Alaska Anthropological Association
39th Annual Conference

Northern People and Landscapes
in Times of Change

PROGRAM

February 29 – March 3, 2012
Hotel Deca
4507 Brooklyn Ave NE
Seattle, WA
CREDIT FOR THE 39TH ANNUAL MEETING

Host Organizations

University of Washington Department of Anthropology
Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture

Organizing Committee

Shelby Anderson      Adam Freeburg      Molly Odell
Will Brown           Erik Gjesfeld     Natasha Slobodina
Mike Etnier          Carol Jolles (co-chair)  Amanda Taylor
Ben Fitzhugh (chair) Adam Kowalski

Volunteers (at time of printing)

Jacinta Heath        Mariana Markova     Anastasia Tarmann
Kayla Krantz         Justin McCarthy    Carina Wayman
Yoko Kugo            Carey Patterson    Abraham White

Coffee Break Sponsors

Advocates for Archaeology and Historic Preservation
NHG Alaska LLC
Northern Land Use Research, Inc
SWCA Environmental Consultants

General Sponsors

Beta Analytic, Inc.
McLain Heritage Consulting
Ken Pratt
Rafter Radiocarbon Dating Services
Territory Heritage Resource Consulting
UW Bookstore
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Chancellor Room</th>
<th>College Room</th>
<th>Regent Room</th>
<th>Banquet Hall</th>
<th>President Room</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>registration in Hotel Deca Lobby, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology (Alix et al.)</td>
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<td>Historical Archaeology (Stern)</td>
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<td>9:20 AM</td>
<td>Hare et al.</td>
<td>The Connected Arctic (Maschner)</td>
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<td>9:40 AM</td>
<td>Easton et al.</td>
<td>Tremayne</td>
<td>Curtis and Mills</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Coffman and Potter</td>
<td>Hoffecker et al.</td>
<td>White and Hedman</td>
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<td>10:20 AM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:40 AM</td>
<td>Graf et al.</td>
<td>S. Brown et al.</td>
<td>M. Blanchard</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>H. Smith and Goebel</td>
<td>Mason and Bigelow</td>
<td>Proane and Whitney</td>
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<td>11:20 AM</td>
<td>Buvit et al.</td>
<td>Anderson</td>
<td>round table discussion</td>
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<td>11:40 AM</td>
<td>Cook et al.</td>
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<td>Lunch (on your own)</td>
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<td>Luminescence lab tour: meet at 11:45 AM at the Hotel Deca registration desk; limited space, so sign up to insure a spot</td>
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<td>1:40 PM</td>
<td>Collectors and Collections (Hollowell)</td>
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<td>Carter and Houfette (Chan)</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology (Krasinski et al.)</td>
<td>The Connected Arctic (Chan)</td>
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<td>2:20 PM</td>
<td>G. Smith</td>
<td>Jensen and Sheehan</td>
<td>McLain</td>
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<td>2:40 PM</td>
<td>Blyng</td>
<td>Raff et al.</td>
<td>Bücher</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
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<td>3:20 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Maschner et al.</td>
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<td>3:40 PM</td>
<td>Heidenreich</td>
<td>Jensen</td>
<td>Rogers and Klapstova</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Reuther et al.</td>
<td>discussion</td>
<td>Anuchenko</td>
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<td>Potter</td>
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<td>discussion</td>
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<td>6:30 PM - 8:30 PM</td>
<td>Banquet, Keynote Address (Dr. Charlotte Coté), and Awards (Banquet Hall)</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Cultural Anthropology: General Session</td>
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<td>Northern Demographics</td>
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<td>Archaeology: General Session</td>
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<td>W. Brown</td>
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<td>Greiser</td>
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<td>Saltonstall et al.</td>
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<td>Scott et al.</td>
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<td>Barton et al.</td>
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<td>10:40 AM</td>
<td>Platte and Lincoln</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bowman et al.</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Hernandez et al.</td>
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<td>Pitulko</td>
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<td>Houlette and Whitney</td>
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<td>Sicoli and Holton</td>
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<td>Marino</td>
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<td>Esdale</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Luncheon and Keynote Address (Dr. Andrzej Weber; Banquet Hall)</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
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<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Northern Demographics</td>
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<td>Enduring Cultures, Changing Landscapes</td>
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<td>Holzlehrer</td>
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<td>Schulte</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Fitzhugh and Brown</td>
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<td>3:20 PM</td>
<td>Schweitzer (discussant)</td>
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<td>3:40 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>NAGPRA at 20: &quot;Now What?&quot;</td>
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<td>Flening</td>
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<td>4:20 PM</td>
<td>moderated round table discussion</td>
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<td>10:00 PM</td>
<td>Friday night mixer hosted by UW grad students (everyone welcome)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Rat and Raven, upstairs patio (5260 University Way NE)</td>
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## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

### Saturday, March 3

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Chancellor Room</th>
<th>College Room</th>
<th>Banquet Hall</th>
<th>President Room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>Coastal Archaeology</strong></td>
<td><strong>Archaeological Compliance and Survey</strong></td>
<td>Poster Session 2 (Poster authors will be available at their posters from 10:20 AM – 11:00 AM)</td>
<td>Book sales and vendors</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eldridge</td>
<td>Wooley et al.</td>
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<td>9:20 AM</td>
<td>Hanson</td>
<td>Rogers et al.</td>
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<td>9:40 AM</td>
<td>Gordaoff</td>
<td>Reanier</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Casperson</td>
<td>Callanan</td>
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<td>10:20 AM</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40 AM</td>
<td>Etnier</td>
<td>Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Moss et al.</td>
<td>Rider</td>
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<td>11:20 AM</td>
<td>Cooper et al.</td>
<td>Grover</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40 AM</td>
<td>Bernick</td>
<td>Flaming</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Croes</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch (on your own)</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<td>Nano-marathon</td>
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<td>3:00 PM –</td>
<td>Business meeting</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
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<td>7:00 PM –</td>
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<td>Belzoni Society Meeting</td>
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<td>10:00 PM</td>
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<td>Dante’s, upper back room (5300 Roosevelt Way)</td>
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</table>
Multi-Day Events

Tours: Participants can register for tours at the registration desk during the conference.

**Luminescence lab** tour at the University of Washington with Dr. James Feathers. Thursday, March 1 from 12:00 - 12:30 PM, and Friday, March 2 from 10:00 - 10:30 AM. The tour group will meet at the registration desk in the Hotel Deca fifteen minutes before the tour. Limited to 10 people per tour.

**Burke Museum Archaeology Collections:** Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the Archaeology Department at the Burke Museum. The 30-40 minute tour will include the collections and research space, including highlights from Alaska and the Northwest Coast. The tour group will meet in the lobby of the Hotel Deca on Thursday, March 1 and Friday, March 2 at 12:45 PM and will walk to the Burke Museum together. Limited to 10 people per tour.

**Burke Museum Ethnology Collections:** Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the Ethnology Department at the Burke Museum. The 30-40 minute tour will include the collections storage and research space. The tour group will meet in the lobby of the Hotel Deca on Thursday, March 1 and Friday, March 2 at 12:45 PM and will walk to the Burke Museum together. Limited to 10 people per tour.

**Poster Sessions – Grand Ballroom**
Poster Session 1: Thursday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Poster Session 2: Friday 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM and Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Book Sales and Vendors – President Room**
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Thursday and Friday
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM Saturday

**Reminder for presenters and session organizers:**

*Session Organizers:*
Session chairs MUST BRING THEIR OWN LAPTOPS which will be connected to the provided AV equipment for each session/room. Presentations should be kept on schedule. Please test each PowerPoint/etc. on your laptop prior to your session time.

*Presenters:*
Each presentation will be within a 20-minute time slot, including transitions. Bring a copy of your presentation on a CD or jump drive, and provide to the session organizer BEFORE your session.
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists (ACZ): National Marine Mammal Lab (NMML) tour and Burke Museum Mammalogy and Ornithology Collections Tour (pre-registration required through ACZ). Participants should meet at the Burke Museum Loading Dock at 9:45 AM (Northwest corner of the building).

The AHRS Advisory Board will meet on Wednesday February 29, 1:00 – 5:00 PM Governor’s Room, Hotel Deca, Lower Level
Contact: Bill Hedman, whedman@blm.gov, William_Hedman@blm.gov, 907.474.2375
Feb 28-29: (cell) 907.750.3926

1:00   Robert King (BLM State Historic Preservation Officer) and Bill Hedman (BLM Central Yukon Field Office) – Welcome, Introductions, and the Agenda

1:15   Dave McMahan (Alaska Office of History and Archaeology) – IBS User Agreement Forms: Changes, Updates, Etc.

1:45   Rick Karl (AZSITE Database Manager, Arizona State University, University of Arizona) – AZSite System Demonstration with emphasis on data import/export

2:15   BREAK

2:30   Bill Hedman and Cory Black (GIS Specialist, BLM Alaska State Office) – BLM Alaska’s Archeology Data System: A WebGIS application

2:45   Joan Dale (Alaska Office of History and Archaeology) – Demo of New AHRS online applications, question and answer.

3:15   BREAK

3:30   Eric Ingbar (Gnomon Inc.) – GIS and Database Entry Tools

3:50   Dave McMahan, Eric Ingbar, and Bill Hedman
Group Discussion: Prioritizing AHRS Database Development and Discussion of Future Meetings
Wednesday, February 29, 2012

EVENING

Welcome Reception, Conference Registration, and No-host Bar
6:00 – 9:00 PM Burke Museum, University of Washington (see Map for location)

The Anthropology of Alaska, Two Minutes at a Time
Session Chair: Jenny Blanchard (Bureau of Land Management)
6:30 – 7:30 PM Burke Room
This session provides a survey of the breadth of anthropological research in Alaska over the past year, from Late Pleistocene archaeology to historical archaeology and cultural anthropology. Papers will be short and fun; this is a chance to give an abstract of research presented elsewhere in the conference, or to provide information on a single cool artifact or site or fieldwork story encountered last summer. It provides presenters with a chance to pique the audience’s interest in their research, and provides audience members a chance to get an overview of the entire scope of conference topics, even if they can’t attend every session they would like.

Confirmed presenters include:
Jenny Blanchard
Monty Rogers
William Hedman
Allison McLain
Ben Fitzhugh
Mark McCallum
Dave McMahan

Chris Woolcy
Karlene Leeper
Morgan Blanchard
Robert King
Craig Mishler
Julie Raymond-Yakoubian
Thursday, March 1

Registration – Hotel Deca Lobby
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Book Sales and Vendors – President Room
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Poster Session 1
Room: Grand Ballroom
Time: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
(Poster authors should be present at their posters from 3:00 – 3:40)

Norman Easton – Yukon College’s Field School in Subarctic Archaeology and Ethnography for Undergraduates

Diana Ewing – Use of Baleen by Thule-period Inhabitants of Cape Espenberg, Alaska

Phoebe Gilbert, Christopher Ciancibelli, and Jeffrey Rasic – Preliminary Results of the Upper Kobuk River Archaeological Inventory and Testing

Michael Grooms and Norman Easton – Stratigraphy and Chronology at the Little John Site, Yukon Territory

Charles Holmes, David Fisher, and Adam Rountrey – Dental and Skeletal Evidence Point to the Hunting of Mammoths in Central Alaska

Patrick Kinkade – Shellfish Harvesting by Late Thule Occupants of Cape Espenberg, Alaska

Joshua Lynch – Results of Archaeological Survey in Tetlin Region Upper Tanana Basin, Alaska

Whitney McLaren and Julie Esdale – Banjo Lake Hearth Area Debitage Analysis

Scott Shirar, Jeff Rasic, Eric Carlson, and Mareca Guthrie – Rock Art in the Far North: A Local Style of Petroglyphs from the Central-Western Brooks Range

THURSDAY MORNING SESSIONS

Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology in Northwestern North America
Room: Chancellor
Session Chair: Ben Potter (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

9:00 Claire Alix, Gregory Hare, Thomas Andrews, and Glen MacKay – Arrow Shafts of the Northwestern Canadian Subarctic Ice Patches


9:40 Norman Easton, Michael Grooms, and Jordan Handley – 2011 Excavations at the Little John Site (KdVo6), Yukon Territory, Canada
10:00  Sam Coffman and Ben Potter – Lithic Analysis and Site Activities at Teklanika West (HEA-001), Central Alaska
10:20  Break
10:40  Kelly Graf, Nancy Bigelow, Ted Goebel, Angela Gore, and Angela Younie – Dry Creek Site Revisited
11:00  Heather Smith and Ted Goebel – Serpentine Fluted-Point Update: Report on the 2011 Excavations at BEN-192, Seward Peninsula, Alaska
11:20  Ian Buvit, William Hedman, Steven Kuehn, and Jeff Rasie – Geomorphology, Stratigraphy, and Formation of the Raven Bluff Site, NW Alaska
11:40  John P. Cook, Tom Gillispie, and Robert Sattler – Return to Healy Lake

The Connected Arctic
Room: College
Session Chairs: Anne Jensen (UIC Science LLC), Herbert Maschner (Idaho State University), and Owen Mason (INSTAAR, Geoarch Alaska)
9:20  Herbert Maschner – The Connected Bering Sea and Greater North Pacific
9:40  Andy Tremayne – The Denbigh Flint Complex at Cape Espenberg: Maritime Adaptation and Inland Connections
10:00  John Hoffercker, Owen Mason, Nancy Bigelow, Christyann Darwent, Claire Alix, Max Friesen, John Darwent, and Shelby Anderson – Cape Espenberg 2011
10:20  Break
10:40  Sarah Brown, Christyann Darwent, and Ben Sacks – Ancient DNA Analysis of Canid Remains from Cape Espenberg
11:00  Owen Mason and Nancy Bigelow – The Bowhead Rising: Okvik and Birmirk Affinities and the World System at Cape Espenberg
11:20  Shelby Anderson – Ceramic Sourcing and Social Interaction in Northwest Alaska

Historical Archaeology
Room: Regent
Session Chairs: Jim Whitney (University of Alaska Museum of the North) and Molly Proue (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.)
9:20  Richard Stern – Fort Liscum, Alaska – A U.S. Army Fort in Valdez, 1898-1922
9:40  Tiffany Ann Curtis and Robin Mills – DendroArchaeology on the Fortymile River, Alaska or “Get the Yeti!”
10:00  Paul White and William Hedman – An Archaeological Approach to Abandoned Mine Land Hazards
10:20  Break
10:40  Morgan Blanchard – The History of Portage: Trying to Understand a Wide Spot in the Road
11:00  Molly Proue and Jim Whitney – Continuing the Conversation: Forum on
Collection and Curation of Historic Artifacts
11:20 Roundtable Discussion (30-40 min)

Luminescence Lab Tour at the University of Washington (~45 min)
11:45 Meet at the registration desk in the Hotel Deca (limited space, sign up at registration desk)

Burke Museum Archaeology Collections Tour and Ethnology Collections Tour (~45 min)
12:45 Meet at the registration desk in the Hotel Deca (limited space, sign up at registration desk)

Lunch 12:00 – 1:40 (on your own)

Alaska Anthropological Association Board Meeting 12:00 Room TBA

Thursday Afternoon Sessions

Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology in Northwestern North America, cont’d
Session Chair: Ben Potter (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Chancellor Room
2:00 Katie Krasinski, Bryan Wygal, and Randolph Tedor – New Lacustrine Archaeological Localities at Volkmar Lake, Tanana Valley, Alaska
2:20 Gerard Smith – A tale of two cache pits: Exploring lithic behaviors associated with the late prehistoric termination of core and blade technology in Central Alaska
2:40 John Blong – Prehistoric Upland Adaptations in the Upper Susitna Basin, Central Alaska
3:00 Brian Wygal – Cold Case: Archaeological Interpretations for Post-Glacial Adaptations in Southcentral Alaska
3:20 BREAK
3:40 Stephan Heidenreich – What did they do in their Camps? Deciphering Site Activities and Settlement Systems in East Beringia
4:00 Joshua D. Reuther, Ben A. Potter, and James K. Feathers – Aeolian Sand Deposition during the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene in the Middle Tanana Valley: Implications for Paleoenvironments and Prehistoric Land Use
4:20 Ben A. Potter – Transformations of Western Subarctic Archaeology
The Connected Arctic, cont’d

**Room:** College Room

**Session Chairs:** Anne Jensen (UIC Science LLC), Herbert Maschner (Idaho State University), and Owen Mason (INSTAAR, Geoarch Alaska)

2:00 *Amy Chan* – An Ethnoarchaeological Approach to Understanding Ivory Production in Point Hope, Alaska

2:20 *Anne Jensen and Glenn Sheehan* – Thoughts on the Skin (and Oil) Trade

2:40 *Jennifer Raff, Margarita Rzhetskaya, Justin Tackney, Dennis O’Rourke, and Geoffrey Hayes* – Human Migrations in the Arctic: Mitochondrial DNA evidence for the origin of the Paleo- and Neo-Eskimo Peoples

3:00 **Break**

3:20 *Herbert Maschner, Matthew Betts, Corey Schou, Jonathan Holmes, Robert Schlader, Nick Clement* – Democratizing Science with the Virtual Zooarchaeology of the Arctic Project (VZAP)

3:40 *Anne Jensen* – Connectedness: Research Topic and Research Mode

4:00 **Discussion**

**Collectors and Collections**

**Room:** Regent Room

**Session Chair:** Jason Rogers (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.) and Evguenia Anichenko (Anchorage Museum)

1:40 *Julie Hollowell* – Private Collecting and the Skewed Archaeological Record for Alaskan Old Bering Sea and Okvik

2:00 *Fawn Carter and Chris Houlette* – Managing the Gadgets: Breathing New Life into Languishing Collections

2:20 *Allison Young McClain* – The Seal Stone Petroglyph: Another Alaska Mystery

2:40 *Gudrun Bucher* – Russian America to Göttingen

3:00 *Robin Inglis* – Malaspina and the Tlingit of Yakutat Bay

3:20 **Break**

3:40 *Jason Rogers and Katerina Klápštová* – From Bohemia to Yakutat: The Travels and Collections of Tadeuš Haenke

4:00 *Jenya Anichenko* - Yuri Lisianski’s Collections and the first Russian round-the-world expedition

4:20 *Gudrun Bucher* – From Russian America to Oldenburg – The Kupreanof Collection in the Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch

4:40 **Discussion**
Thursday Evening

First Thursdays: Burke Museum exhibits open 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM (free admission all day) (Alaska Anthropology meeting participants can enter the Burke free with their conference name tag during open hours anytime during the days of the conference).

Banquet, Keynote Address, and Awards (cash bar)
6:30 – 8:30 PM Hotel Deca Grand Ballroom

Speaker: Dr. Charlotte Coté

Title: Rearticulating Tradition: Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth Whaling in the 21st Century

Abstract: In 1995 the Makah people in Washington State announced that they were reviving their traditional whaling practices after over a 70 year hiatus. Shortly after, my people, the Nuu-chah-nulth, on the west coast of Vancouver Island, announced that we too, planned to revive our whale hunts. On May 17th, 1999, the Makah Nation led a successful hunt in the ocean waters near their community in Neah Bay. A 30-foot sih-xwah-whix (gray whale) gave its life to feed the Makah people. My presentation focuses on the revitalization of Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth whaling traditions and how a return to whaling directly links to our nation-building and self-determination efforts. I will discuss how historically, in Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth cultures, whaling held economic importance as well as spiritual and prestige significance and was intertwined in the intricate web of social interactions that constructed our identities. Today we are rearticulating our contemporary whaling practices to meet the health and social needs of our modern societies and thus, a return to whaling serves as a symbol of our cultural resiliency, adaptability, and survival.

Dr. Coté is an Associate Professor in the Department of American Indian Studies at the University of Washington. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of California-Berkeley in Comparative Ethnic Studies and a Diploma in Broadcast Communications from the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Dr. Coté is a member of the Tseshahlt First Nation, one of the cultural groups which constitute the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation situated on the West Coast of Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada. She is the author of numerous publications that focus on Indian justice systems, the Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth whaling tradition, and the Northwest Coast Guardian Spirit complex. Her most recent research is focused on Native American/First Nations food sovereignty issues in the United States and Canada. Dr. Coté is the author of the recently published Spirits of Our Whaling Ancestors. Revitalizing Makah and Nuu-chah-nulth Traditions (University of Washington Press, 2010).
Friday, March 2

Registration – Hotel Deca Lobby
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Book Sales and Vendors – President Room
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Luminescence Lab Tour at the University of Washington (~45 min)
9:45 Meet at the registration desk in Hotel Deca (limited space, sign up at registration desk)

Friday Morning Sessions

Northern Demographics, Past and Present
Room: Chancellor
Session Chair: William Brown (University of Washington)
9:20 William Brown – Revisiting the Early Kachemak Demographic Transition
9:40 Patrick Saltounstall, Amy Steffian, and Molly Odell – Small Site Archaeology in Women’s Bay: A View from the Amak Site, Kodiak Island, Alaska
10:00 Loukas Barton, Scott Shirar, Jeff Rasic, and James Jordan – Emerging Patterns in the Prehistoric Human Occupation of the Central Alaska Peninsula
10:20 Break
10:40 Patrick Plattet and Amber Lincoln – Landscape and Legacy of Alaska Peninsula Reindeer Herding: An Ethnohistory/Ethnoarchaeology Project
11:00 Nicole Hernandez, Katie Krasinski, and Brian Wygal – Discovering Chronology: Results of the 2011 Adelphi Archaeological Fieldschool in the Susitna Valley
11:20 Chris Houlette and Jim Whitney – “The Principle Constant:” Actions and adaptations of indigenous Han Athapaskan populations to gold mining efforts in the upper Yukon River region of Alaska
11:40 Elizabeth Marino – Is Shishmaref “worth saving?”: An Argument for the Relocation of Communities at Risk

Archaeology: General Session
Room: College
Session Chair: Julie Esdale (Colorado State University, U.S. Army)
9:20 T. Weber Greiser – Working with Lew Binford in Alaska and New Mexico
9:40 G. Richard Scott, Simon Poulson, and Lindsay Dorio – Dental Calculus: A Potential Nondestructive Proxy for Stable Isotope Analysis
10:00  **Kathleen Hawes** – Analysis and Interpretation of Archaeological Wood Charcoal Macro-Remains

10:20  **BREAK**


11:00  **Vladimir Pitul’ko** – Yana RHS, Arctic Siberia: An Overview of the Excavations and Fieldwork in the Vicinity of the Site (2002-2011)


11:40  **Julie Esdale** – Northern Archaic-Athabascan Transition in Central Alaska

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**Cultural Anthropology: General Session**

**Room:** Regent

**Session Chair:** David Koester (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

9:00  **Craig Mishler** – Gwich’in Naming Ceremonies

9:20  **David Koester** – Itelmen Iterations: Documenting the Itelmen Language Hunting Stories and More

9:40  **Alexander King** – Dancing Koryaks: The Social Value of Dance Ensembles in Kamchatka

10:00  **Katherine Arndt** – Cruising the Straits: Russian-American Company Visits to Kake, Alaska, and Vicinity in the 1860’s

10:20  **BREAK**

10:40  **Julie Raymond-Yakoubian and Jolene Oklcašik** – Local and Traditional Knowledge of Non-Salmon Fish in Teller, Alaska

11:00  **Yoko Kugo, Jennifer Burns, David Withrow, David Holen, James Van Lanen, and Helen Alderman** – Unique Freshwater Seal Ecology in Iliamna Lake: Utilizing Local Ecological Knowledge and Western Science


11:40  **Gregory Reinhardt** – Big Chiefs and Other-Sized American Indian Stereotypes
Luncheon and Keynote Address
12:30 – 2:30 PM Hotel Deca Grand Ballroom

Speaker: Dr. Andrzej Weber
Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta-Edmonton.

Title: Holocene Hunter-gatherers of Cis-Baikal (Siberia): A paradigm shift from unilinear to variational evolution

Abstract: For much of the 20th century the middle Holocene prehistory of the Baikal region in Siberia has been shrouded in mystery, a combined effect of long-lasting political, academic, and geographic isolation. The available literature, from A.P. Okladnikov’s monumental work through the multitude of Russian cursory field reports to a few pieces published in Western languages, clearly indicated that the Baikal region was of great interest and importance to global hunter-gatherer studies. Practically all Soviet work was conducted within the Marxist edition of the unilinear cultural evolutionism eventually leading to substantial intellectual stalemate. The political changes taking place in Russia during the 1990s opened opportunities for serious international research projects using new methods and theoretical approaches.

My first reconnaissance trip to Siberia took place in summer 1990 and was followed by 20 consecutive fieldwork seasons. During this time, in collaboration with Russian and Western, mainly Canadian, scholars and graduate students, I excavated three stratified habitation sites (Gorelyi Les, Sagan-Zaba, and Bugul’deika) and three middle Holocene cemeteries (Shamanka, Khuzhir-Nuge XIV, and Kurma XI). Materials from these sites, and a few others excavated recently by local scholars, facilitated a large program of multidisciplinary research on Baikal middle Holocene hunter-gatherers framed within the modern scientific-evolutionary paradigm. The hallmark of this work is the bioarchaeology of individual life histories, a suite of methods that together provide considerable insights into the variation in past human behavior at the individual level.

In this lecture I review the history of this collaborative research including fieldwork and lab work, major findings, and publications. I use the Khuzhir-Nuge cemetery to illustrate the benefits of the individual life history approach and conclude with presentation of future plans which involve comparative analysis with Holocene hunter-gatherers of Hokkaido in northern Japan.

Dr. Weber is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alberta. Professor Weber’s research interests include foraging adaptations of the Mesolithic and Neolithic populations of the Lake Baikal region, Siberia and Hokkaido, Japan involving subsistence activities, mobility patterns, burial ritual and social organization, and human
skeletal biology. Dr. Weber has led the Baikal Archaeology Project since 2001. That work expanded in 2011 with the inception of the Baikal-Hokkaido Archaeology Project.

Burke Museum Archaeology Collections Tour and Ethnology Collections Tour (~45 min)
12:45  Meet at the registration desk in Hotel Deca (limited space, sign up at registration desk)

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✦ Repatriation Research and Training: Aleut Repatriation Commission, development, training, administration, and repatriation case management
✦ Museum Collections Management and Collections Research: working with Arctic archaeological and ethnographic collections since 1979
✦ Cultural Heritage Preservation: developed and directed the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Cultural Heritage Program, 1998 to 2006
✦ Grant writing, Participation & Program Management: over $1.8 million awarded for research and education projects, 1986 to 2011
✦ Museum Research
  ◦ University of Alaska Museum of the North
  ◦ SI National Museum of Natural History
  ◦ University of British Columbia
  ◦ American Museum of Natural History
  ◦ The Field Museum
  ◦ Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology
  ◦ Alaska State Museum

I HAVE THE EXPERIENCE YOU NEED
Friday Afternoon Sessions

Poster Session 2 (continues through Saturday morning)
Room: Grand Ballroom
Time: 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
(posters should be present at their posters Saturday 10:20 – 11:00 am)

Barbara Crass, Brant Kedrowski, and Jeffery Behm – Return to FAME: Archaeochemistry of Lipids

Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Josh Reuther, Justin Hays, Jason Rogers, and Chris Wooley – Spatial Modeling in Southwest/Southcentral Alaska

Justin Hays, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Joshua Reuther, Jason Rogers, and Chris Wooley – Iditarod National [Pre]Historic Trail

Charles Holmes and Samuel Coffman – Ancestral Lake Minchumina Project (Phase 1)

Joe Keeney and Robert Hickey – A Potential Method for Locating Archaeological Sites Using High-Resolution Satellite Imagery

Kelly Monteleone – Underwater Predictive Modeling for Submerged Archaeological Sites off Prince of Wales Island, SE AK

Andrew Wickert, Kelly Monteleone, Jerry Mitrovica, Robert Anderson, and Craig Lee – Beringian Paleogeography and Archaeological Site Prediction

Mark Williams – Intensification of Shellfish Processing at Qwu?gwes [45TN240]

Kate Yeske and Julie Esdale – Initial Investigations at Molybdenum Ridge, Tanana Basin, Central Alaska

Northern Demographics, Past and Present, cont’d

Room: Chancellor

Session Chair: William Brown (University of Washington)

2:40 Tobias Holzlehner – “Somehow, something broke inside the people:”
Demographic Shifts and Community Anomie in Chukotka, Russia

3:00 Ben Fitzhugh and William Brown – Paleodemography of the Kuril Archipelago: Environmental Variability and Social Networks

3:20 Peter Schweitzer (discussant)

Enduring Cultures, Changing Landscapes in Southeast Alaska

Room: College

Session Chair: Daniel Monteith (University of Alaska Southeast)

2:40 Priscilla Schulte – Traditional Resources and Alaska Native People of Southeast Alaska

3:00 Forest Haven – From Herring Eggs to Deer Meat: Contemporary Benefits of Traditional Resources in Southeast Alaska

3:20 Daniel Monteith – Researching Landscape Change in Juneau
NAGPRA at 20: "Now What?"
Room: College
Session Chairs: Angela Linn and Jim Whitney (University of Alaska Museum of the North)
4:00 – 5:00 NAGPRA Roundtable Discussion

Health as a Human Landscape: A Space for Diverse Anthropologies in Health Research
Room: Regent
Session Chairs: Sally Carraher and Kim Fleming
3:40 Sally Carraher – A Journey inside Ourselves: Mapping the Shared Spaces of Humans and Stomach Bugs
4:00 Kim Fleming – North Carolina’s Big Push: Social Action and Motivation to Re-Orient Birth in North Carolina
4:20 Zach Hozid – Eating Habits of College Freshmen
4:40 Michael Nowak – Community Health and the 21st Century

Friday Evening

Friday night mixer hosted by UW graduate students (everyone welcome)
8:00 – 10:00 PM
The Rat and Raven, upstairs patio
5260 University Way NE

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Saturday, March 3

Book Sales and Vendors – President Room
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Poster Session 2 Continued
Room: Grand Ballroom
Time: 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
(posters authors should be present at their posters from 10:20 – 11:00am)
For list of posters see Friday Afternoon listing.

Saturday Morning Sessions

Coastal Archaeology: from the Bering Sea to the Northwest coast
Chancellor Room
Session Chair: Michael Etnier (Western Washington University)
9:00 Kelly Eldridge – The Snake River Sandpit Site: A Late Western Thule Site in Nome, Alaska
9:20 Diane Hanson – An Amaknak Bridge Style House from an Adak Island Upland Site
9:40 Roberta Gordoaoff – A Comparison of Lithic Tools from Upland and Coastal Sites on Adak Island, Alaska
10:00 Molly Casperson – The Importance of Birds in Ocean Bay Subsistence: Results from the Mink Island Site, Alaska
10:20 Break
10:40 Michael Etnier – A Unique Faunal Assemblage from the Kodiak Archipelago
11:00 Madonna Moss, Kathleen Judd, and Brian Kemp – Tlingit Salmon Use at Coffman Cove: Determining Salmon Species using Morphometric vs. Ancient DNA
11:20 H. Kory Cooper, Nicholas Waber, and Carey Patterson – Prehistoric Copper Innovation(s) on the Northwest Coast
11:40 Kathryn Bernick – Revisioning Material Culture: Northwest Coast Basketry Hats
12:00 Dale Croes – Salish Sea Wet Site Archaeology: Ancient Basketry as the Key to Defining Long-term Salish Heritage

Archaeological Compliance and Survey
Room: College
Session Chair: Jay Flaming (University of Washington and National Park Service)
9:00 Christopher Wooley, Joshua Reuther, Justin Hays, Jason Rogers, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Darien Thomas, and David John – The Donlin Gold Cultural Resource Project: Surveys, Compliance and Community Archaeology
9:20 Jason Rogers, Joshua Reuther, Justin Hays, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Jill Baxter
McIntosh, Robert Bowman, Patrick Hall, and Christopher Wooley – From Cook Inlet to the Middle Kuskokwim: Results from the Donlin Gold Cultural Resource Project
9:40 Richard Reanier – The Case of the Missing Sag River Sites
10:00 Martin Callanan – No Mon’ No Fun? – Managing Archaeological Snow Patches on a Shoestring
10:20 BREAK
11:00 Shawna Rider – A Bridge between Them: Controversial Archaeology in Unalaska, Alaska
11:20 Margan Grover – Archaeological Extinction on the Beaufort Sea Coast
11:40 Jay Flaming – Analytical Monitoring for Cultural Resource Vulnerability and Risk Reduction

12:30 pm Lunch (on your own)

Saturday Afternoon and Evening

Nano-marathon (2.62 mile run/walk)
Time: 1:00 PM
Meet on the Burke Gilman Trail between University Way NE and Brooklyn Ave
Contact Natasha Slobodina for details (nataslo@uw.edu)

Business Meeting, Alaska Anthropological Association
Room: Chancellor
Time: 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Belzoni Society Meeting
Location: Dante’s, upper back room. 5300 Roosevelt Way (see map)
Time: 7:00 – 10:00 PM.
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Location

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PC Box 31512
Lower Hutt 5040
New Zealand
T 64 4-570 1444
F 64 4-570 4527
Session Abstracts

*The Anthropology of Alaska, Two Minutes at a Time*

**Blanchard, Jenny H.** (BLM, Anchorage Field Office)

This session provides a survey of the breadth of anthropological research in Alaska over the past year, from Late Pleistocene archaeology to historical archaeology and cultural anthropology. Papers will be short and fun; this is a chance to give an abstract of research presented elsewhere in the conference, or to provide information on a single cool artifact or site or fieldwork story encountered last summer. It provides presenters with a chance to pique the audience’s interest in their research, and provides audience members a chance to get an overview of the entire scope of conference topics, even if they can’t attend every session they would like.

*Northern Demographies, Past and Present*

**Brown, William** (University of Washington)

The spirit of this symposium is to bring together demographers studying Northern populations of the past and present, in order to move us toward a more unified understanding of what it has meant and continues to mean to bear children, move around, and ultimately die in Northern contexts. Arguably, demographic records constitute some of the most direct measures of resilience available, in ways which transcend or qualify the simplistic success-failure binary. Consequently, demography is or should be an indispensable component of any discourse on human resilience. At the same time, these records urge us to explore the cultural systems and contextual incentives/disincentives which influence our child-bearing and residential decisions, as well as the biocultural variables which influence how long we can expect to live and how many or how few offspring we can hope to bear. In turn, population size and structure may influence economic, social, and political structures and processes, so we are also interested in understanding this converse influence, as well as the feedback that it introduces into population dynamics. Demography has always aspired to the status of an interdisciplinary enterprise, and in this spirit, demographers studying contemporary, historical, and prehistoric populations of the North commonly stand to benefit from a more thoroughly integrated discourse on our shared subject matter. As such, all presentations on the fertility, mortality, internal or long-distance migration, crude growth, and population structure of Northern communities are welcomed, regardless of methodology or temporal scope.

*Health as a Human Landscape: A Space for Diverse Anthropologies in Health Research*

**Fleming, Kim** (East Carolina University), and **Sally Carrabber** (McMaster University)

The field of “medical anthropology” represents researchers from across all four subfields of North American anthropology – as well as researchers working in the fields of epidemiology, pathology, nursing, medical geography, bioarchaeology, and numerous other arenas. In many places today, health researchers with no formal background in anthropology report using methods such as ethnography and participant observation, while other disciplines such as sociology and geography have expanded their gaze toward non-Western, non-biomedical, and alternative healing systems. In this era of ever-increasing globalization, and rapidly changing landscapes, we must consider not only the environmental, economic and social landscapes in which humans operate, but we must also consider the impacts of these shifting environs on the scope of human health; indeed, we must treat health itself as one of the dynamic and essential spaces in which humans live, move, and interact with each other and with the land. Where then, and how, are we in this increasingly diverse and out-ward reaching field to locate our work within our
"mother" discipline of anthropology? Why should we do so? We encourage presenters to think and comment on how we - as anthropologists - can critique and contribute to the study of health as a human landscape – as more than just a measure of qualities and factors that exist in the physical or social landscapes of human societies. This session asks presenters to comment critically and creatively about the place of health research within anthropology, and of anthropology within health research. Papers from all areas of health anthropology are invited to enrich our appreciation of the diversity of this field.

The Connected Arctic

Jensen, Anne (UIC Science LLC), Herbert Maschner (Idaho State University), and Owen Mason (INSTAAR, GeoArch Alaska)

Although the Arctic tends to be viewed as a place apart, both in the sociocultural sense and as a research area, the first has never been true, and the second is becoming less so. This symposium will look at the Connected Arctic from both perspectives. Papers on any aspect of trade and/or travel (pre- or post-contact) from one or more disciplinary perspectives are welcome, as long as they involve the Arctic. We are interested in both specific case studies and methodological works. We also welcome papers dealing with aspects of connected Arctic research, including virtual repositories which can be used from multiple locations, shared databases, digital teaching and outreach tools, and social media. (Symposium sponsored by the Arctic Conference.)

NAGPRA at 20: "Now What?"

Linn, Angela (University of Alaska Museum of the North), and James Whitney (University of Alaska Museum of the North)

In 2010, NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) turned 20. Many people are left wondering what has improved as a result of this far-reaching legislation. Countless museums and federally recognized tribes describe the positive interactions they have had through the repatriation of human remains and the beneficial effects on source communities is well documented. However, for the museums, federal agencies, and archaeologists who are held accountable for both the collection and care of the human remains and cultural objects described within the law, as well as the implementation of the regulations, there are often more complicated stories to tell. This session, in the form of a moderated roundtable discussion, will provide an open forum for anthropologists, museum professionals, and tribal members alike to discuss the challenges of implementing NAGPRA over the past 20 years. Please note: This is not a b*%ch session! We hope attendees will ask difficult questions and together, we can determine how the Alaskan anthropological community can better work together to get beyond the "warm-and-fuzzy" success stories and get back into the trenches to work out the challenging tasks of assessing collections, reporting, consulting, evaluating requests, and collaborating with tribal entities and individuals.

Enduring Cultures: Changing Landscapes in Southeast Alaska

Monteith, Daniel (University of Alaska Southeast)

Alaska Native peoples and cultures have shown notable resilience in the face of a rapidly changing landscape in southeast Alaska. Climate change and changes in the natural world due to glacial forces are impacting the supply and abundance of local foods and resources. Economic and community development also plays a significant role in altering ecosystem services and food securities. A focus on historical, as well as contemporary, processes of landscape change will be examined.
Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology in Northwestern North America

Potter, Ben A. (University of Alaska Fairbanks)
Recent discoveries in northern and central Alaska have transformed our understanding of the earliest periods of human colonization and occupation in the region. Results from intrasite and intersite investigations using various approaches geared toward understanding technological organization and human ecology have yielded more comprehensive datasets to illuminate early human behavioral strategies. This symposium builds on recent symposia (2010-2011) to facilitate presentation and discussion of new discoveries, excavations, and lab investigations, as well as theoretical contributions to understanding the early prehistory of the region. Specific topics are open, but we encourage work involving human/environment interactions.

Collectors and Collections

Rogers, Jason (University of Exeter, Northern Land Use Research, Inc.), and Evgenia Anichenko (Anchorage Museum)
Our knowledge of late pre-contact and contact-period Alaska Native cultures is strongly influenced by ethnographic accounts and collections made by explorers who began coming to Alaska in the mid-18th century. These “outsiders” came to Alaska from different countries and for various reasons. Their collections reflect not only the places and peoples they encountered, but also the personalities and mentalities of the collectors. The fates of these collections (much like the people who assembled them) were often filled with unexpected turns and onward journeys. The objects provide important insight into Alaska Native cultures of the time, but also bear the imprint of the lives and personalities of the collectors, as well as the socio-political circumstances that brought them to Alaska. Just as the lives of Alaska Native peoples were changed by contact with outsiders, so were these voyagers affected by the worlds they encountered on their journeys. This session explores important collections of Alaskan artifacts in the context of the embedded connection with the lives and personalities of the original collectors.

Historical Archaeology

Whitney, Jim (University of Alaska Museum of the North), and Molly Proue (Northern Land Use Research)
This session provides a forum for recent research and current discussion topics on the historical archaeology of Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The session will begin with research papers and close with an open forum discussion focused on resolving issues related to recording and curating historical archaeology assemblages. We will continue the discussion from last year’s historic archaeology curation session, provide an update of progress made, and focus efforts for the future.
Paper and Poster Abstracts

Alix, Claire (Université de Paris), P. Gregory Hare, Thomas D. Andrews, and Glen MacKay (Yukon Government): “Arrow shafts of the northwestern Canadian Subarctic ice patches” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

Archaeological finds in alpine ice patches provide a unique opportunity to analyze hunting equipment that is rarely recovered in usual archaeological settings. In this paper, we describe the analysis of twenty-seven complete or near-complete arrow shafts from two ice patch regions of the Western Canadian Subarctic dated to the last 3600 years. While no strict correlation exists yet between the identified shaft types and the $^{14}$C dates, we propose a preliminary chrono-typology. We then discuss the potential for function, trade, or travel to explain variation between the shafts.

Anderson, Shelby (Portland State University): “Ceramic Sourcing and Social Interaction in Northwest Alaska” (The Connected Arctic)

Social networks are considered essential to human occupation of Arctic environments. These networks are also considered key to the development of social complexity in northern hunter-gatherer groups. Ceramic and clay sourcing, along with ceramic formal data, are used to test hypotheses about the nature and extent of social networks over the last 1000 years in Northwest Alaska, which was a period characterized by significant social and environmental change. Results suggest ceramics were circulating more widely than expected and also hint at changes in raw material procurement strategies during the study period that may be related to changing mobility or networking strategies. Methodological issues associated with applying standard analytical techniques to northern ceramics were identified through the course of this analysis. A revised approach to studying northern ceramics is considered with reference to future northern ceramic research.

Anichenko, Evgenia (Anchorage Museum): “Yuri Lisianski’s Collections and the first Russian round-the-world expedition” (Collectors and Collections)

In 1803 Russia outfitted two ships, Nadezhda and Neva, to undertake the first Russian round-the-world expedition to the coast of Alaska. The impact of this voyage on the history of Russian America is hard to overestimate. Sailing from St. Petersburg to Kodiak, the ships established a new avenue of supply for the colonies, positioned Russia as a maritime empire in the international arena, and even played a decisive role in the 1804 battle of Sitka. The collection of Alaskan objects acquired by Yuri Lisianski, the captain of the Neva, provides a fascinating glimpse into the personal, political and ethical issues of collecting during the first years of the Russian-American company and into the fate of Alaskan collections in Russian museums.

Arndt, Katherine L. (Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Cruising the Straits: Russian-American Company Visits to Kake, Alaska, and Vicinity in the 1860s” (Cultural Anthropology: General Session)

The Russian-American Company annually sent a trading steamer to Kake, Alaska, and vicinity in the 1860s. While the surviving vessel logs do not tell us everything we would like to know about Russian dealings with the local inhabitants, they do provide some surprising information about the extent of Kake Tlingit involvement in the potato and firewood trade in the years immediately preceding the sale of Alaska to the United States.
Barton, Loukas (University of Pittsburgh), Scott Shirar (University of Alaska Museum), Jeff Rasic (National Park Service), and James Jordan (Antioch University of New England): “Emerging patterns in the prehistoric human occupation of the central Alaska Peninsula” (Northern Demographies, Past and Present)

History and ecology in southwest Alaska carpet a volatile surface, shaped and reshaped by volcanic unrest. Indeed, the Alaska Peninsula is today an active laboratory of post-volcanic succession, and from the latter half of the 20th century much of the region’s archaeology has been trained on the human dimensions of the subject. Together with pre-existing data, new results from the Chignik-Meshik Rivers Region Archaeological Reconnaissance Project illustrate spatial and temporal patterns that suggest recurrent processes of regional abandonment and subsequent re-colonization. When combined with volcanic records, these data help to test ideas about the role of catastrophic landscape change in human history, adaptation, and diversification.

Bernick, Kathryn (Royal British Columbia Museum): “Revisioning Material Culture: Northwest Coast Basketry Hats” (Coastal Archaeology)

Archaeological finds reveal that conventional analyses of Northwest Coast basketry hats reflect a Euro-American perspective that is at odds with their actual structure. For example, a Tlingit-style specimen from the Katete River in the upper Stikine region cannot be described as having a crown or a brim even though it fulfills the functions of those hat components. That distinction applies throughout the Northwest Coast from ancient times into the post-contact era. Considering them to be variants of European hats has obscured characteristics that signify a Pacific Rim traditional technology and the consequent implications regarding cultural relationships in antiquity.

Blanchard, Morgan (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.): “The History of Portage: Trying to Understand a Wide Spot in the Road” (Historical Archaeology)

Portage, on the Turnagain Arm, was a thriving “wide spot in the road” along the Seward Highway until it was destroyed by the Good Friday Earthquake of March 27, 1964. Despite the fact that Portage survived well into the modern era, surprisingly little is known about the history of the town and the people who lived there. This paper covers what is known about Portage and discusses some of the reasons for its historic obscurity and how they impact efforts to learn more about the community and its residents.

Blong, John (Texas A&M University): “Prehistoric Upland Adaptations in the Upper Susitna Basin, Central Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

The Alaska Range uplands play an important role in understanding human settlement of central Alaska, from reconstructing hunter-gatherer adaptation to evaluating current explanations of lithic assemblage variability. In summer 2011 we continued archaeological survey and testing of the upper Susitna basin, documenting human use from earliest to latest Holocene. Since 2010, we have recorded 19 new prehistoric sites. We initially tested three of these, along with two previously recorded sites in the study area. With this information, we are exploring variation in lithic technology and subsistence activities, and how these may relate to local environmental change and upland land use.
Bowman, Robert C., Joshua D. Reuther, Peter M. Bowers, and Jason Rogers (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.): “Ground Penetrating Radar in Alaska: An Analysis of Data recorded in 2011” (Archaeology: General Session)

The use of geophysical technology, especially Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), in archaeology is a relatively new in Alaska, with room for growth in both academic and cultural resource management settings. During the 2011 summer field season we conducted GPR surveys at both historic and prehistoric archaeological sites as well as several non-archaeological locations. Surveys were conducted during the winter and spring to assess variability in projected wave return and penetration of sediments during different seasons, temperatures, and relative moisture levels. The results at most locations were favorable; especially in terms of stratigraphic correlation, discrete strata detection, and some subsurface feature analysis. A few difficulties encountered during the process were due primarily to local surface conditions and wave penetration problems. This paper presents our 2011 GPR results that span several environmental, geological, and archaeological settings.

Brown, Sarah, Christyann Darwent, and Ben Sacks (UC Davis): “Ancient DNA analysis of Canid remains from Cape Espenberg, Alaska” (The Connected Arctic)

The Thule people are known for their innovation and rapid colonization of the North American Arctic, ca. 1000 years ago. A distinguishing characteristic of Thule culture relative to previous Arctic cultures was increased use of dogs, particularly for dogsled traction. Use of dogs by the Thule is reflected in the archaeological record by an increase in dog remains in zooarchaeological assemblages and carnivore damage on faunal remains. As part of a larger, Arctic-wide project examining the temporal and spatial distribution of dog remains and dog/human co-migrations, we present the results of dog haplotype diversity changes at Cape Espenberg, Alaska, from archaeological deposits ranging from early Thule (A.D. 1278–1440) to late Thule/early Inupiat (A.D. 1676–1800). We also confirm use of other canid species (wolf, fox) for subsistence and ornamentation. Finally, we compare our results to early Thule and Polar Inughuit dogs from sites in northwestern Greenland, and to modern Inuit dogs.

Brown, William A. (University of Washington): “Revisiting the Early Kachemak Demographic Transition” (Northern Demographies, Past and Present)

Ben Fitz Hugh’s demographic model for prehistoric Kodiak suggests a period of growth generated by the emergence of a delayed-return economy during the mid-4th millennium BP. However, evidential support for such growth seemed lacking, instead suggesting discernible growth ~1k years later than expected. Three developments over the last decade warrant a reevaluation of this scenario: (1) marked improvements in the methods used to construct temporal frequency distributions (tfds, archaeological records sometimes used as proxies for population growth); (2) increase in the number of dated Kodiak sites; and (3) a revision of the estimated age for the beginning of the Kachemak period – a proxy for the critical economic reorganization – back to ~4k BP. I present a regression analysis of updated Kodiak tfds which divides these records into stationary and geometric growth phases and compare the inferred transition thresholds to the revised date for the emergence of the Kachemak tradition.
**Bucher, Gudrun** (University of Gottingen): “From Russian America to Oldenburg – The Kupreanof Collection in the Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch” (*Collectors and Collections*)  
The Landesmuseum Natur und Mensch in Oldenburg, Germany holds a 19th Century collection with objects from Russian America. It was sent as a present of Ivan Antonovich Kupreanof to the newly founded museum in 1841. Together with the items the museum received a letter and list of objects written in St. Petersburg by Count Tolstoy explaining parts of the background of the collection. In today’s inventory 139 items are listed as part of the Kupreanof Collection. One of the many problems and open questions regarding this collection is that the original list contained only 98 ethnographic objects. In the talk I will present a few highlights of the collection and elucidate the background story of this famous gift to Oldenburg and the life of Kupreanof.

**Bucher, Gudrun** (University of Gottingen): “Russian America in Göttingen” (*Collectors and Collections*)  
Göttingen University (Germany) possesses two 18th Century ethnographic collections. One derives from the voyages of Captain James Cook and the other was sent from St. Petersburg to Göttingen by Baron Georg Thomas von Asch. Both collections contain Alaskan objects, which will be presented during the talk.

**Buvit, Ian** (Central Washington U), **William Hedman** (BLM), **Steven Kuehn**, and **Jeff Rasic** (NSF): “Geomorphology, Stratigraphy, and Formation of the Raven Bluff Site, NW Alaska” (*Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology*)  
Raven Bluff is on a flat area near the top of a remnant limestone knob overlooking a series of cut terraces formed when the Kivalina River dissected local glacial outwash. Numerical dates indicate initial occupation at least 10,000 $^{14}$C yrs BP. Much of the Raven Bluff landform is mantled by coarse, grain-supported angular limestone gravel covered by a thin veneer of loess, but testing identified an artifact-rich, 1.0 m-deep layer of matrix-supported gravel overlain by as much as 65 cm of clayey and silty mud at the site. Its soil profile exhibits O-A-Bw1-Bw2-CR horzonation, reflecting in part the geomorphic position and environmental conditions where the main human activity occurred. Despite evidence of freeze-thaw and rodent activity, the archaeological material is relatively undisturbed. Understanding formation processes and stratigraphy is important here because of the rare Late Pleistocene-age fauna and artifacts (microblades, fluted points) that previously have had poor chronological control in Arctic Alaska.

**Callanan, Martin** (NTNU, Trondheim, Norway): “No Mon’ No Fun? -Managing Archaeological Snow Patches on a Shoestring” (*Archaeological Compliance and Survey*)  
Managing archaeological snow patches is a tricky business. They often lie in remote areas. The melts that produce finds cannot be predicted or controlled. Artifacts can appear on sites suddenly and sporadically over periods of years to decades. Seen in this light, snow patches pose a serious challenge to CRM regimes and the approach taken varies between regions. In a few cases, medium-term funding has been secured. In others, short-term research projects have been established. Some regions with great potential receive no funding at all. In this paper I present the case of Central Norway, where a large snow patch collection has been recovered by an informal network of voluntary collectors. This has been done without any earmarked funds. I also raise a number of questions - what
are the costs and benefits of this approach? Which elements should be maintained or discarded in the future? Which elements might be applicable to other snow patch regions in a similar situation?

**Carraher, Sally** (McMaster University; CANHelp Working Group): “A Journey Inside Ourselves: Mapping the Shared Spaces of Humans and Stomach Bugs” (*Health as a Human Landscape*)

Helicobacter pylori is the bacterium that causes ulcers and stomach cancer in humans. Epidemiology has demonstrated that H. pylori likely spreads directly from person to person; disproportionately infects poor and marginalized peoples globally; and is highly prevalent in the Arctic. Epidemiological research often uses the proxies “ethnictiy” or “socio-economic status” to explain risk of infection, with little or no consideration of spatial attributes. New H. pylori research in Aklavik, Northwest Territories combines methods from epidemiology, ethnography, and geography. Since September, 2011, I have been engaging in participant observation while working for the Aklavik H. pylori Project. In this preliminary analysis, I reconstruct the spaces in which H. pylori moves among individuals, households, extended kin groups, and the whole community, paying particular attention to the ways in which ethnic identities and socio-economic status cross-cut kin groups and residences.

**Carter, Fawn, and Christopher Houlette** (University of Alaska Museum of the North): “Managing the Gadgets: Breathing new Life into Languishing Collections” (*Collectors and Collections*)

Throughout the 1930s University of Alaska archaeologists collected tens of thousands of artifacts from sites across the northern shore of St. Lawrence Island, Alaska. Most of these collections, housed at the UA Museum of the North, have lain dormant over the past several decades. Recent stabilization and re-housing of the objects and rediscovered legacy data have opened the door to more robust inter- and intra-site analyses allowing researchers to revisit the initial interpretations of the collections. This paper will discuss both past and present research with an emphasis on the importance of thorough and attentive collections management.

**Casper, Molly R.** (University of Oregon, Bureau of Land Management): “The Importance of Birds in Ocean Bay Subsistence: Results from the Mink Island Site, Alaska” (*Coastal Archaeology*)

This paper presents the results of analysis of the bird remains from the oldest components, or "Lower Midden" (7500-4100 cal B.P.), of the Mink Island archaeological site (49-XMK-030), located along the coast of Katmai National Park and Preserve, Alaska. The Lower Midden bird assemblage is well preserved, extensive, and the oldest known from the Pacific coast of the Alaska Peninsula. An estimated 40,000 bird bone fragments were recovered, of which 10% were identifiable to at least the family level, demonstrating that birds, particularly murres, cormorants, and anatids, were an important seasonal resource in marine-based economies by the Middle Holocene. The Lower Midden bird remains and four other avifaunal assemblages from archaeological sites on the Katmai coast and Kodiak Island, including the Taklit Island (49-XMK-012), Tiny Island Village (49-XMK-106), Tiny Island Passage I (49-XMK-109), and Rice Ridge (49-KOD-363) sites are found to share similarities.

**Chan, Amy** (Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center, Arizona State University): “An Ethnoarchaeological Approach to Understanding Ivory Production in Point Hope, Alaska” (*The Connected Arctic*)

For almost 75 years, the ancient Ipiutak site with its delicately engraved ivory implements has garnered intense archaeological interest. This paper proposes an ethnoarchaeological approach to understanding changing modes of ivory production within Point Hope, Alaska. The project stems
from a period of community-based work with contemporary carvers offering insight into ivory techniques and designs. To understand ancient processes of production and consumption I draw on past examinations of archaeological sites and assemblages. To analyze links and discontinuities between ancient and historic processes, I rely on object analyses and information from ethnohistorical accounts and oral histories. Examining ivory production through the lens of ethnoarchaeology opens the possibility of a multi-sited and cross-cultural approach to studying technological and stylistic changes ensuing from periods of increased contact within the Bering Sea.

Coffman, Sam and Ben Potter (University of Alaska Museum of the North): “Lithic Analysis and Component Activities from Teklanika West (HEA-001), Central Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

Recent excavations at Teklanika West have revealed that the site contains at least five cultural components dating from the late Pleistocene to late Holocene. Tool manufacture and weapons refurbishment were key activities occurring at the site. Lithic tool and debitage characteristics from Components 1–3 differ noticeably with later components (4-5). We explore these differences with respect to environmental change, faunal resources exploited at the site, and landscape use.

Cook, John P. (Fairbanks, Alaska), Tom Gillispie (TCC), and Robert Sattler (TCC): “Return to Healy Lake” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

New excavations at the Linda's Point site have initiated collaborative efforts to renew investigation and analysis of material previously found at Healy Lake in the Village and Garden sites. These efforts have so far led to a more refined characterization of site stratigraphy and dating than previously published and are hereby presented. The Chindadn occupations at the Village site, dating as old as 13,560 calibrated years BP, are confirmed to be clearly distinct from later components. Chindadn also appears to be represented at Linda's Point, dated more than 13,000 calibrated years BP. Sedimentary deposits at the Village site and Linda's Point appear very similar, allowing for close stratigraphic comparisons between cultural horizons. The analysis aims at clarifying the cultural stratigraphy, particularly within the Chindadn levels, and to more clearly relate this key terminal Pleistocene complex to on-going archaeological research in the Tanana Basin, eastern Beringia, and elsewhere.

Cooper, H. Kory (Purdue University), Nicholas Waber (University of Victoria), and Carey Patterson (Purdue University): “Prehistoric Copper Innovation(s) on the Northwest Coast” (Coastal Archaeology)

Native copper artifacts are frequently viewed as prestige goods by North American archaeologists, and thus, important to discussions of the development and expression of social complexity in the past, including the Northwest Coast. The appearance of native copper metallurgy at different times and places in the past provides an opportunity to examine the relationship between technological innovation and social complexity among diverse hunter-gatherers, but this has been difficult to do for the Northwest Coast without an understanding of the quantity and geographic distribution of prehistoric copper artifacts in this region, and adjacent interior Plateau. This paper provides an updated overview of the archaeological occurrence of native copper in southeastern Alaska and British Columbia and offers a preliminary explanation of the processes of innovation that might account for this distribution.
Crass, Barbara A., Brant L. Edrowski, and Jeffrey A. Behm (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh): “Return to FAME: Archaeochemistry of Lipids” (Poster Session 2)

Fatty acid methyl esters (FAMEs) extractions of late Pleistocene/early Holocene hearth residues from the Swan Point and Mead sites in the Alaskan interior are compared to known modern samples of bone and dung. Identification of lipid carbon chain lengths and calculation of chain ratios indicate differences in source material: specifically herbivore dung, herbivore bone or waterfowl bone. This is an update of our ongoing research in bone fueled hearths.

Cros, Dale R. (South Puget Sound Community College and Washington State University): “Salish Sea Wet Site Archaeology: Ancient Basketry as the Key to defining Long-term Salish Heritage” (Coastal Archaeology)

Waterlogged/Wet archaeological site exploration has demonstrated an enduring Salishan basketry tradition over the past 3000 years throughout the core and newly named Salish Sea, stylistically linking sites from the Gulf of Georgia to the southern end of Puget Sound. The twelve main sites investigated add cultural historical justification for the name change. The considerable continuity of the Salish Tradition over this area is explored, and how this evolution is reflected through the non-basketry versus basketry artifacts throughout the Central Northwest Coast region. The patterns demonstrate both the sharing of extra-regional artifact styles (used to define archaeological phases) and intra-regional guarding of artifact styles, particularly basketry (used here to trace proposed Salish ethnicity).

Curtis, Tiffany Ann (University of Alaska Anchorage) and Robin O. Mills (BLM):
“DendroArcheology on the Fortymile River, Alaska or ‘Get the Yeti!’” (Historical Archaeology)

The Eastern Interior Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management in Alaska initiated an ambitious project for the Summer Field Season of 2011: to build live tree chronologies of White Spruce for the entire Fortymile Wild and Scenic River corridor, Beaver Creek Wild River corridor, and Birch Creek Wild River corridor, all totaling about 550 river miles. Once completed, these chronologies will be used to date the numerous historic log cabins, buildings, and other structures found within these corridors. Many of these buildings are significant to Interior Alaska’s gold mining and trapping heritages, livelihoods that continue along these rivers to this day. A total of 1,687 core samples were taken, representing both live trees and 77 historic sites. This paper will review the work undertaken in 2011, and the results that have so far been achieved.

Easton, Norman Alexander (Yukon College): “Yukon College's Field School in Subarctic Archaeology and Ethnography for Undergraduates” (Poster Session 1)

The School of Liberal Arts at Yukon College has offered a field school in subarctic archaeology and ethnography since 1994 specifically aimed at junior undergraduates from around the world and local aboriginal youth. For the past ten years this has been in collaboration with the White River First Nation of Beaver Creek, Yukon on the Yukon - Alaska border, undertaking regional survey and area excavations at the Little John site. In addition to archaeological work, students are required to participate in local community events (celebrations, potlatches, tournaments, and subsistence camps) and develop skills in ethnography and linguistics. Regular site visits by Elders provide instruction in local mythology, history, and contemporary issues. The program supports senior undergradate and graduate student participation in advanced analytical procedures and thesis production in both
archaeology and ethnography. For more information contact Norman Alexander Easton at northeaston@gmail.com

Easton, Norman Alexander (Yukon College), Michael Grooms (University of New Mexico), and Jordan Handley (Simon Fraser University): “2011 Excavations at the Little John Site (KdVo6), Yukon Territory, Canada” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)
This paper reports on continued excavations at the Little John site near the Yukon – Alaska border in 2011. Additional remains and features related to historic, late prehistoric, Holocene, and late Pleistocene occupations at the site were recovered. Area excavations focussed on strata below well-defined paleosols containing lithic and faunal remains securely dated to between 8.9 and 10.9 K radiocarbon years (CAL 9.8 – 11.7 Kya), which included a diffuse paleosol stratum containing concentrations of wood fragments. A single sample of this wood, provisionally identified as birch (Betula), was dated to 10,840 radiocarbon years (CAL 12,845 years). Additional analytical results will be discussed.

Edwards, Alexandra (University of Alaska Anchorage): “Repatriation in practice: The process of repatriation in New Zealand and the United States” (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)
Numerous countries are endeavoring to address the issue of the repatriation human remains. In this paper, an overview and comparison of the practice of repatriation in two countries that have developed different frameworks and strategies around the return of human remains, New Zealand and the United States, will be presented. The context of the development of repatriation policies or legislation in each country will be reviewed, as well as the methods employed to put these into practice. Emphasis will be on how these processes differ, and the impact these processes have had on outcomes and relationships between indigenous groups and the museums involved in the return of human remains.

Eldridge, Kelly A. (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, University of Alaska Anchorage): “The Snake River Sandspit Site: A Late Western Thule site in Nome, Alaska” (Coastal Archaeology)
The three known loci of the Snake River Sandspit site (49-NOM-00146) were discovered in 2005 and 2006 during the construction of harbor improvements in Nome, Alaska. Two loci were excavated in 2006; analyses of the recovered artifacts and faunal remains were completed in 2011. The Snake River Sandspit site is shown to be a year-round habitation dating to around AD 1750, and a regional variant of the Late Western Thule culture. This site is the first example of an indigenous settlement in Nome, Alaska, and is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Esdale, Julie A. (Colorado State University, U.S. Army): “Northern Archaic-Athabaskan Transition in Central Alaska” (Archaeology: General Session)
With recent linguistic evidence tying modern Athabaskan languages to distant times and places, there has been a renewed interest in tracing the roots of Athabaskan culture. The origins of Athabaskan assemblages are difficult to ascertain, but appear to be more closely tied to interior Northern Archaic assemblages than coastal Arctic Small Tool traditions. This paper examines Northern Archaic and Athabaskan lithic assemblages from several sites on Army and BLM lands to determine whether there is any continuity among assemblages from the middle and late Holocene in interior Alaska.
Etnier, Michael A. (Western Washington University): “A unique faunal assemblage from the Kodiak Archipelago” (Coastal Archaeology)

The Refuge Rock site (KOD 450) is well known as the site of a brutal massacre in 1784. Less appreciated is the fact that 28 house pits and well-preserved faunal midden were documented in the 1990s. The midden sample is dominated by fur seals and large halibut. Fur seal is a common component of Late prehistoric sites in southern Kodiak, but always in conjunction with harbor seals. Unlike other Kodiak samples, harbor seal is virtually absent from the Refuge Rock sample. Bird remains are scarce, with only a few ducks represented, while fish include a broad spectrum of species ranging from herring to sculpins to cod, in addition to the large halibut. The fur seal harvest focused on adult females and sub-adult males. No fur seal pups have been identified. This suggests the hunt focused on migrating fur seals, rather than a previously undocumented rookery.

Ewing, Diana (UC Davis): “Use of Baleen by Thule-period Inhabitants of Cape Espenberg, Alaska” (Poster Session I)

Over two field seasons, six Thule-period house depressions were excavated at Cape Espenberg, on southwestern Kotzebue Sound. These range in age from ca. AD 900-1700; however, baleen was only recovered from houses dating to pre-AD 1400 (N=146). Baleen appears to have been restricted to permafrost layers in the tunnel & living floors. Most baleen strips were cut to a width of ~5 mm, and of these pieces four had preserved knots. From the the oldest house depression a 38x567 mm piece of baleen was modified into a sled shoe that had 2 rivet holes likely for affixing it to a sled runner with wooden pegs. Although baleen has been noted from many Thule sites across the Arctic little systematic analysis of the material has been undertaken in a similar fashion to bone or wood artifacts, thus this site represents a rare opportunity to study baleen modification and use by early Thule in Alaska.

Fitzhugh, Ben, and William Brown (University of Washington): “Paleodemography of the Kuril Archipelago: Environmental variability and social networks” (Northern Demographics, Past and Present)

Remote and relatively isolated places can be challenging for population colonization and survival. Demographic persistence is conditioned on reproductive continuity through far-flung community networks, mechanisms for adapting to both predictable and unpredictable resource shortfalls and natural catastrophes. Remote communities dependent on interactions with populations in less remote areas can also be vulnerable to changes in the political and economic forces motivating network participation of less remote partners. This talk will use a proxy model of paleodemography to explore issues of demographic variability in the context of catastrophic events, climate change, and interactions with more densely populated continental "core areas". We will also offer some conjectures about the relative importance of natural increase and migration as separate components of population growth, responsive to these factors.

Flaming, Jay (University of Washington and National Park Service): “Analytical Monitoring for Cultural Resource Vulnerability and Risk Reduction” (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)

Climate change represents an intensification of existing natural and human threats to cultural resources, such as historic and archaeological sites. Detecting and responding to these threats is critical to preserving our heritage. Alaskan sites face threats from rising sea levels, changing fire regimes, unstable permafrost zones, and vegetation shifts. We are not prepared to meet all these
challenges at the moment, but there are several practical methods for monitoring these threats that can be implemented with existing technology, using GIS, remote sensing, and in-situ monitoring, as well as several ways we can change our practices to improve our ability to monitor these threats in the future.

**Fleming, Kim** (East Carolina University): “North Carolina’s Big Push: Social Action and Motivation to Re-Orient Birth in North Carolina” *(Health as a Human Landscape)*

North Carolina is one of 23 states in which homebirth is essentially illegal, and giving birth in an out-of-hospital birth center is virtually impossible (with only one such center existing in the entire state.) Certain classes of midwifery are effectively illegal due to lack of systems for licensure, while the classes that are legal practice with no real autonomy. This study explores the motivations of North Carolinians engaging in social action aimed at the restrictive legislative environment, and uses data from community-based studies to explore contested notions of authority and control in midwifery licensing debates.

**Gelvin-Reymiller, Carol, Josh Reuther, Justin Hays, Jason Rogers** (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.), and **Chris Wooley** (Chumis Cultural Resource Services): “Spatial Modeling in Southwest/Southcentral Alaska” *(Poster Session 2)*

The CRM firm Northern Land Use Research, Inc. used ArcGIS software to assist archaeologists in survey design during the ongoing Donlin Gold project (2004-2011). The study area spans several ecozones from Cook Inlet to Crooked Creek on the middle Kuskokwim River in Southwest Alaska. Environmental and behavioral variables associated with boreal ecology coupled with known archaeological sites were used as the initial basis for modeling prehistoric site potential. Acquired site information was used in a subsequent reiteration to refine the model. Methods and results of modeling efforts are illustrated, along with issues for future consideration.

**Gilbert, Phoebe J., Christopher Ciancibelli, and Jeffrey T. Rasic** (National Park Service): “Preliminary Results of the Upper Kobuk River Archaeological Inventory and Testing” *(Poster Session 1)*

The Kobuk River preserve in Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve is a 616,479 acre area with a rich archaeological record. This poster presents the results of three years of survey and testing in this study unit. Over 250 prehistoric and historic sites were recorded during the project. Historic ruins, pit features, buried sites, and surface lithic scatters were all documented. Analysis and comparison of surface lithic scatters, the most frequently encountered site type, in conjunction with the other site types provides insights into the dynamics of the prehistoric populations that occupied the region.

**Gordaoff, Roberta** (University of Alaska Anchorage): “A Comparison of Lithic Tools from Upland and Coastal Sites on Adak Island, Alaska” *(Coastal Archaeology)*

Pre-contact sites in the Aleutian Islands have been stereotyped as occurring only on the coasts of the islands. Recent archaeological surveys and excavations have located and excavated noncoastal sites on Adak Island in the Central Aleutian Islands of Alaska. Results of published analyses of lithic tools from three coastal sites from North Adak by Elizabeth Wilmerding and Virginia Hatfield on Adak Island in the Central Aleutian Islands of Alaska, are compared to the tools from three upland sites. The purpose of the analysis is to determine is similar activities were taking place at the upland sites.
and the coastal sites using tool types and materials used at these sites. A preliminary examination indicates that the stone tools at the upland sites are similar to the coastal sites with the obvious absence of fishing equipment.

Graf, Kelly (Texas A&M), Nancy Bigelow (UAF), Ted Goebel (Texas A&M), Angela Gore (Texas A&M), and Angela Younie (Texas A&M): “Dry Creek Site Revisited” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

Dry Creek, located in the Nenana valley of central Alaska, is still one of the most important archaeological sites in Beringia. Original work illustrated the presence of two separate cultural layers and established that the site was visited at least twice by Upper Paleolithic hunter-gatherers at 13,000 cal BP and later at 12,000 cal BP. Several researchers have questioned the geoarchaeological integrity of the site’s early deposits, suggesting separation of cultural layers resulted from postdepositional processes. Last summer we revisited Dry Creek to undertake a comprehensive study of dating and site formation. In this paper we present our findings that reaffirm original interpretations.

Greiser, T. Weber (HRA Missoula and NIH Anchorage): “Working with Lew Binford in Alaska and New Mexico” (Archaeology: General Session)

From 1969 to 1972, Dr. Lewis R. Binford spent three seasons undertaking ethnoarchaeological fieldwork among the Nunamiut Eskimo in and around Anaktuvuk Pass in the Central Brooks Range. As a graduate student of Lew’s at the University of New Mexico I spent the field seasons of 1971 and 1972 excavating Nunamiut sites dating from the 1800s to the mid-1900s and learning ethnoarchaeology by working with people who knew stories about the sites and lived at some of the sites we excavated. During this time I also began my career in zooarchaeology through learning to analyze caribou bones from the project. This presentation illustrates some of the work we did in Anaktuvuk Pass, best known through Lew’s publication Nunamiut Ethnoarchaeology.

Grooms, Michael C. (University of New Mexico) and N.A. Easton (Yukon College): “Stratigraphy and Chronology at the Little John Site, Yukon Territory” (Poster Session I)

Archaeological excavations at the Little John site continue to reveal the complexity of depositional events and processes that have occurred over the past 15,000 cal BP years. This poster presents a preliminary study that seeks to examine the relationship of these depositional events with the archaeological record to clarify how past climate changes and events correlate with technological changes after the Last Glacial Maximum (15,000 cal BP-8,000 cal BP) in far eastern Beringia.

Grover, Margan Allyn (Bold Peak Archaeological Services): “Archaeological Extinction on the Beaufort Sea Coast” (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)

In 2010 and 2011, the Corps of Engineers and Native Village of Kaktovik began an extensive documentation of archaeological sites from Flaxman Island to the Alaska-Yukon border. Using a handheld Trimble, all known coastal sites and coastlines were documented. The data was then compared to historic data, with special emphasis on data collected in the early 1980s. When sites were relocated, we noted little taphonomic degradation of individual features over the last 28 years. Overall, about one-third of sites documented in 1982 were gone and another third had some loss of features or were measurably affected by wind and storm driven sands or water. Almost all the remaining sites are threatened by coastal change. This paper will provide a brief summary of the study.
**Hanson, Diane K.** (University of Alaska Anchorage): “An Amaknak Bridge Style house from an Adak Island Upland site” *(Coastal Archaeology)*

Archaeological excavations in summer 2011 on western Adak Island, focused on a house feature at ADK-237, an upland pre-contact Unangan site. The house floor is 3.7 x 4 meters with charcoal and ocre concentrations. Nearly all the artifacts are lithic, and most were in the midden around the house with few on the floor itself. Obsidian flakes recovered were determined by Jeff Rasic to have come from Okmok caldera on Unnak Island, 415 miles to the east. The most remarkable feature of the house are channels diverging from the hearth at the wall. This feature is similar to those reported in houses at the Margaret Bay and Amaknak Bridge sites. We are waiting for the radiocarbon dates to determine if they are also similar in age.

**Hare, P. Gregory, Ruth M. Gotthardt, and Christian Thomas** (Yukon Cultural Service Branch): “Yukon’s Early Holocene – A Series of Small Observations” *(Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)*

Recent discoveries of fragile organic artifacts and faunal elements at melting ice patches of southwest Yukon have cast light on previously little known aspects of early Holocene technology and ecology in Northwestern North America. This paper reviews the concept of “Early Holocene” in the Yukon, and offers a series of observations from recent work conducted in the territory’s alpine. Among other things, we note different techniques and woods for manufacturing throwing darts, the association of slotted points with throwing dart technology and the presence of high altitude bison.

**Haven, Forest** (University of Alaska Southeast): “From Herring Eggs to Deer Meat: Contemporary Benefits of Traditional Resources in Southeast Alaska” *(Enduring Cultures: Changing Landscapes in Southeast Alaska)*

Southeast Alaska Native people continue to rely on the seasonal cycle of traditional foods from the land and the sea. Families hunt, fish and gather using modern technology to collect the same resources used by their ancestors. This paper discusses the current types and uses of traditional foods consumed in three different communities in southern Southeast Alaska as well as exploring how the knowledge and use of these foods connects Native people to their family, land and culture. Despite the impact of today’s fast food culture, the harvesting, processing and consumption of traditional foods remain a dynamic force in revitalizing Alaska Native cultures.

**Hawes, Kathleen L.** (Pacific Northwest Archaeological Services): “Analysis and Interpretation of Archaeological Wood Charcoal Macro-Remains” *(Archaeology: General Session)*

The analysis and interpretation of wood charcoal macro-remains from archaeological sites has been extensively used by archaeobotanists and paleoecologists in Europe as a means for reconstructing past vegetation, and by inference, climate patterns. Defined as the charred remains of a plant’s woody structures, predominantly from trees and shrubs; charcoal is the most common plant material recovered archaeologically, due to the fact that it preserves in most conditions. The technique of cellular analysis by microscopic examination has been used in identifying archaeological charcoal to genus and often to species from several Northwest Coast archaeological sites, and the possibilities for reconstructing past vegetation as well as identifying cultural preferences by early Native Peoples for fuelwood will be described.
Hays, Justin M., Justin M. Hays, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Joshua D. Reuther, Jason S. Rogers, (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.) and Christopher B. Wooley (Chumis Cultural Resources Services): “Iditarod National [Pre]Historic Trail” (Poster Session 2)

The Iditarod Trail is arguably the most recognizable trail in Alaska. The gold rush, dog mushing, and the historic serum run of 1925 have brought the Iditarod a certain amount of notoriety. Recent evidence from the Rainy Pass section of the trail in the Alaska Range shows the trail is much older than its current reputation suggests. Radiocarbon dates from archaeological deposits show that the trail was known and utilized as many as 3800 years ago, connecting the interior and coastal ecoregions. This poster presents current data on the prehistoric use of the Iditarod Trail in the Rainy Pass area.

Heidenreich, Stephan M. (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg; University of Cologne): “What did they do in their camps? Deciphering site activities and settlement systems in East Beringia” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

Recent archaeological research has offered new insights into the colonization of Arctic and sub-Arctic North America by examining variable human behavior in space and time. To gain and understanding of human adaptations in the late Pleistocene environment of Eastern Beringia it is important to investigate the variability of site-specific activities. This paper shall present the procedure of reconstructing site function based on lithic analysis. When variable human behavior on a number of site occupations is deciphered, this allows for the reconstruction of settlement patterns and human land use and provides explanations for a complex colonization process.

Hernandez, Nicole (Adelphi University), Kathryn E. Krasinski (Fordham University), and Brian T. Wygal (Adelphi University): “Discovering Chronology: Results of the 2011 Adelphi Archaeological Fieldschool in the Susitna Valley” (Northern Demographies, Past and Present)

Ongoing research explores the economic transition from a highly mobile big game hunting economy in the early Holocene to the more diverse economies of contemporary Native Alaskans in the Susitna Valley. Athapaskans developed a complex economic system oriented toward the harvest and storage of seasonal salmon but it is unclear if these adaptations evolved in place or arrived later, through migration. The Adelphi University Archaeological field school project is investigating these developmental processes of indigenous economic complexity in southcentral Alaska. Last summer, students emphasized research at late prehistoric Chunilna Village and early-mid Holocene Trapper Creek Overlook sites.

Hoffecker, John F. (Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado at Boulder), Owen K. Mason (Geoarch Alaska), Nancy H. Bigelow (UAF), Christyann M. Darwent (UC Davis), Claire M. Alix (Universite de Paris), Max Friesen (University of Toronto), John Darwent (UC Davis), and Shelby Anderson (Portland State University): “Cape Espenberg 2011” (The Connected Arctic)

The third and final field season of an interdisciplinary project at Cape Espenberg (northern Seward Peninsula), where a sequence of ancient beach ridges yields a lengthy history of Iñupiat settlement, took place in July-August 2011. New stratigraphic profiles of the beach deposits were recorded and sampled, and new cores in the swales between the ridges were extracted, in order to refine the beach ridge chronology and local climate history. Among the three house features excavated in 2011, one
(#12 on Ridge E-6) contained early Iñupiat harpoon head types ("Birnirk phase") and a cast bronze piece imported from the Far East.

Holmes, Charles E. (Holmes Cultural Resource Consulting) and Samuel C. Coffman (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Ancestral Lake Minchumina Project (Phase 1)” (Poster Session 2)

Phase 1 resulted in a better understanding of the cultural resource potential of the northern reserve of Denali National Park and an appreciation of the challenges to map and develop a chronology for ancient Lake Minchumina. Stratified sediments associated with the ancient lake were identified along the Muddy River and Beaverlog and Minchumina lakes. Fossil beach ridges and spits were mapped. Lacustrian sediments >4m above the modern lake dated to 34,000 BP. Six prehistoric and historic sites were added to the inventory. Two house pit sites dated to circa A.D. 1800 and A.D. 690. Phase 2 will continue in 2012.

Holmes, Charles E. (University of Alaska Fairbanks and Holmes Cultural Resource Consulting), David C. Fisher, and Adam Rountrey (Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor):

“Dental and Skeletal Evidence Point to the Hunting of Mammoths in Central Alaska” (Poster Session 1)

The argument against mammoth hunting at the Swan Point archaeological site has been that tusks/molars at the site were scavenged. Although the number of tusk and teeth specimens and metric variation demonstrate that multiple individuals are represented, the question has persisted -- “If people hunted mammoths, where are the bones?” Ribs recovered at Swan Point have been identified as baby mammoth by comparison with the ribs of two other baby mammoths, Lyuba and Khroma, from Siberia. This new evidence supports the hypothesis that mammoth were hunted. Thin sections of tusks and teeth are being analyzed to determine the season of death. It may be possible to test whether there is a mother-calf relationship among the Swan Point mammoths by sequencing nuclear DNA, from the baby and an associated tusk of a young female mammoth. Direct dates of mammoth ivory and teeth from the site are statistically identical and suggest that they all died between 14,070 and 13,760calBP.

Hollowell, Julie (Indiana University): “Private Collecting and the Skewed Archaeological Record for Alaskan Old Bering Sea and Okvik” (Collectors and Collections)

I argue that the archaeological record of OBS/Okvik in Alaska (and Ipiutak to some degree) has been dramatically skewed by having so many pieces go directly into private collections, never to be considered as part of the archaeological record. Contrary to what Bandi reported, many fine OBS/Okvik objects have been found on St. Lawrence Island. At the same time, many archaeologists discount these objects and question their legitimacy both due to their lack of archaeological documentation and as a way to discredit and hopefully deter undocumented digging and commercialization. I will show images of OBS/Okvik objects from my visits to private collections (2004-2008) as guest curator for an exhibition of “Ancient Ivories of Bering Strait” organized by Princeton University Art Museum. I touch upon some of the ethical dilemmas presented by working with and exhibiting archaeological objects from private collections and share the story of how these objects first came to enter the art market.
Holzlehner, Tobias (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Somehow, something broke inside the people”: Demographic shifts and community anomie in Chukotka, Russia” (Northern Demographics, Past and Present)

Demographic records on population movements in the Arctic tell compelling stories about community change, especially when combined with health statistics and qualitative data. Chukotka went through several dramatic demographic shifts during the 20th century: Influx of newcomer populations during the Sovietization of the Russian Arctic, large-scale village relocations during the Cold War, and labor outmigration after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The resulting new demographic regimes had wide ranging effects on social cohesion and community health. Focusing on the spill-over effects of demographic change on local communities, the paper relates demographic data with life history interviews and anthropological fieldwork in the context of displacement events.

Houlette, Chris (National Park Service) and Jim Whitney (University of Alaska Museum of the North): “The Principle Constant; Actions and adaptations of indigenous Han Athapaskan populations to gold mining efforts in the upper Yukon River region of Alaska” (Northern Demographics, Past and Present)

The search for gold in the American-Canadian borderlands dramatically influenced the lives of the indigenous Han Hwech’in Athapaskans. The Han had no particular interest in gold; however, they were active peripheral participants and successful in navigating over a century of almost perpetual transition. Though the non-native populations ebbed and flowed around them, the Han have persisted in maintaining their place and their lifestyle amidst a flood of outside influence. This paper discusses some of the issues and trends associated with these events through a regional historic perspective highlighted with some specific examples gleaned from recent archaeological investigations.

Hozid, Zach (University of Alaska Southeast): “Eating habits of college freshman” (Health as a Human Landscape)

This paper deals with the issue of eating habits of college freshman. What causes them to eat what they do? What do they eat and what are some of the implications of their diet choices? College students choose foods that are inexpensive and convenient, unless otherwise motivated. This means that the majority of the time they eat foods that are unhealthy, meaning high in sugar, fats and oils, sodium and low in vitamins and nutrients. The factors that influence such behaviors are numerous and this research illustrates how these variables interact. The evidence suggests that students and food providers alike have very little concern for healthy eating.

Inglis, Robin (Vancouver Island University): “Malaspina and the Tlingit of Yakutat Bay” (Collectors and Collections)

Inspired by the “enlightened voyages” of Cook (1778) and La Pérouse (1786) Spain’s Malaspina Expedition, 1789-1794, came to the Pacific not only to explore and survey its islands and coastlines, but also, as Malaspina himself wrote in a letter to Sir Joseph Banks, “to add to the efforts of other nations” in expanding knowledge of the earth and its inhabitants. A Royal Order to explore an opening in the coast at 60° as the possible Pacific entrance to a navigable passage across the top of America, brought Malaspina and his companions to Yakutat Bay for ten days in 1791. This paper will explore the Spaniards’ encounter with the Yakutat Tlingit with reference to the written accounts and drawings and artifacts that have survived. Malaspina was too late to make ‘first contact’ but the
records of his visit are none the less valuable for their contribution to our understanding of Tlingit life and culture in the latter years of the 18th century.

**Jensen, Anne M.** (UIC Science LLC): “Connectedness: Research Topic and Research Mode” (*The Connected Arctic*)

Arctic archaeology has tended to focus research on sites or groups of sites. Thus, many researchers have a fairly localized perspective. Once, the number of people in the field was small, not that many sites had been excavated, and it was possible to visit all the important collections. Thirty years ago, almost every Arctic researcher interacted with each other several times a year. This intimacy counterbalanced parochial tendencies. It was clear that there were connections between peoples across the North American Arctic and beyond, but what was their nature? Advances in our abilities to determine where people and raw materials may have originated can help us investigate trade, travel and other aspects of connectedness. Paradoxically, the growing number of collections and researchers and resulting decrease in connectedness in the community may make use of these capabilities less effective than it might be. Suggestions for approaches to more effective collaboration are offered.

**Jensen, Anne M.** (UIC Science LLC) and **Glenn W. Sheehan**: “Thoughts on the Skin (and Oil) Trade” (*The Connected Arctic*)

Trade in skins, particularly Rangifer tarandus skins, is well documented ethnographically and ethnohistorically. In North and Northwest Alaska, this took the form of exchanges of caribou hides taken by inland residents for coastal products, notably marine mammal oil in sealskin pokes. Inlanders had access to the animals when the hides were best, and coastal whalers had scheduling conflicts between whale and caribou hunting. In terms of sheer volume of material traded, the skin/oil trade dwarfs trade in lithic raw materials and similar items. It seems unlikely that this trade first developed shortly before contact, particularly since interior people would have struggled to meet their needs for fat on a caribou diet. Yet, there is not much archaeological discussion of this trade, and most of it hinges on the oral histories and the logical requirements for the trade to exist, as direct evidence is limited. Possible avenues to a better understanding of this trade are suggested.

**Keeney, Joe and Robert Hickey** (Central Washington University): “A Potential Method for Locating Archaeological Sites using High-Resolution Satellite Imagery” (*Poster Session 2*)

As satellite imaging technologies advance, they are producing images capable of distinguishing ground-cover reflectance patterns at ever finer spatial resolutions. Successes have been reported of using high-resolution satellite imagery to locate small-scale archaeological features such as structures or mounds. However, few examples currently exist in the literature of its attempted applications toward large-scale sites. I employed a method using vegetative indices generated from 1 meter resolution, multispectral IKONOS satellite data and Digital Terrain Models to classify ground cover types surrounding Lake Matcharak, Alaska. After overlaying GIS data of known archaeological sites, a pattern was found to be associated with known sites. Here I report on the methods and results thus far from field testing, which includes the location of one new site. This study suggests potential for satellite imaging as a means for recognizing high potential areas preceding archaeological survey.

**King, Alexander D.** (University of Aberdeen): “Dancing Koryaks: The Social Value of Dance Ensembles in Kamchatka” (*Cultural Anthropology: General Session*)
People in Kamchatka routinely talk about all dance activities as embedded in a cultural framework generating a particular formal style, whether this was dancing at the Friday night discotheque, at a large ethnic folk festival, an after school group, or a random evening of fun in one’s home. Ethnic dance ensembles were clearly important during the 1990s in Kamchatka, and I have found that ethnic dance groups have become only more popular in the 10 years since I conducted research for my book, where I focused on discourse about Koryak traditional dance. This paper will discuss recent research in Palana on formally organized dance groups and suggest some of the reasons why the activity remains popular. Although dancing clearly leads to economic benefits (i.e., international travel), local communities have not closed participation to particular groups based on kinship, ethnicity, or other identities.

The year 2012 marks the 150th anniversary of the 1862 Homestead Act signed by President Lincoln. However, homesteading, the claiming of “free” federal land to create privately-owned farms, was not allowed in Alaska until 1898. Subsequently, homesteading continued in Alaska until October 21, 1986, ten years after the last homestead claims were allowed elsewhere in the USA. Yet, after the mid-1930s, very little homesteading had occurred outside of Alaska. But in Alaska, homesteading was picking up speed. Most of Alaska’s homesteads would be claimed starting in the 1940s and later. Also, a special type of non-agricultural homestead was created in 1927 just for Alaska and it became very popular. Thus, Alaska’s relatively late, and often different, homestead history marks the final chapter in America’s overall Homestead Experience.

Kinkade, Patrick (University of California Davis): “Shellfish Harvesting by Late Thule Occupants of Cape Espenberg, Alaska” (Poster Session 1)
A total of six Thule-period house structures were excavated (2009-2010) at Cape Espenberg, on southwestern Kotzebue Sound, dating from ca. AD 900 to the late 1700s. It was the latest occupied of these houses (KTZ-088, F. 33) that yielded a rare phenomenon for coastal Arctic inhabitants – shellfish harvesting. Not found in any of the other house deposits, the use of shellfish may have increased with the decline of communal hunting of large whales during the Little Ice Age. One large gastropod species was harvested at this locality, the northern Neptune snail (Neptunea heros; MNI = 51, based on opercula) and the vast majority of the specimens were clustered as whole shells within two 1x1-m units in the kitchen area. Bivalves (primarily clams) were also recovered, and are represented by at least 161 individuals (umbo), although they are more generally distributed across the kitchen, tunnel, and sleeping platform.

Koester, David (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Itelmen Iterations: Documenting the Itelmen Language in Hunting Stories and More” (Cultural Anthropology: General Session)
The Itelmen language is now spoken by something less than 15 individuals dispersed across several villages on Kamchatka peninsula. Spontaneous Itelmen conversation is rare. All speakers are of Itelmen are at the same time literate speakers of Russian. This paper describes the interplay of Russian literacy, quasi-literacy in Itelmen, and the task of socio-linguistically sensitive language documentation in post-conversational contexts. The presentation describes a recent NSF project to record Itelmen hunting on film and a current project for audio/visual documentation of Itelmen.
Krasinski, Kathryn E. (Fordham University), Brian T. Wygal (Adelphi University), and Randolph M. Tedor: “New Lacustrine Archaeological Localities at Volkmar Lake, Tanana Valley, Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

The Volkmar Lake area is characterized by lowland taiga and subarctic tundra vegetation between the Goodpaster and Tanana Rivers, northeast of Delta Junction, Alaska. The first of a multi-year archaeological survey yielded eleven buried localities containing flakes, late stage biface fragments, and microblades made on a range of high quality lithic materials including obsidian. Additionally, a hearth stain and fragmented faunal remains were recovered. Based on initial assessments, a wide span of Tanana Valley prehistory including late Pleistocene deposits is likely represented in the Volkmar Lake region.

Kugo, Yoko (University of Alaska-Anchorag[e UAA]), Jennifer Burns (UAA), David Withrow (Alaska Fisheries Science Center), Davin Holen (Alaska Department of Fish and Game), James Van Lanen (Alaska Department of Fish and Game), and Helen Alderman: “Unique Freshwater Seal Ecology in Iliamna Lake: Utilizing Local Ecological Knowledge and Western Science” (Cultural Anthropology: General Session)

Dena’ina Athabaskan, Central Yupi’k, and Alutiiq peoples have been harvesting freshwater seals in Iliamna Lake for generations. In the past they used seal oil, meat, and furs for fuel and light, food, and clothing. Residents of the area today have continued their tradition harvesting of seals. Local residents are concerned about the lack of information on the lake’s freshwater seal population. This paper will discuss seal harvesting practices by Iliamna Lake communities. It will also integrate traditional ecological knowledge and Western science to understand the migration patterns, habitat use, and resilience of this unique seal population.

Lynch, Joshua (Center for the Study of the First Americans, Texas A&M University): “Results of Archaeological Survey in Tetlin Region Upper Tanana Basin, Alaska” (Poster Session I)

Much is known about the archaeology of the middle Tanana valley, central Alaska, especially it’s late Pleistocene-early Holocene record. The upper reaches of the Tanana River, however, have not been subjected to the same level of investigation. During the 2011 field season, archaeologists from the Center for the Study of the First Americans (Texas A&M University) conducted an archaeological survey of the Tanana River’s two major tributaries, the Nabesna and Chisana rivers. The survey discovered and recorded 10 prehistoric archaeological sites. Testing at these sites yielded faunal remains and lithic artifacts in stratified and datable contexts, some reaching as much as 5 m deep. This poster presents detailed information on these 10 sites including geographic locations, stratigraphic contexts, radiocarbon ages of selected materials, and archaeological contents.

Marino, Elizabeth (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Is Shishmaref ‘worth saving?’: an argument for the relocation of communities at risk” (Northern Demographies, Past and Present)

As change occurs along the coast of Alaska leading to increased risk of flooding, some communities are being pushed to relocate. In spite of limited resources, the community of Shishmaref seeks government funding to relocate the village to the nearby mainland instead of relocating to regional centers (Nome, Kotzebue) or urban areas in Alaska (Fairbanks, Anchorage). Reestablishing village infrastructure is expensive, yet community members insist, “We are Worth Saving!” This paper
presents an analysis of settlement on the Seward Peninsula. I argue that sedentarization linked to colonialism was critical to creating flooding risks. Following, I will present data that examines why relocation out of traditional territory is unacceptable to Shishmaref residents. This paper demonstrates how changing economic and social circumstances inscribe the landscape with changing meanings; how new risks emerge; and how Shishmaref residents continue to make decisions that mitigate these risks.

Maschner, Herbert (Idaho Museum of Natural History): “The Connected Bering Sea and Greater North Pacific” (The Connected Arctic)

The entire prehistory of the North Pacific and Bering Sea can be reduced to two ultimate drivers: boating technology and the climate / primary productivity paradox. Boating technology went through major transformations and developments and these can be measured by proxy through sea mammal hunting technology and zooarchaeological assemblages. The climate / primary productivity paradox is founded in the fact that when the North Pacific is in a state of increased primary productivity, the Bering Strait is in a mode of decreased productivity, and vice versa. Primary productivity is driven primarily by sea surface temperature. The implications for the spread of Ocean Bay between 6000 and 5000 years ago, the expansion of Arctic Small Tool traditions after 4500 year ago, the origins of Choris and Old Whaling in the 1st millennium BC, and the ultimate rise of Norton and related traditions, is tied to these developments.

Maschner, Herbert (Idaho Museum of Natural History), Matthew Betts (Canadian Museum of Civilization), Corey Schou (Idaho State University), Jonathan Holmes (Idaho State University), Robert Schlader (Idaho State University), Nick Clement (Idaho State University): “Democratizing Science with the Virtual Zooarchaeology of the Arctic Project (VZAP)” (The Connected Arctic)

VZAP is an online, interactive, searchable, hyperplastic database on northern fauna – a virtual repository of arctic vertebrate osteology. It currently serves 27,602 2D high resolution photographs and 4,959 full 3D models for 146 specimens of 109 taxa. This includes 61 birds, 58 mammals, and 27 fish. The 2D photographs include an online measuring tool accurate in all axes to .01 mm, and the 3D models allow measurements in 3D accurate to .06 mm. The database is organized taxonomically and the specimens can be searched by classification, elements, or as complete specimens. Our implementation of an image wall allows real time resolution enhancement with an effective sorting of over 6.6 million images. This presentation will be a demonstration of VZAP, and a critical review of the importance of virtual repositories to the future of arctic archaeology.

Mason, Owen K. (INSTAAR, GeoArch Alaska) and Nancy H. Bigelow (Alaska Quaternary Center): “The Bowhead Rising: Okvik and Birmirk Affinities and the World System at Cape Espenberg” (The Connected Arctic)

Excavations in 2011 within a complex possibly multi-room house mound (F. 12) at KTZ-304 on Cape Espenberg produced 12 harpoon heads of diverse types (Tuquok, Natchuk, Thule 2, Siico and “Okvik”) and a cast bronze ring of likely East Asian origin. Leather on the bronze dated ca. AD 600. Artifact affinities suggest long-distance cultural linkages or descent from Cape Baranov, Uelen and Okvik. The site is atop a discrete dune within a marsh that developed by AD 1000—a setting that parallels geomorphology of Birmirk. Its complex architecture and stratigraphy preclude a facile interpretation of the mound’s cultural relationships.
McLain, Allison Young (McLain Heritage Consulting): “The Seal Stone Petroglyph: another Alaska Mystery” (Collectors and Collections)

In the summer of 2011 a 250 pound 2-by-3 foot basalt stone covered on three sides with petroglyphs was shipped from California to the University of Alaska Museum of the North for curation. This stone, known as the Seal Stone, was reportedly removed from Shemya Island. The paper will describe the motifs identified on the Seal Stone and compare the Seal Stone motifs to petroglyph motifs from in the Russian Far East, Agattu, Kodiak, and the Northwest Coast. Data in the paper will compare the Seal Stone motifs to Unangan/Aleut art motifs and compare these motifs to characters described in Unangan/Aleut spirituality and folklore. This paper will discuss the transformative relationship between these animals and humans in Unangan spirituality and propose that this petroglyph, while undeniably requiring further investigation, is a unique artifact from the western Aleutian archipelago.

McLaren, Whitney (University of Alaska Fairbanks) and Julie Esdale (CSU-CEMML): “Banjo Lake Hearth Area Debitage Analysis” (Poster Session I)

Banjo Lake is a single component site dated to the middle Holocene (5720 +/- 50 14C years BP) that has yielded over 8000 lithic artifacts. Debitage analysis from the hearth area of Banjo Lake distinguished several distinct activity areas. Spatial analysis, raw material analysis, and lithic analysis of artifacts from the hearth area demonstrated that initial, bifacial, unifacial and microblade reduction occurred at the site and different raw material were used in different ways. Specific activity areas and material types represented distinct reduction activities in and around the hearth.

Mishler, Craig (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Gwich’in Naming Ceremonies” (Cultural Anthropology: General Session)

In recent years the Gwich’in have started having public naming ceremonies. Planned months in advance, these are almost like puberty ceremonies, held for boys and girls who are about ten to twelve years of age. Their Gwich’in names are conferred by respected elders and are accompanied by gifts to the children, to the elders, and finally to all of those attending. Using notes and video clips from the 2010 Gwich’in Gathering in Fort Yukon, I examine the names conferred and interpret the bequeathing of these names as a social plea for language preservation and identity in a world increasingly driven by the English language.

Monteith, Daniel (University of Alaska Southeast): “Researching Landscape Change in Juneau” (Enduring Cultures: Landscape Changes in Southeast Alaska)

The Juneau area has experienced a rapidly changing landscape due to the close proximity of the Juneau icefields. The Juneau community has also undergone dramatic economic development and political changes with respect to ecosystems services and food securities in the last fifty years. Two current research projects involving students and faculty from the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) will be discussed. The first focuses on paleo-shoreline modeling to better understand ecosystem changes. Secondly, collaborative work between Goldbelt Heritage Foundation and UAS is developing a better understanding of how community development has impacted the Douglas Island historic native village and access to resources.
Monteleone, Kelly (University of New Mexico): "Underwater Predictive Modeling for submerged archeological sites off Prince of Wales Island, SE AK" (Poster Session 2)

Synthesis and interpretation of archaeologically documented settlement patterns and ethnographic data are used to identify and model where people chose to live, hunt, and gather prehistorically. This project tests the hypothesis that the archaeological record of SE Alaska extends to areas of the continental shelf that were submerged by post-Pleistocene sea level rise beginning around 10,600 cal yrs BP (9,400 RCYBP). A digital elevation model (DEM) and sea-level curve for southeastern Alaska are used to create time slices between 18,100 to 10,600 cal yrs BP. The variables (slope, aspect, distance from paleo-stream, paleo-lakes, paleo-coastlines, and known archaeological sites, and type of coastline) included in the predictive model are incorporated and presented in the final model identifying the high potential areas. This model will be used to identify high potential survey areas for underwater archaeological surveys during the next three years (NSF Polar Programs -#1108367).

Moss, Madonna L., (University of Oregon) Kathleen Judd (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), and Brian M. Kemp (Washington State University): "Tlingit Salmon Use at Coffman Cove: Determining Salmon Species using Morphometric vs. Ancient DNA" (Coastal Archaeology)

At Coffman Cove, salmon were used over a 4000 year period. Determining salmon species can yield new insights about site seasonality and the historical ecology of local salmon. Moss used the Huber et al. morphometric method of species identification with mixed results: measures of type II vertebrae suggest that the assemblage contained 47% pink, 39% sockeye, and 8% steelhead; Type III vertebrae suggest 43% sockeye, 28% pink, and 19% steelhead. Moss submitted 28 salmon bones to the Kemp lab for genetic species identification. In this blind test, Kemp and Judd identified 19 samples to species, indicating that preservation of aDNA in Coffman Cove salmon bones is good. Only five genetic identifications agree with species identifications using the morphometric method, raising questions about its efficacy for Alaska salmon. Steelhead and sockeye were not identified using aDNA, although the presence of pink, coho, and chum salmon is confirmed, but not as predicted by the morphometric method.

Nowak, Michael (Colorado College): "Community Health and the 21st Century" (Health as a Human Landscape)

Modern communication technology has brought about medical care advances in even small northern communities. At the same time an expanding range of new demands challenge healthcare systems. "New" diseases as well as the intensification of some "old" ones call for an open minded, adaptive approach to successful treatment. HIV and AIDS are unknown to the healthcare providers of half a century ago. In addition, many of the environmental stressors of today were either absent or present in much milder form during most of the 20th Century. This combination of demands places a premium on the adaptive abilities of local healthcare systems. Knowledgeable and realistic approaches to community health involve even a community's leadership.


In 2001, Yana RHS site was discovered in the low Yana River, in about 100 km of its junction to the Laptev Sea coast (under 71 N). Radiocarbon age of this site, by multiple dates, is found to be 27500-
28000 \(^{14}\)C BP. This is the oldest evidence of human habitation in the Arctic before the LGM. Yana RHS yielded numerous stone, bone, and ivory objects with excellent preservation because of the permafrost conditions. In addition to that, enormous amount of fragmented bones of Pleistocene mammals was excavated from the cultural layer of the site. In 2008, in a distance of a few hundred meters upstream from the excavation area a group of local people brought a hydro monitor, trying to find mammoth ivory by sluicing from the frozen riverbank. Unexpectedly, they have opened a mass accumulation of mammoth bone, with sporadic stone and bone artifacts among them. Deposition features, unusual sorting of the bone material, and stratigraphy of Yana mass accumulation of mammoth indicate its anthropogenic nature and then it constitutes a part of the spatial structure of Yana RHS. It probably says that mammoth played more important role in the subsistence practice of Pleistocene Yana people than it was previously thought. It is obvious that mammoth bones and ivory were valuable raw material for the tool production (hunting equipment in a form of foreshafts and sewing tool kit), and also for personal ornaments and decorated pieces and other symbolic materials that tell about well-developed, complicated symbolic behavior of the Yana people. This work has been performed as a part of Zhokhov – Yana project which is supported by the Rock Foundation, New York, USA, since 2000.

**Plattet, Patrick and Amber Lincoln** (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Landscape and Legacy of Alaska Peninsula Reindeer Herding: An ethnohistory/ethnoarchaeology project” (*Northern Demographies*)

This paper introduces a project on the connections between Inupiat migratory waves and reindeer economics in the Alaska Peninsula. In collaboration with NPS, Anchorage regional office, UAF’s department of anthropology is designing a research project that will document the history of reindeer herding within the Alaska Peninsula between 1904–1950s and the migration of Inupiat to the central Alaska Peninsula around 1910. Project researchers will analyze the sociocultural change associated with these phenomena while seeking to understand the diverse perspectives of this change. Various sets of data will illuminate the correlation between human population movements and modes of herding mobility across the Peninsula, with emphasis on Aniakchak National Monument & Preserve and Katmai National Park & Preserve. The aim of this paper is to solicit feedback about the research and project design.

**Potter, Ben A.** (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Transformations of Western Subarctic Archaeology” (*Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology*)

This talk encompasses recent developments in our understanding of the prehistory of the northwestern subarctic. Results from Upward Sun River and Mead are integrated with intersite variability studies to document adaptive strategies and evaluate impacts of environmental change. New connections with recent Athabaskan behaviors necessitate a closer inquiry into ethnographic frames of reference. Specifically, I address aspects of storage, food sharing, cooperative hunting, differential food processing, and evidence of logistical mobility to explore risk and risk management strategies used by prehistoric subarctic foragers. These analyses are used to re-evaluate cultural change at 12,000, 6000, and 1000 years before present.
Proue, Molly (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.) and Jim Whitney (University of Alaska Museum of the North): “Continuing the Conversation: Forum on Collection and Curation of Historic Artifacts” (Historic Archaeology)

At the 2011 meetings of the AkAA in Fairbanks, we posed the question: What part of the past do we want to save for the future? A roomful of interested archaeologists and historians attended a lively discussion on current issues in the collection and curation of historic artifacts and brainstormed ideas for sharing and collating such information in the future. This introduction to a second open forum discussion will briefly review the results of last year’s conversation, describe progress made in the interim, and outline directions for future work. Session attendees are invited and encouraged to help continue the dialogue.

Raff, Jennifer (Northwestern University), Margarita Rzhetskaya (Northwestern University), Justin Tackney (University of Utah), Dennis H. O'Rourke (University of Utah), M. Geoffrey Hayes (Northwestern University): “Human Migrations in the Arctic: Mitochondrial DNA evidence for the origin of the Paleo- and Neo-Eskimo Peoples” (The Connected Arctic)

The North American Arctic appears to have been colonized by two successive waves of migration; by the bearers of the Arctic Small Tool Tradition (e.g. the Paleo-Eskimo Dorset and Saqqaq) by 4,000 YBP, and subsequently by the Neo-Eskimo Thule around 800 YBP. This complex and dynamic population history is archived in the genomes of modern native peoples from coastal Siberia to Greenland, whose limited mitochondrial diversity indicates a common origin. To better characterize this evolutionary history, we analyzed the mitochondrial DNA of individuals from Alaskan North Slope communities. The North Slope populations share mtDNA haplogroups with both the Paleo- and Neo-Eskimos further east, which supports the hypothesis that these two colonizations originated in the North Slope region. We place our results in the larger context of Beringian prehistory, and discuss their implications for population mobility and interaction.

Raymond-Yakoubian, Julie (Kawerak Inc.) and Jolene Oldeasik (Teller Traditional Council): “Local and Traditional Knowledge of Non-Salmon Fish in Teller, AK” (Cultural Anthropology)

This paper provides an overview of an ongoing project being conducted by Kawerak Incorporated in collaboration with several Bering Strait region tribes. The focus of this project is to document local and traditional knowledge of non-salmon fish, including the importance of non-salmon fish, to participating tribes. Community subsistence harvest information regarding use of non-salmon fish is presented, along with community-derived rules that govern interactions between humans and fish, and perspectives on the ways that human-fish relationships have changed over the past several decades. Data from the Inupiaq community of Teller are highlighted.


In 1970, archaeologists working on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) Archeology Project documented a number of archaeological sites along the Sagavanirktok River, several of which have not been seen since. This is an issue for North Slope development projects, as the erroneous site locations have persisted in the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) database. USGS mapping at the 1:63,360 scale had not been completed for much of the area by 1970, and the clever archaeologists chose to record site locations in reference to construction staking along the pipeline.
centerline. However, the locations that ultimately entered the AHRS were in error. Using original 1970 alignment sheets and offsets between TAPS and Section 7 construction stations, locations of the missing sites were calculated, and two were subsequently found during a 2011 field study at their predicted places, 41 years after their discovery. This paper reviews several of these sites and the methods used to find them.

Reinhardt, Gregory A. (University of Indianapolis): "Big Chiefs and Other-Sized American Indian Stereotypes" (Cultural Anthropology: General Session)
Although notions about a "big chief" among American Indians could relate back in time to concepts such as paramount chiefs and, formerly, "kings" and other "royalty" (as conceived of by Europeans and Euro-Americans), these have generally devolved into an endless stream of grand and diminutive cultural claptrap. Looking at American society today, we see and (as a society) continue to support concepts of "big chiefs," "little chiefs," and other-sized variants of American Indian imagery. Most of it smells of ignorance that Euro-Americans can't seem to help perpetuating, regardless of how cute, simplistic, or irrelevant these impressions are imagined to be. This visual exploration delves into many categories—some surprising, others old and hackneyed—that consider the reach and continuity of such depicted stereotypes.

Reuther, Joshua D. (University of Arizona), Ben A. Potter (UAF), and James K. Feathers (University of Washington): "Aeolian Sand Deposition during the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene in the Middle Tanana Valley: Implications for Paleoenvironments and Prehistoric Land Use" (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)
Aeolian sand deposition can have several implications on local ecology and hunter-gatherer use of a region. A threshold can exist between increased sand deposition and vegetation development. As on floodplains, aeolian sand deposition as a disturbance agent can have a regeneration effect on local vegetation that resets the successional cycle that community. Early successional species on dunes such as grasses, sedges, horsetail (Equisetum), and shrubs can benefit grazers and browsers and, in turn, hunter-gatherer populations that rely on these resources. We synthesize geochronological, macrofossil, sedimentological and stratigraphic data from selected locations in the Middle Tanana Valley, including Gerstle River, Mead, Quartz Lake, Shaw Creek, Upward Sun River, and the Sawmill Creek area. We compare patterns of sand deposition and landform stability to the timing of human occupation at each area.

Rider, Shawna (University of Alaska Anchorage): "A Bridge Between Them: Controversial Archaeology in Unalaska, Alaska" (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)
An evaluation of the Section 106 process as it was applied to the Amaknak Bridge Site, a 3,000 year old village site in the Aleutian Island community of Unalaska. The research, which included interviews with community members in Unalaska, representatives of consulting parties to the memorandum of agreement, and agency officials involved with the project, was intended to identify problems that occurred during the course of this cultural resource management project and to gain an understanding of the perspectives of the parties involved. Actions that may increase the potential for successful negotiations and positive results for other cultural resource management projects are recommended.
Rogers, Jason (University of Exeter, Northern Land Use Research, Inc.) and Katerina Klápštové (Czech National Museum): “From Bohemia to Yakutat: The Travels and Collections of Tadeuš Haenke” (Collectors and Collections)

Tadeuš Haenke was a Bohemian naturalist and ethnographer who sailed with Alessandro Malaspina to Alaska and the west coast of North America in 1791. Most of the objects collected by Haenke in Yakutat and elsewhere have not survived to the present day. Surviving artifacts are found in the Museo Navale (Madrid, Spain) and the Naprsteck Museum of Ethnography (a branch of the Czech National Museum) in Prague, Czech Republic. This talk will focus on poorly known details of Haenke’s life, the story of his voyage with the Malaspina Expedition, and the disposition of the objects remaining in the Prague collection.

Rogers, Jason S., Joshua D. Reuther, Justin M. Hays, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller, Jill Baxter McIntosh, Robert Bowman, Patrick T. Hall (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.), and Christopher B. Wooley (Chumis Cultural Resource Services): “From Cook Inlet to the Middle Kuskokwim: Results from the Donlin Gold Cultural Resource Project” (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)

Recent work conducted in Southcentral and Southwest Alaska is yielding significant information about the human history of the Susitna Valley/Alaska Range and the Upper/Middle Kuskokwim River areas. More than 50 cultural resource sites have been identified along 500 km of a proposed pipeline route from near Beluga, Alaska to the Donlin Gold project site, including numerous upland locales. Site dates range from ca. 300 BP to 6300 BP. This presentation will provide survey results, including radiocarbon dating, tephrochronology analysis, details of potentially significant erosional impacts, stratigraphic interpretations, and artifact analyses for numerous sites relating to the precontact human history of Southcentral and Southwest Alaska regions.

Saltonstall, Patrick, Amy F. Steffian (Alutiiq Museum) and Molly Odell (University of Washington): “Small Site Archaeology in Womens Bay: A view from the Amak Site, Kodiak Island, Alaska” (Northern Demographies, Past and Present)

From salmon streams to seal haul-outs, Womens Bay contains the suite of resources necessary to sustain a community through the Kodiak year. Archaeological data collected over the past decade illustrate that foragers made good use of these resources. Sites spanning Kodiak history, of many sizes and characters, occur in Womens Bay. Studying a variety of settlements in one comprehensive harvesting area has helped researchers better understand patterns of land use, interpret site functions, and develop a picture of past economic practices. Three sites at the head of the bay illustrate the particular importance of studying small sites. Salonie Mound, Bruhn Point, and the Amak site rest in very similar settings, adjacent to a salmon stream, yet all three have unique features and assemblages. Data from the Amak site, suggests a short-term hunting camp while Bruhn Point appears to have been a fish camp. Both sites contrast with evidence of long-term settlement from Salonie Mound.

Schulte, Priscilla (University of Alaska Southeast): “Traditional Resources and Alaska Native People of Southeast Alaska” (Enduring Cultures: Changing Landscapes in Southeast Alaska)

This paper explores the transition in food and resource gathering in southeast Alaska over the last century. Traditional patterns were altered as Native people left their traditional villages to move to permanent villages often associated with mission schools. This transition will focus on the changes
experienced by one Tlingit woman whose life provides key insights into the meaning of these changes as well as the persistence of the importance of these resources.

Scott, G. Richard, Simon R. Poulson, and Lindsay Dorio (University of Nevada Reno): “Dental calculus: a potential nondestructive proxy for stable isotope analysis” (Archaeology: General Session)

Traditionally, dental calculus has been more of a hindrance than an aid in dental anthropological research. Recently, the microscopic analysis of calculus has revealed starch granules, opal phytoliths, and cotton fibers. Geneticists have also sequenced the aDNA of bacteria captured in calculus. To evaluate further the potential of this biomaterial, samples from northern Spain were analyzed for stable carbon and nitrogen isotopes. Although calculus had not been previously analyzed for stable isotopes, there was sufficient C and N in the samples to obtain isotope values that could be replicated with a high degree of accuracy. The isotope compositions were also consistent with values obtained from collagen of earlier European populations. As calculus is not an intrinsic part of the dental or skeletal system, its use is technically nondestructive. This has significant ramifications for the analysis of remains where destructive analysis is prohibited.

Sicoli, Mark A. and Gary Holton (University of Alaska Fairbanks): “Applying computational phylogenetic methods in evaluation of the Dene-Yeniseian Hypothesis” (Archaeology: General Session)

Linguists long suggested a link between Na-Dene and Yeniseian, but only recently has a case been made using linguistic reconstruction (Vajda 2010). Our work responds to challenges to seek alternate methods to evaluate the hypothesis (Campbell 2011, Diamond 2011) using bioinformatics to expand the horizon at which linguists can test hypotheses of prehistory. We describe the Dene-Yeniseian (DY) hypothesis and then two computational methods applied to typological and lexical databases. We evaluated trees using Bayesian and neighbor-joining network models. In both cases the tree-like structure within Northern Na-Dene is minimal, suggesting a prehistory of diffused innovations (cf. Krauss 1973) and possible center of radiation (Sapir 1916). However both methods show phylogenetic signal at higher levels that support the D-Y hypothesis, with a twist. The phylogenies suggest an ancient heritage for Yeniseian in North America with the relationship representing a late Pleistocene back migration.

Shirar, Scott (University of Alaska Museum of the North), Jeff Rasic (National Park Service and University of Alaska Museum of the North), Eric Carlson (Historic Research Associates, Inc.), and Mareca Guthrie (University of Alaska Museum of the North): “Rock Art in the Far North: A Local Style of Petroglyphs from the Central-Western Brooks Range” (Poster Session 1)

The University of Alaska Museum of the North and the National Park Service have initiated a three-year collaborative research project to document three substantial Late Prehistoric village sites with associated petroglyphs in Noatak National Preserve in northern Alaska. Although hundreds of examples of rock art are known from archaeological sites throughout Alaska, an abundance of which are present in the southeast and southcentral parts of the state, only five sites in arctic Alaska are known to have petroglyphs. This poster presents preliminary results of the UAMN/NPS 2010 and 2011 petroglyph documentation at two of the Noatak Preserve sites. A total of 20 separate stones from the sites exhibit petroglyphs, which range from a single incised line, pecked line, or pecked cupule, to complex abstract forms incorporating all three of these design elements.
Smith, Gerard (University of Alaska Fairbanks, Bureau of Land Management): “A tale of two cache pits: Exploring lithic behaviors associated with the late prehistoric termination of core and blade technology in Central Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

Reconstructing technological systems in the western subarctic is crucial to understanding behavioral networks. Data is limited on the basic attributes specific to these prehistoric lifeways. This paper presents data and interpretations from the Cripple Creek and US Creek sites, including inferences from associates sites located between the Yukon and Tanana rivers. Both sites contain a rich record of faunal remains, hearth features, cache pits, and core and blade technology associated with later Holocene prehistoric use of the region. These data sets are explored in order to understand economic and technologic behaviors and choices associated with the loss of this Pleistocene-adapted technology.

Smith, Heather and Ted Goebel (Center for the Study of the First Americans, Texas A&M University): “Serentine Fluted-Point Update: Report on the 2011 Excavations at BEN-192, Seward Peninsula, Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

In 2009 Texas A&M archaeologists began excavations at Serentine Hot Springs (BEN-192), a fluted-point site located in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. Excavations have yielded fluted points in association with multiple samples of charcoal dated to 11,400-11,200 cal BP. During our last season of fieldwork in 2011, we found two more fluted points associated with another buried hearth feature. As of now, the site has produced more fluted points in a buried and dated context than any other site in Beringia. This paper presents an overview of the completed fieldwork, details on associated lithic assemblage and spatial relationships between artifacts, faunal remains, and features.

Stern, Richard O. (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.): “Fort Liscum, Alaska—A U.S. Army Fort in Valdez, 1898-1922” (Historical Archaeology)

The U.S. Army constructed and operated Fort Liscum, on the southern shore of Valdez Arm, from 1898 to 1922. The soldiers provided law and order in the region for gold seekers traveling through Valdez to strikes in Interior Alaska. The military constructed and operated the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System (WAMCATS), and constructed portions of the Trans-Alaska Military Road. The AHRS lists Fort Liscum as VAL-055. The Fort is listed, despite the fact that most of the two dozen buildings were sold to the Alaska Road Commission and removed after the Fort’s abandonment. A.S. Day homesteaded the area and acquired patent to his land and some of the remaining buildings. The Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) construction blasted and leveled the site during 1970s Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) construction. This paper discusses the implications of keeping a site listed on AHRS when there are no physical features still associated with it.

Tremayne, Andrew H. (UC Davis): “The Denbigh Flint Complex at Cape Espenberg: Maritime Adaptation and Inland Connections” (The Connected Arctic)

This report documents the discovery of six Denbigh Flint complex sites on the oldest beach ridges at Cape Espenberg. Limited survey and subsurface testing revealed a pattern of Arctic ground squirrel burrows associated with diagnostic Denbigh artifacts. Information derived from organic remains includes new radiocarbon dates suggesting 500 years of occupations beginning as early as 4400 calBP. Sites appear to represent short term camps of small groups. No evidence for features was
documented. Sand encrusted with sea mammal fat was discovered at three of the sites, while another produced a harpoon end blade, a tool form lacking in interior Denbigh sites. An obsidian microblade sourced to Batza Tena shows trade networks were in place by 3900-3700 calBP. Implications for maritime subsistence, storage, mobility and land use are discussed.

Wickert, Andrew D. (University of Colorado), Kelly Monteleone (University of New Mexico), Jerry X. Mitrovica (Harvard University), Robert S. Anderson (University of Colorado), Craig M. Lee (Montana State University, University of Colorado): “Beringian Paleogeography and Archaeological Site Prediction” (Poster Session 2)

The Bering Land Bridge is the most likely route taken by the first people to enter the Americas [Dixon, 2011], but archaeological confirmation is difficult because it was submerged by post-glacial sea level rise. Manley [2002] made preliminary maps of Beringia using a uniform Barbados-derived sea level curve. We more formally reconstruct Beringian paleogeographic evolution using a gravitationally self-consistent global sea level theory that incorporates the gravitational, deformational, and rotational effects of ice age loading and accounts for a time-varying shoreline geometry. We compute slope, aspect, shoreline geometry, lakes, and drainage networks at each time, and combine these with modeled paleoclimate [Liu et al., 2009], to build maps of promising locations for archaeological sites. We find a persistent archipelago off the Southern Beringian coast and a strong glacial influence on coastline positions and streamflow in the Alaska Peninsula.

Williams, Mark R. (University of New Mexico): “Intensification of Shellfish Processing at Qwúgwés [45TN240]” (Poster Session 2)

Qwúgwés [45TN240] is a waterlogged shell midden site located in the southern Puget Sound, within the traditional territory of the Squaxin Island Tribe. As early as 700 years ago, the site served as a processing center for large quantities of shellfish, resulting in the deposition of a 91 m long shell midden. This poster uses relative abundance indices to examine the distribution of faunal remains within the midden and food processing areas of the site. Results indicate that processing of large shellfish such as butter clams (Saxidomus giganteus) increased according to an indefinite linear resource-harvest curve throughout the duration of the site’s occupation history. The long-term intensification of this high-ranked resource, along with age-at-harvest data, ethnographic reports, and other supporting evidence from the site, suggests a practice of deliberate shellfish cultivation over many generations.

White, Paul (University of Alaska Anchorage) and William Hedman (Bureau of Land Management): “An Archaeological Approach to Abandoned Mine Land Hazards” (Historical Archaeology)

In 2010, the Bureau of Land Management entered into a cooperative agreement with Michigan Technological University and the University of Alaska Anchorage to inventory safety hazards at abandoned mines in the Fairbanks district. In scope, the BLM-Fairbanks project joins a growing body of abandoned mine surveys initiated by several federal and state agencies in the United States. In execution, however, this particular inventory is distinguished by the involvement of cultural resource practitioners, rather than environmental scientists, in initial site characterization. Now past the halfway point in a three-year project, this paper discusses current findings from the field and evaluates qualitative differences with environmental science led initiatives.
Wooley, Christopher B. (Chumis Cultural Resources Services), Joshua D. Reuther, Justin M. Hays, Jason S. Rogers, Carol Gelvin-Reymiller (Northern Land Use Research, Inc.), Darien Thomas, and David John (Crooked Creek Traditional Council): “The Donlin Gold Cultural Resource Project: Surveys, Compliance and Community Archaeology” (Archaeological Compliance and Survey)

We have conducted cultural resource surveys and site evaluations in and around a proposed mine facility located near Crooked Creek on the Middle Kuskokwim River. In 2010 and 2011 we developed and implemented a survey model and surveyed over 500 km of a proposed pipeline route from Beluga, Alaska to the Donlin Gold project site, completing Phase I field efforts and identifying over 50 cultural resource sites. As permitting progresses, we will evaluate sites for potential NRHP eligibility, having initiated and refined a historic context data gathering process and begun informal consultation. Additionally, the Crooked Creek community has participated in excavations at the Angyacuaq site (SLT-0094) a roughly 2000 year-old site. Community members directed us to an unrelated site where mammoth and bison bones were eroding from the riverbank downstream and incorporated into a high school science project by Darien Thomas. This paper describes the overall Donlin Gold cultural resource project.

Wygal, Brian T. (Adelphi University): “Cold Case: Archaeological Interpretations for Post-Glacial Adaptations in Southcentral Alaska” (Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene Archaeology)

The Paleolithic colonization of Alaska was the literal first step toward the peopling of the Americas. Understanding early forager adaptations following colonization require interpreting behavioral variability manifested in the archaeological record. Recent work increasingly focuses on functional properties to explain assemblage variability, such as specialized adaptations to cold weather conditions. Seasonal extremes and climate change in northern latitudes undoubtedly influenced modes of tool production and land use. Because lithic reduction strategies and toolkit maintenance appear different in upland occupations from those in lowland settings, particularly with respect to “Denali complex” occupations, a seasonal model of technological organization may be appropriate.

Yeske, Kate S. and Julie A. Eisdale (Colorado State University CEMML): “Initial Investigations at Molybdenum Ridge, Tanana Basin, Central Alaska” (Poster Session 2)

A preliminary survey in the Tanana Basin between the East Fork of the Little Delta River and Delta Creek during the 2011 field season revealed 21 new prehistoric sites. Some sites are located on river bluffs while others are at moderate elevation in the foothills of Molybdenum Ridge. They most likely served as hunting locations or short term camps. Past surveys near the area uncovered small surface lithic scatter sites and sites with large subsurface concentrations including formal tools. The majority of sites identified in 2011 comprise small surface lithic scatters and small subsurface lithic sites, some including tools. One site, XMH-01438, produced over 350 surface lithic artifacts of varying type and material in a 1000 square meter area. Tools include a lanceolate projectile point, a subtriangular projectile point, other biface fragments, scrapers, and utilized flakes.