>MINING COMPLIANCE INVENTORY</td>
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1982

By this time, a variety of "research projects" were taking place in the new Alaska region; tied to planning (GMPs and RMPs), administration of the new park areas, data recovery and general problem solving.

The final fieldwork for the Kurupa Lake project was completed by Ken Schoenberg. A topographic map of KIR-124 was done and additional charcoal was obtained for radiocarbon dating. Site cleanup and assessment was also finished.

A major data recovery project was implemented at Brooks River in Katmai National Park where a National Register archaeological site was eroding. Project manager was Harvey Shields and the crew chief was Roger Harritt. Excavation continued for two full field seasons. Analysis and curation of the artifacts was done at the Alaska Regional Office in the embryonic archaeologica and curatorial facility. The final report on this project, in the form of Roger Harritt's PhD dissertation, will be completed in May 1987.

A relatively small-scale archaeological inventory was undertaken and completed in Kenai Fjords National Park by Georjeanne Reynolds and Craig Davis. This reconnaissance survey covered the west side of the Resurrection River valley in the Park. The report is due for publication in 1987.

An anthropological study was undertaken on resource use in Dry Bay, which is in a new addition to Glacier Bay National Preserve. This study, done by Dr. George Gmelch of Union College, was modelled on earlier resource/subsistence studies done at the CPSU at the University of Alaska - Fairbanks under Zorro Bradley. The Dry Bay study was aimed at determining salmon harvests on the Alsek River, where a commercial fishery had existed for many years. The Park Service did not regulate the actual harvest but did grant permits for gill net sites and related camp sites. The study was needed to examine the historically disproportionate allocation of sites to non-native fisherman and the relationship of the commercial harvest to subsistence use of the salmon. Dr. Gmelch used classic anthropological research methods of informant/interview and participant observation for his work. His completed report was published in 1982 as "Resource Use in Glacier Bay National Preserve".

1983

This year saw the first funding, through the Cultural Resources Preservation Fund, of the Cultural Resources Inventory program using the multiyear, multidisciplinary format that was
expressly designed to meet the needs of the Alaska Region with its multiple new areas and vast acreages.

Funding was obtained for Phase I of two Cultural Resources Inventories, one in Gates of the Arctic National Park (GAAR 104) and one in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve (YUCH 102).

The project in YUCH focussed on a prehistoric site survey because an HRS had already been written for this area. Some field checking of historic site locations from the HRS was done however. The research design included testing (nonstatistical) of a model of site location in northeastern interior Alaska. Twenty-one sites were found in the geographically limited area that was covered in Phase I. Four of these sites are considered to be highly significant. The results were published in 1983 as "Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve", Research/Management Report AR-3 by Reynolds and Jordan.

Phase I of the GAAR 104 cultural resources inventory was implemented in the summer of 1983. William Brown, an ARO historian, assumed responsibility for the historic resources study of the park. The HRS was not geographically limited in phases as was the archaeological site survey but treated the park as a whole. All fieldwork, however, was coordinated with the survey group. The completed work, "Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Historic Resources Study," is now in press.

The archaeological portion of Phase I was under the direction of Michael Kunz of the GAAR staff. Using helicopter, boat and small plane for logistical support, a field crew of four archaeologists conducted a reconnaissance-level, pedestrian survey in the "Boot" area of the Park at the headwaters of the Kobuk River. This area had been identified as one with high priority for inventory by the Park because of a potential transportation corridor in that vicinity. A policy of none or minimal collection was followed for all inventory work (unless subsurface testing disturbed artifact context) in order to maintain the highest degree possible of site integrity. A total of 214 prehistoric sites and 10 historic sites, ranging in age from ca. 10000 to 50 years in age, were located during this field season. A descriptive interim report, "Upper Kobuk River Drainage Archaeology" is on file at the regional office.

During 1983 the data recovery project at Brooks River in Katmai National Park continued in the field, with analytical and curatorial components in the regional office. In addition, an ARPA permit was issued to Dr. Edwin Hall of SUNY-Brockport for nondestructive research on archaeological sites along the Killik River in Gates of the Arctic NP. This research was designed to provide information on post-depositional processes affecting arctic archaeological sites and the work is still in progress.
1984

This year saw continuation of two ongoing projects and the completion of one small new project. Funding was obtained from the Cultural Resources Preservation Fund for analysis and curaion of the 17,000 artifacts recovered by the Kurupa Lake archaeological project. A full report on the project data and artifacts was also written that year.

Phase II of the GAAR 104 cultural resources inventory was implemented during 1984. Two crews took the field, sharing logistical support. One crew, under the direction of William Brown, included a group of HABS/HAER historical architects, concentrated on historic sites. The second crew, under the direction of Michael Kunz, conducted a reconnaissance-level archaeological survey of major river drainages in the eastern part of GAAR. The history team documented 36 historic sites that constituted a representative sampling of cabins, mines and mining technology, hunting camps and trapper shelters that illustrate some of the historic themes of the Park. The HABS survey team provided detailed drawings and photographs of 13 outstanding structures and complexes in that part of the Park. The archaeological survey located 180 prehistoric sites, covering the periods from 10000 to 50 years old. A descriptive interim report is on file in the regional office.

A small-scale assessment project was undertaken by Dan Lenihan of the NPS Submerged Cultural Resources Unit. On the Malaspina Forelands in Wrangell-St Elias National Park, three wooden masts from a shipwreck poked up through the beach sand. Dan did an assessment, recording the fieldwork on video tape. Some historical research identified the ship as the Japanese schooner Satsuma Maru, wrecked in a storm in 1909. She was 197 feet long with a probable cargo of fertilizer. Dan thought that the buried ship was intact, based on some test probes through the sand and on the fact that the three masts were still seated and in alignment. Therefore the wreck is a valuable resource and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

1985

This year was a continuation year for GAAR 104 during which Phase III was completed. Again, there were several components to this phase of the project. Historical research continued by William Brown and Jim Creech, an historical architect, joined him in the field. A reconnaissance-level archaeological survey was conducted in the central part of the Park. Associated with this effort was some ethnohistorical research conducted by Grant Spearman and supported, in part, by the North Slope Borough. In addition, an ARPA permit was issued for data recovery from the
Bateman Site, which was found to be eroding during the 198 survey. The work was conducted by Richard Reanier, of th University of Washington. The analysis of that data is stil underway at the University of Washington. The descriptive repor of the Phase III survey which found 171 prehistoric sites, is o file at the regional office.

Phase II of the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserv cultural resources inventory was conducted in 1985. Projec archaeologist was Terry Alldritt. The reconnaissance surve covered the Yukon River corridor and the Tatonduk River are terraces. In addition, the upper drainages of the Seventymil River upstream from Flume Creek and the Charley River abov Copper Creek. Final synthesis and writeup of this project (YUC 102), will be completed in 1988.

1985 saw the initiation of a cultural resources inventory o the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve (BELA 103). Phase included the implementation of an HRS by Frank Williss of th Denver Service Center. An archaeological reconnaissance-leve survey of the interior portion of the preserve was conducted b Jeanne Schaaf. This helicopter-based pedestrian survey located 4 prehistoric sites and 12 historic sites. A small test excavatio was undertaken at the Trail Creek Caves site, one of the oldes dated sites in Alaska, that was first excavated in 1949. Th testing program showed that enough material remained unexcavate at the site to make it eligible for the National Register o Historic Places and worthy of careful management by NPS. Th Phase I descriptive report is on file at the regional office.

Another major research project that was initiated in 198 was the Lake Clark National Park Sociocultural Study (LACL 105). This four year project, funded by the Cultural Resource Preservation Fund, represents one of the largest baseline anthropological studies ever undertaken by the National Park Service. It also represents a major research thrust of the Alask program as this type of study is needed in many other areas o the region.

The Dena'ina Indians of the region of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve form the central focus of this majo investigation. Three separate products are under production These include an ethnobotany of the Dena'ina by Priscilla Kari an archival and interpretive videotape of Dena'ina fish cach construction and use, and a full ethnography of the Dena'in Indians. All three products have been designed to meet multiple needs--professional, managerial, and interpretive. The study has also involvee unusuallyclose cooperation between the Regional Office, the Park and the Dena'ina community. One of the co-authorsof the ethnography is Andrew Baluta, a Park Service ranger and Dena'ina elder. The other author is Dr. Linda Ellann of the University of Alaska.
Another major program that began, albeit on a small-scale in 1985 was the regional Mining Compliance program. Due to legal action it became necessary that NPS enforce the Mining in the Parks Act and its implementing regulations. This meant doing full environmental compliance, including environmental assessments on all plans of operation on mining claims in the parks and environmental impact statements on cumulative impacts of mining in three parks where the majority of claims were located. It was determined that a complete cultural resources inventory of all mining areas was needed in order to provide the necessary database for normal compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and NPS-28. A small team was assembled for emergency field work in late August and September of 1985. The objective of this effort was to provide enough information for compliance clearances in 1986. The effort showed the magnitude of the task for the future. Very few of the 40,000 acres subject to mining in the parks had ever been surveyed and no framework existed for determining significance or appropriate levels for mitigation. By the end of 1985 a fullscale cultural resources inventory program, multidisciplinary and multiyear, had been approved and initiated.

1986

In 1986 the Branch of Survey and Research was organized within the Division of Cultural Resources. The responsibility for cultural resources inventory projects, especially the large multidisciplinary and multiyear ones, was assigned to the Branch. All of the projects that fell under the responsibility of the new branch were continuations.

The Mining Compliance Inventory swung into full gear. Gene Griffin became the senior staff archaeologist in charge of this large program. Three helicopter-supported field crews began the inventory program in WRST, GAAR, and YUCH. Each crew consisted of archaeologists, an historian, and an historical architect. In addition, field support was provided for the regional minerals program personnel, a new division at the regional level that was organized to handle the new minerals management workload. An HRS on "Mining in Alaska's National Parks" was initiated that was intended to provide the historical framework for assigning significance to the numerous mining-related historic sites that the field inventory was locating. Data was provided to the EIS teams at the Denver Service Center, for EA's on access to the mining areas, the validity examination program and plans of operation. Consultation was initiated with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Officer on the compliance for this complex program.

Phase II of the Lake Clark Sociocultural study was begun. In the second year of this four year study the ethnobotany was completed and prepared for printing, the raw videotape footage of
the fish cache was shot and a script was prepared, and preliminatory report on the first year of ethnographic fieldwork was submitted. Dr. Ellanna and Andrew Balluta also successfully completed another season of fieldwork. This project, although in the branch, is administered by Regional Archeologist Birkedal.

The second, and last, field season of the Bering Land Bridge National Preserve cultural resources inventory was complete during Phase II. The coastal area of the Preserve was surveyed by a crew of archaeologists. They located and mapped 15 prehistoric sites and eight historic ones. The sites are primarily villages, stone masonry structures, lithic scatters, camps and burials, ranging in age from roughly 6000 years old to 75 years old. In conjunction with the archaeological survey, paleogeographic studies were conducted within the Cape Espenberg area (a potential National Register district), by Dr. David Hopkins of the Quaternary Research Center at the University of Alaska.
A.J. Lynch
Crew Chief, Mining Compliance

Anne Worthington
Crew Chief, Mining Compliance

Dan Creek Mining Survey (WRST 1982)
Gene Griffin
Staff Archeologist
Project Manager, Mining Compliance

Mining Camp Ruins (WRST) 1982
Schoenberg at work

Stone Tent Ring, 1981.
Obsidian microblade (Typical lithic artifact from arctic)

Kurupa Lake snowstorm 8/3/80

Sande Faulkner, on three wheeler, conducting survey on Pribilofs (Seal Island) survey.
"Not a problem, but an opportunity" Bill Brown convinces Dave Snow to take on the Skagway project. Depot above, Moore cabin below
"I don't think she is buying the 'opportunity' theory, Bill."
Dave Snow, Leslie Starr Hart, Doug Warnock. October 1981
"Retain, preserve significant architectural features, whenever possible". Secretary of Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects.

Submerged Archeology Anyone? (attempted basement in Skagway).
It's a dirty job but somebody has to do it.

Another Architectural Masterpiece.
Wranglers in the Wrangells assisting photographer Jet Lowe.

Bears don't swim do they?
Waiting, waiting, waiting... but no plane.

New equipment...

Spude and crew, Dave Anderson and Mike Lappen, recreating the scene at gold town, Chisana.
"I've got a bone to pick with you".
Prehistory on the North Slope with Ken Schoenberg and Craig Davis.

Get thee to WASO and Sin no more.
Survey Crew on the attack, Brooks Range.

Lunch Break. Jeanne Schaaf and dead walrus on beach of Bering Sea.
Ted Birkedal, a new Alaska convert, preaching the gospel according to Giddings, Cape Krusenstern.
"A whale of a tale!" Susan Morton with butchered friend, Cape Prince of Wales, Big Diomede and Russia in background.

What do you mean, you don't have a XXX Form?