Schedule & Abstracts

Second Alaskan Anthropology Conference

March 14-15, 1975
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
FRIDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00 - 12:00  REGISTRATION
   (Area #1) Coffee available here until noon.

9:15 - 10:15  DISCUSSION SESSION
   (Anthropology Curriculum) - Teaching Staff Only
   Chair: Shinkwin
   (Area #4)

9:15 - 10:15  COMMITTEE MEETING
   (Association Formation Committee Only)
   Open Chair
   (Area #3)

10:15 - 11:00  PAPER SESSION
   (Archaeology)
   Chair: Scott
   (Area #4)
   10:15 - Gal
   10:30 - Dawdy
   10:45 - Bacon
   11:00 - Kunz

10:15 - 11:30  DISCUSSION SESSION
   (Education and Anthropology)
   Chair: VanNess
   (Area #5)

11:30 - LUNCH

All sessions will be held in Wood Center unless otherwise noted.

A Continuous Film Session will be held in Area #8 all day Friday and Saturday.

Coffee is available on a continuous basis from Friday noon through Saturday in the Pub (Area #10).

Area #11 is in the Fine Arts Building.
Area #12 is in the Museum.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

1:00 - 2:20  KEYNOTE ADDRESS - FINE ARTS COMPLEX - CONCERT HALL
   Wendell Oswalt
   (Area #11)

2:30 - 3:30  DISCUSSION SESSION
   (Salvage & Contract Archaeology)
   Chair: Cook
   (Area #4)
   2:30 - Andrews
   2:45 - Davis
   3:00 - Johnston
   3:15 - Milan

3:30 - 5:00  DISCUSSION SESSION
   (Research Opportunities in Alaska)
   Chair: Dixon
   (Area #5)
   3:30 - Belevus
   4:00 - Bane
   4:15 - Nelson
   4:30 - Kreher
   4:45 - Smith
   5:00 - Plaskett

5:00 - 7:00  Cocktail Hour(s)
   (Area #7)

7:00 - Banquet
   (Area #9)

9:00 - Social Gathering
   (Area #10)
SATURDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00 - 10:00 PAPER SESSION (Archaeology)  
Chair: Powers (Area #5)
9:00 - 9:15 Powers
9:15 - 9:30 Gal
9:30 - 9:45 Bacon
9:45 - 10:00 Veltre

9:00 - 10:00 PAPER SESSION (Tlingit)  
Chair: Olson (Area #2)
9:00 - 9:15 Billman
9:15 - 9:30 Daumenhauer, R.
9:30 - 9:45 Daumenhauer, N.

9:00 - 10:00 PAPER SESSION (Education and Anthropology)  
Chair: Naylor (Area #4)
9:00 - 9:15 Kleinfeld
9:15 - 9:30 Partnow
9:30 - 9:45 Kaufman

10:00 - 11:30 FILM PREVIEW - CONCERT HALL (At the time of Whaling)  
Fine Arts Bldg. (Area #11)

11:30 - LUNCH

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON SCHEDULE

1:00 - 2:00 PAPER SESSION (Cultural Anthropology)  
Chair: Dixon (Area #2)
1:00 - Dixon
1:15 - Clemens
1:30 - Strautmeyer 1:45 - Feldman

1:00 - 2:00 PAPER SESSION (Linguistics)  
Chair: Krauss (Area #4)
1:00 - Krauss
1:15 - Karl
1:30 - Collins

2:00 - 3:15 DISCUSSION SESSION (Culture Change of Alaskan Natives)  
Chair: Demientieff (Area #5)
2:00 - 3:15

2:00 - 3:15 DISCUSSION SESSION (Archaeology in the State of Alaska)  
Chair: Cook & Powers (Area #4)
3:30 - 5:00 GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING (Area #9)
5:00 - Museum Reception (Area #12)
6:00 CONFERENCE ENDS
DISCUSSION SESSION - Topics and Concerns

Anthropology Curriculum
(Area #4 - Fri. 9:15-10:15)
Chair: Shinkwin
This discussion focuses on the various program offerings in anthropology within the state. Primarily it is aimed at the exchange of information between those anthropologists actually engaged in teaching at the schools and campuses of the University of Alaska. The goals are enlightenment and the sharing of ideas.

TEACHING STAFF PERMITTED ONLY

Education and Anthropology
(Area #5 - Fri. 10:15-11:30)
Chair: VanNess
The articulation of education and anthropology has received increased attention in recent years. Because of the significance of various education issues within present-day Alaska, this timely discussion will focus on some of these issues and how anthropology might contribute to the solution of the many complex problems involved in the cross-cultural context of education in Alaska.

Salvage and Contract Archaeology
(Area #4 - Fri. 2:30-3:30)
Chair: Cook
With increased construction activities associated with Alaskan resource development and the requirements of the Alaskan Native Land Claims, salvage or contract archaeology within the state has and will continue to expand tremendously. This session will concentrate on the problems of contract archaeology and the future possibility of certification of archaeologists involved in such work.

Research Opportunities in Alaska
(Area #5 - Fri. 3:30-5:00)
Chair: Dixon
This session is designed primarily to discuss the potentials for anthropological research in the state of Alaska. Because of the many such opportunities in all topic areas of the discipline, this discussion should prove valuable for all those interested in continuing research in Alaska.

Culture Change of Alaskan Natives
(Area #5 - Sat. 2:00-3:15)
Chair: Demientieff
This session will concern change as it has affected Alaskan Natives by focusing on the topic of Native health care. The discussion will not focus on the political aspects of this change, but rather on the immeasurable changes influenced by the cause and effect impact of various problems designed to benefit Alaskan Native People.

Archaeology in the State of Alaska
(Area #4 - Sat. 2:00-3:15)
Chair: Cook & Powers
The central concern of this discussion session is the general state of archaeological research in Alaska. Beyond the specific concerns of contract archaeology, the ongoing research interests of the archaeologist in the refinement of method and theory and the research needs in the area are to be discussed.
FILMS LISTING

(Area #8 - Friday and Saturday)

Friday

9:00-10:00  River is Boss
10:10-11:25  Atka: Village in the Aleutians
10:35-11:35  Nuer
2:30-3:00  Knud
3:10-3:30  Ice People
3:40-4:35  Eskimo Fight for Life
4:45-5:00  Emerging Eskimo

Saturday

9:00-9:35  Tununermuit
9:45-10:05  People of the Yukon Delta
10:00-11:30  PREVIEW-AT THE TIME OF WHALING
             (Area #11, Building 42)
1:00-1:30  Yanomamo: The Feast
1:40-2:00  Journey to Chimale
2:10-3:30  Nanook of the North

Standby: Children of Eek and their Art (13 min.)

SPECIAL PREVIEW: "At the Time of Whaling," was produced by the Alaska
Native Heritage Film Project, as part of a series of films representing
the Major Native cultures of Alaska. The films are all community produced;
the community determines the content in order to produce a record of the
community from the perspective of its own people. The present film
represents the Siberian-Yupik Eskimo culture of St. Lawrence Island.
It portrays a contemporary whaling village, including the actual taking
of the whale and the division of the meat among the community people.
Produced and Photographed by Leonard Kamerling
Sound recorded by Sarah Elder
Edited by Eliot Tarlin
Directed by Sarah Elder and Leonard Kamerling

ABSTRACTS

Andrews, Elizabeth (Area 5 - Fri. 2:30)
"The Local Band in East Central Alaska"
The relevancy of the concept of the regional and local band in east
central Alaska is examined on the basis of recent ethnographic data
obtained for the Salcha River band of the Tanana Valley.

Bacon, Glenn (Area #5 - Sat. 9:30)
"Preliminary Testing at the Long Lake Site"
Preliminary testing at the Long Lake site, in the middle Matanuska
River Valley, indicates the presence of a core and blade technology.
Typology links with the Denali Complex can be demonstrated, but the
strength of those affinities are undermined by the occurrence of
technologically dissimilar blades.

Bacon, Glenn (Area #4 - Fri. 10:45)
"The Impact of Recent Federal Legislation on Historic Preservation
Efforts in Alaska"
Recent Federal legislation has had a disproportionate impact on
historic preservation programs in Alaska. This impact is expected to
continue. The Alaska Division of Parks, through its Office of History
and Archeology, is attempting to meet the challenge through closer
coordination with other historical and archeological interests in the
State community.

Bane, Ray (Area #4 - Fri. 4:00)
"The Kobuk River Subsistence Study"
The paper to be presented concerns the National Park Service study of
subsistence activities of the communities in the upper Kobuk River area
of Alaska. Special attention was directed at the three major
subsistence activities in this area: fishing, hunting and trapping.

Bank, Ted P. (Area #5 - Sat. 1:15)
"The Decline of Aleut Culture - A Case of Urgent Anthropology"
Despite their anthropological importance, there have been very few
well-planned and coordinated multidiscipline studies in the Aleutian
Islands. The author briefly reviews some recent work and issues a plea
for urgently needed studies, particularly in Aleutian prehistory,
linguistics, ethnobotany and comparative mythology.
Belo, Bob (Area #4 - Fri. 3:30)

"An Overview of Native Subsistence"
This paper concerns the question: "What is subsistence in Alaska?" It is obvious that subsistence activities will continue as before in Alaska but land managers have little understanding of what is involved. The presentation, using slides, was originally for Park Service administrators. Putting boundaries around subsistence activities is a current issue and concern at the various federal levels.

Billman, Esther (Area #2 - Sat. 9:00)

"The Effects of some of the Elements of the Supernatural Upon the Lives of Today's Tlingit People"
This is an outgrowth of my thesis on Tlingit supernaturalism, as I have watched our Tlingit students and adults react to: relations with the spirit world, reincarnation, mental telepathy, former uses of drugs, present resentments.

Clemem, Robert (Area #2 - Sat. 1:15)

"Religious Organizations in the Political Realm"
This paper discusses the history of the Social Concerns Committee and its influence in the creation of the Pipeline Impact Information Center. Both of these organizations are discussed as instrumental political elements in Fairbanks.

Collins, Raymond L. (Area #4 - Sat. 1:30)

"Importance of Linguistics in Studying Northern Athapaskans"
Linguistic work should accompany or complement Ethnographic work in the following areas: 1) to delineate regional groups, 2) to reconstruct prehistoric relationships, and 3) to make inferences about proto-Athapaskan culture. A good example of what can happen when Linguistics is ignored is the treatment of the Upper Kuskokwim Athapaskans.

Dauenhauer, Nora (Area #2 - Sat. 9:30)

"Levels of Meditation in Tlingit Oratory"
This presentation offers an analysis of a recording of a speech composed at a memorial potlatch. The theory offered is that the orator functions at different levels: 1) Rhetorical, 2) Social, 3) Spiritual. The oratory mediates on the rhetorical level through the use of metaphor and simile, on the social level by reaffirming clan identity and kin relationship, on the spiritual level by merging the world of the living and the spirit world. The paper brings out the complexity of the Tlingit symbolism and philosophical world view, an aspect of Tlingit culture often overlooked.

Dauenhauer, Richard (Area #2 - Sat. 9:15)

"A Cry for Shadaax: Style, Personality, and Ownership in Tlingit Prose Narrative"
The paper introduces the concept of the narrative frame--the matrix in which most contemporary Tlingit tradition bearers set their prose narratives. Although ignored or even condemned by most collectors as irrelevant ramblings, the narrative frames appear to be structurally consistent and in many cases seem as important to the tradition bearer as his story. The theoretical and practical conclusions explore the implications of the concept in analysis of social structure and for fieldwork.

Davis, Nancy Yaw (Area #5 - Fri. 2:45)

"Ethical Dilemmas of a Consulting Anthropologist: Lessons Learned in the Summer of '74"
The paper briefly outlines the background which led to consulting with three Native Regional Corporations. Next, specific situations of conflict requiring conscious ethical decisions are discussed. Finally, recommendations for successful, positive consulting relationships are made in the spirit of lessons learned in the Summer of '74.

Dawdy, James H. (Area #4 - Fri. 10:30)

"Anthroendrology in Central Alaska"
This study concerns some problems regarding dendro-studies in central Alaska and contains comments on the potential usefulness of tree ring analysis, other than chronological, in anthropological and archaeological work. Special attention is directed towards the possible correlation of tree ring growth with factors that influence culture.
Dixon, Mim (Area #2 - Sat. 1:00)
"Pipeline Impact and the Social Role of Religious Organizations"
The ways in which religious organizations have expanded their functions in Fairbanks to meet social needs created by construction of the pipeline will be discussed. These examples of changing roles of churches are used to argue that social activity can affect theology of a religious organization, thus complementing the model presented by Ms. Strautmeyer.

Gal, Bob (Area #5 - Sat. 9:15)
"Archeology of the Jim River/Grayling Creek Valley, North-Central Alaska: A Working Paper"
A preliminary description is offered of archeological sites located and excavated during the summer of 1974 in the course of salvage operations along the Alyeska Pipeline. Settlement pattern is discussed and particular attention is paid to three important new sites.

Gal, Bob (Area #4 - Fri. 10:15)
"Seasonal Migrations: An Example from Seward Peninsula"
Seasonal options in subsistence and settlement for the area at the head of Norton Bay are discussed. The concept of flux is applied to a seasonally permissive environment and the social and ecological implications of flux are discussed in relation to the existent literature for the area. Recommendations for the reconstruction of prehistoric occupations are made.

Johnston, Thomas F. (Area #5 - Fri. 3:00)
"Differential Cultural Persistence in Circumpolar Eskimo Musical Behavior, and its Geographic Distribution"
Historical influences on Siberian, Alaskan, Canadian, and Greenlandic Eskimo populations have affected musical behavior disparately, not only in proportion to the extent and intensity of those influences, but also at rates determined in part by the ecological environment, sedentary/migratory residence patterns, and local motivation to resist musical change.

Karl, James (Area #4 - Sat. 1:15)
"A Study of Loan Words in Tanaina and Ahtna"
A study now in progress of loan words in Ahtna and Tanaina reveals patterns of linguistic and historical interest. Tanaina has a relatively larger number of loan words and a somewhat more receptive attitude toward Russianisms than does Ahtna. This trend contradicts Sapir’s suggestion that Athapaskan languages are structurally resistant to loan words. The pattern also reflects the more pervasive Russian influence in the Cook Inlet area.

Kaufman, John (Area #4 - Sat. 9:30)
"Coming of Age in Noorvik: A Problem of Discontinuity"
Although vital social problems have resulted throughout history and beyond from discontinuity, the idea itself posits many possibilities for conceptual confusion and semantic error. The term "discontinuity" has been used ambiguously and a discussion of definitions is clearly in order. This paper discusses the use of this term and others and their implications when used across disciplines.

Kleinfeld, Judith (Area #4 - Sat. 9:00)
"Positive Stereotyping: The Cultural Relativist in the Classroom"
The concepts of anthropology acquired by teachers of Alaska Native students in their anthropological studies are leading to destructive practices in the cross-cultural classroom. "Cultural Relativist" teachers indeed present a more insidious danger to Native students than the ethnocentric teachers that they are replacing. This paper explores the bases of teachers’ misapplication of anthropological concepts.

Krauss, Michael (Area #4 - Sat. 1:00)
"Native Peoples and Languages of Alaska"
A presentation will be made of the long awaited map of "Native Peoples and Languages of Alaska." An explanation of the information and data included on the map will also be given.
Kreher, Ron (Area #4 - Fri. 4:30)

"Archaeological investigations on St. Lawrence Island, 1974" Archaeological investigations on St. Lawrence Island, in 1974, were limited, primarily, to the evaluation of the natural and cultural deterioration occurring at several large and well known sites, particularly at Kiallegak Point. Work at Kiallegak was focused on attempts to better delineate the extent of cultural areas originally described by H. B. Collins in the 1930's.

Kunze, Mike (Area #4 - Fri. 11:00)

"Archeology in the Atigun River Valley" A brief discussion on the archeology done in the Atigun River Valley during the construction of the Alyeska Pipeline project will be given.

Lobdell, John E. (Area #5 - Sat. 1:30)

"Cottonwood Creek: A Late Kachemak Occupation in Southcentral Alaska" It is a rare opportunity for researchers to excavate an archeological site that has been well-tested and superbly reported in the past literature. 1974 field school excavations remain deeply indebted to the pioneer work of Frederica de Laguna that was completed during the early 1930's. An extensive kitchen midden representing late winter/early spring adaptations of Pacific Eskimos to Kachemak Bay environs during the first millennium A.D. will be discussed. Of particular concern is the apparent diversity in the highly stylized disposal of the dead. Several categories for the treatment of human remains are suggested.

Milan, F. A. (Area #5 - Fri. 3:15)

"The Historical Demography of the Native Population of an Alaskan City" Archival, literature and survey sources were used to trace the migration of Alaskan natives into Fairbanks. This evidence showed that only about 11% of the population surveyed were "pure" Athabascan and 14% "pure" Eskimo. Intermarriages are, for the most part, producing a good proportion of the next generation of Alaska's urban native dwellers. This paper is co-authored by Stella Pawson.

Naylor, Larry L. (Area #4 - Sat. 9:45)

"Education and Anthropology: The Study of Culturation" The study of "education" by anthropologists has produced a growing body of materials over recent years. Despite this, and the increased attention on this topic by anthropologists, the substantive results have been disappointing. This paper discusses some of the reasons for this and suggests an alternative model for the concern of those interested in the articulation of education and anthropology.

Nelson, Richard K. (Area #4 - Fri. 4:15)

"Subsistence Activities of White Bush Residents" Ongoing research for the National Park Service Kobuk River Subsistence study will be discussed focusing on comparisons between subsistence activities of white bush residents and Native Alaskans.

Nowak, Michael (Area #5 - Sat. 1:45)

"Nunivak Prehistory: A Study in Similarity and Variability" Archeologically, Nunivak Island has proved to share extensively in two cultures that were widespread across Bering Sea Alaska during the last two milleniums. Within these similarities lie a series of minor differences which may reflect Nunivak's insular status. This question is examined through the media of lithics and pottery, both of which have been recovered in large quantities on Nunivak Island.

Partnow, Patricia (Area #4 - Sat. 9:15)

"Anthropology and Education: Some Applications in Alaska" The need for a public school curriculum in Alaskan Native cultures has been expressed by educators, parents, and Native groups, yet there is currently no established statewide curriculum. Applied anthropologists can contribute much to the preparation of such curricula, provided they are aware of the limitations of anthropological knowledge. The author discusses some issues, problems, and areas for further research which she has encountered in writing school curricula on Native cultures.
Plaskett, David (Area #4 - Fri. 5:00)
"An Archaeological Survey of the Seward Peninsula, 1974"
In the summer of 1974 an archaeological field crew of four students from the University of Alaska, under the direction of Dr. Wm. Roger Powers, conducted an archaeological survey on the Seward Peninsula, Alaska. This presentation will report the findings of that survey.

Powers, Wm. Roger (Area #5 - Sat. 9:00)
"The Dry Creek Research Project: Multidisciplinary Approach to the Paleoeconomy of Early Man in Alaska"
For the first time in Alaska, a stratified Early Man habitation site has been studied which contains large mammal remains in direct association with charcoal and human artifacts. A two-meter thick loess section vertically encompasses the critical chronological transition from Late Pleistocene to Holocene climatic conditions. The site thus affords an opportunity for Paleoeconomic reconstruction of man-animal-plant relationships in an extinct biome.

Smith, George (Area #4 - Fri. 4:45)
"Examination of a 1600 year old Naturally Mummified Frozen Body from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska"
Beach erosion at Cape Kialugak, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska revealed the frozen, naturally mummified body of a 1600 year old Eskimo woman. Dating has placed the body in the Old Bering Sea phase of St. Lawrence Island prehistory. Death was found to be due to suffocation. External examination of the body revealed extensive tattooing on the dorsal aspect of both the right and left forearms, hands and fingers.

Straatmeyer, Jean (Area #2 - Sat. 1:30)
"Theology and Social Involvement"
Through a brief review of 63 churches in Fairbanks (having wide variation in size and theological position) and summarized interviews of ten clergymen from various churches expressing theological and social concerns, this paper shows how the theology of a church can affect its social activity.

Veltre, Douglas W. (Area #5 - Sat. 9:45)
"A Rationale for Historic Period Archaeology in Alaska"
In recent years, new perspectives relating to both archaeological method and theory have emerged. There also appears to be increasing interest in archaeological investigation of historic period sites. This paper will consider how these trends may be related, and how much research may benefit the study of historic period archaeology in Alaska.

Williams, Walter Babe (Area #2 - Sat. 9:45)
"Society's Attitudes toward Tlingits"
Society's general attitudes toward the Tlingits' behavior is primarily based on the kind of person they wish to produce. A Tlingit who has gone through their educational system and survived does not immediately cease to be a Native.

Yarborough, Michael (Area #5 - Sat. 1:00)
"The People of the East-- The Aleuts of the Alaska Peninsula"
Ethnographic information recorded from 1762-1778 by Russian expeditions to the Alaska Peninsula is presented and discussed. Hypotheses concerning the Eskimo-Aleut boundary on the Peninsula are reviewed in light of this data.

Feldman, Kerry (Area #2 - Sat. 1:45)
"Squatter Migration Dynamics in Davao City, Phillipines"
This presentation discusses the institutionalization of squatting as practiced in developing countries and attempts to demonstrate the squatter urbanization hypothesis for Davao City, the third largest urban center in the Phillipine archipelago.