United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 80004589 Date Listed: 6/6/80

St. John the Baptist Church
Property Name

Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon Census Area AK
County State

Russian Orthodox Church Buildings and Sites TR
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper 10/2/95
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Location: Under county, Kenai Peninsula Borough is replaced with Skagway-Yakutat-Angoon Census Area.

This information was confirmed with Jo Antonson of the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)
5. ALTERED

6. ORIGINAL SITE

Tradition relates that there was a log church here early in the 19th century, replaced by this church at a date not documented, possibly in the 19th century. Cursory examination suggests that this handsome village church was built in three segments. The main chamber, housing the nave and altar, are now one rectangular building, measuring 37'10.5" in length and 21'2" in width. The eastern 2/3rds of this probably was the original church, with the remainder added at a later date. The medium low-angle gable roof is capped by a quadrangular cupola covered by a pyramidal roof, from which spires a R.O. cross. At the west (entry) end of the building, there is a rectangular tower, 8'2" in depth and 8'6.5" in width, which houses an entryway and bell tower of a partially exposed octagonal design, surmounted by a low-angle pyramidal roof, from which spires the high cross of the church. The tower is probably the last addition to the structure, but even that may date back more than fifty years. (Kreta, Notes; Father P. Merculief, Floor Plan, May 25, 1976; Wallace, 1974, 110, Plate 136; Kreta/Merculief, Photos).

QUAD: Sitka

1. St. John the Baptist Church (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-055)

2. LOCATION:
   a. NA
   b. Angoon, Alaska
   c. NA
   d. Alaska
   e. 02
   f. Angoon Division
   g. 030

3. AHRS DATE: May 18, 1973

4. CONDITION: Good

5. UNALTERED

6. ORIGINAL SITE
The parish of this church was founded in Killisnoo in 1794. The church building at Killisnoo, built at a date not yet documented, was destroyed together with other buildings in 1927. After that fire many people moved from Killisnoo to this place to work in a whaling factory and in a plant which converted herring to fertilizer. Construction of the present church was conducted during 1928-1929. It was consecrated November 18, 1929, by Father G. Prosoroff. The bell tower and cross were blessed by Father Stehenpha Shabanoff on November 21, 1929. The church bells were moved here from Killisnoo on March 15, 1930. (Kreta, Notes; Wallace, 1974, 126).

This church illustrates an effective merger of southeast Alaska coastal village cottage design with elements of the traditional R.O. church symbolism. As such this is an architectural exhibit of both genres. The church is one large wooden chamber set on pilings, a rectangle 49'10" in length and 25'10" in width. There are three evenly spaced double-hung, 2-light window sashes on the north and south walls. The roof is a medium-angle gable covered by galvanized metal, capped at the west end of the ridge by a well-scaled hexagonal open cupola and bell tower, exposed through its full circumference by six archways, capped by a pyramidal roof, from which spires a slender onion shape as the base of the single high cross. The eaves of the roof are open, with the rafters exposed. The north and south overhangs of the roof are supported at either end by five severely simple unornamented stick brackets. The east (altar) end is further lighted by a pair of evenly spaced windows identical to those on the north and south walls. (Kreta/Merculief, Photos).

QUAD: Stepovak Bay

1. St. John the Theologian Church (AHRS SITE NO. XSB-003)

2. LOCATION
   a. NA
   b. Perryville
   c. NA
   d. Alaska
   e. 02
   f. Aleutian Islands Division
   g. 010

3. AHRS DATE: May 18, 1973
QUAD: SITKA (C-2)

St. John the Baptist Church, Angoon (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-055)


QUAD: STEPOVAK BAY (D-4)

St. John the Theologean Church, Perryville (AHRS SITE NO. XSB-003)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Only building in this remote Alaskan Native village surmounted by formally-designed octagonal parapet topped by a Russian Orthodox high cross. Sited in BLM Photographic Atlas, "Perryville 1968".

QUAD: TRINITY ISLANDS (D-1)

Protection of the Theotokos Chapel, Akhiok (AHRS SITE NO. XTI-021)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 567, enclosed. Also sited on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Akhiok 1967".

QUAD: UGASHIK (C-5)

St. Nicholas Church, Pilot Point (AHRS SITE NO. UGA-033)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 891, attached. Also sited on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Pilot Point 1963".

QUAD: UNIMAK

Sir Alexander Nevsky Chapel, Akutan (AHRS SITE NO. UNI-028)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 780, enclosed.
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- St. John the Baptist Church  
  (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-055)  
  - Angoon, Alaska  
  - Photo by: Kreta/Merculief  
  - Date of Photograph: c. 1975  

- Location of Photo Negative:  
  St. Herman's Seminary Collection,  
  Kodiak, Alaska  
  - View looking SW-ward

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  (AHRS SITE NO. SIT-055)  
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