

ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Robert D. Shaw  
5430 East 32nd Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Asst.

Editor: Peter Bowers  
BLM Fairbanks District Office NPRA  
Box 1150  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Circulation: Douglas Veltre  
Anchorage Community College  
2533 Providence Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Seventh Annual Association Meetings - 1980

As Chairman of the Annual Meetings in Anchorage last March, Harvey Shields provided an invaluable service to the Association at considerable cost to his "spare time." Doug Veltre, Jack Lobdell and Mike Yarborough assisted with various aspects of the task. The Board of Directors thanks these gentlemen on behalf of the Membership.

Eighth Annual Association Meetings - 1981

The upcoming Annual meetings are tentatively scheduled for the Anchorage Westward Hilton Hotel on 20-21 March, 1981. During his recent visit to Anchorage, Dr. Helge Larsen of the Danish National Museum consented to be the Keynote Speaker for the conference. With his participation we can all look forward to an informative and most entertaining banquet. Please begin to formalize your ideas for symposia.

A \$100 Undergraduate Student Paper Award went unclaimed for lack of an entrant at our last Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors plans to hold that competition again at the upcoming meetings. Why let this vita building opportunity pass? Get ready - the deadline for written papers will probably be in January.

Summary of the 1980 Business Meeting, March 22

The minutes of the 1979 meeting were circulated and approved. President Karen Workman reported a membership (prior to conference registration) of 114 compared to 245 for the year 1979-80. Notification of honorary membership has been sent to: Henry B. Collins, Froelich Rainey, Helge Larsen, Philip Drucker, Erna Gunther, Margaret Lantis, Robert McKennan, Cornelius Osgood and Frederica de Laguna. The Board of Directors has recommended that the Association host any of these members attending meetings. Recent presidential appointees include Glen Bacon to the advocacy committee; Robert Shaw as newsletter editor with Peter Bowers the Fairbanks correspondent; Rosita Worl to conduct the student paper competition; and Steve Langdon to chair the anthropological research committee. Our finances are depleted at present. On March 12, the association balance was \$1240.75. Michael Yarborough obtained a grant of \$1000 to cover travel costs and honorarium for our guest speaker from the Alaska Humanities Forum. Income from the conference has yet to be counted. Expenses will include the cost of 41 lunches (at \$8.60 each) on Friday since we had guaranteed the Westward Hilton 100 diners.

Harvey Shields submitted the report of the advocacy committee, which he chairs. Other members are Glen Bacon, Jack Lobdell, Douglas Reger and Douglas Veltre. The committee responded to the Bureau of Land Management's plan for the use of Off Road Vehicles in the Tangle Lakes Archeological District and, in a letter to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, took exception to the position of BLM in interpreting the lack of archeological survey on lands being sold or otherwise disposed of by the state. A white paper proposing a four- to five-fold increase in the current budget of the Office of Archeology and History was submitted to the Future Frontiers conference.

No action was reported for the anthropological research committee although members have been discussing guidelines for anthropological research. Douglas Reger noted that the Board has been working on preparing the financial statement required for tax-exempt status and that they are presently waiting for information from the business office at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Harvey Shields, conference chairman, reported approximately 180 registrants at the seventh annual conference.

Douglas Veltre, elections committee, reported three new board members. William Workman and Robert Shaw were elected to two year terms and Anne Shinkwin to the one year term.

Harvey Shields moved that the eighth annual meeting of the association be held in Anchorage. The motion was passed by the membership. Shields also moved that the association support student efforts to compile a directory of professional anthropologists within Alaska. Also seconded by Shinkwin and passed. Howard Smith announced the formation of the Council for Alaska Archeology, a group whose primary purpose will be to deal with problems faced by bureaucratic archeologists.

## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

### Archeological Resources Protection Act

The Archeological Resources Protection Act (PL 96-95) was signed by President Carter on October 31. A regional public hearing on rule-making to implement that law is tentatively scheduled to be hosted by U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service in Anchorage during September, 1980. Plan to attend so that your views may be considered during the decision making process.

### Council for Alaska Archaeology

In an effort to facilitate communication among archaeologists concerned with the management of cultural resources on public lands a new group called the "Council for Alaska Archaeology" has been formed. The purpose of the organization is to provide a public voice to represent the material cultural remains of Alaska's past. Four general issues will be addressed: 1) compliance with cultural resource laws; 2) funding levels of State and Federal agencies; 3) new legislation; and 4) public education.

Individuals concerned with these issues and wishing to join this organization should contact Howard Smith, P. O. Box 2402, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707 (Phone: 907-426-2533).

### THE CULTURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ALASKA LAND MANAGER'S TASK FORCE - AN ORIENTATION BY FLOYD SHARROCK OF HCRS

Federal, State, and Native association officials have recognized that complicated new land ownership patterns being established in Alaska require a high degree of cooperation among the various land managers. The need is nowhere more evident than in the area of cultural issues, many of which, by definition, transcend ownership or management boundaries.

One method agreed upon to promote such cooperation is the Alaska Land Manager's Cooperative Task Force created in June, 1978, by the Governor of Alaska, the President of the Alaska Federation of Natives, the Secretary of the Interior and

the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Task Force is composed of the top Alaska officials of the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, State Department of Fish and Game, State Department of Natural Resources, Alaska Federation of Natives, and Soil Conservation Service. While the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service is not a land managing agency, and not eligible for membership on the Task Force, it is an active participant in Task Force proceedings, a member of several subcommittees, and chairs the Cultural Resource Subcommittee.

Task Force actions are voluntary and are arrived at by consensus. The Task Force has served as a forum for airing mutual land management-related concerns and as a vehicle for more in-depth efforts regarding specific problems.

The Task Force functions primarily through subcommittees, of which there are currently eleven which deal with such issues as fire control, access and easement, flood plains, monument regulations, recreation, joint visitors centers, solid waste disposal, natural resource information management, and cultural resources. Membership in the subcommittees includes Task Force agencies plus other government and State agencies and private parties interested in the particular issue(s) for which the subcommittee was formed. Depending on the nature of the issues, subcommittees may be short or long term. The Task Force meets at approximate one month intervals; subcommittees operate to their separate time schedules.

The Cultural Resources Subcommittee was established in July 1979. The Cultural Resources Subcommittee consists of cultural resource specialists, or other representatives from the offices of Alaska USDI and USDA secretaries' representatives, Housing and Urban Development, Fish and Wildlife Service, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Forest Service, Dept. of Transportation, Public Health Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Mines, BLM - Outer Continental Shelf, Alaska Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Office, Alaska Anthropological Association, and the Alaska Federation of Natives.

Like the Task Force, the Subcommittee operates by consensus. Work groups formed within the subcommittee are considering such issues as Historic Trails management, management and preservation of historical structures on public lands, interagency coordination and cooperation in cultural services and cultural resource management, research management, research standards and ethical consideration in research, including confidentiality of data, basic research needs for management, technical assistances programs, federal agency/SHPO interactions and relationships, and World War II Historical remains. As other issues are identified, or develop, they will be considered. Subcommittee work groups will analyze situations and prepare reports and recommendations for the subcommittee to present to the Task Force.

The Task Force has been organized in a very effective way for dealing with diverse issues. From a cultural resources management perspective, the Task Force and subcommittee are a means to monitor action that might affect cultural resources. For example, World War II remains are a subject of study for their historical values by the Cultural Resources Subcommittee; they are also under study for possible disposal as solid waste by the EPA-chaired Solid Waste Disposal Subcommittee, Floyd Sharrock of ECRS, who chairs the Cultural Resource Subcommittee, is a member of the Solid Waste Disposal Subcommittee.

The Cultural Resource Subcommittee has an unusual opportunity for dramatic impact on cultural resource management and other cultural issues in Alaska because of the broad representation of its constituency, decision making and operation by consensus, and the broad base, high level representation of land managers on the parent Task Force.

## PUBLICATIONS AND RUMORS THEREOF

Douglas Veltre (Anthropology, Anchorage Community College) recently received his Ph. D. from the University of Connecticut. His dissertation title is KOROVIANSKI: THE ETHNOHISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF AN ALEUT AND RUSSIAN SETTLEMENT ON ATKAS ISLAND, ALASKA.

John Bockstoe: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CAPE NOME, ALASKA, University of Pennsylvania Museum, Philadelphia, Museum Monograph #38.

We have received word through one or more of our "reliable" sources that the following publications will soon be seeing the light of day. Topics only are indicated, as the exact titles (and publishers) may be subject to change.

Frederick H. West: Late Pleistocene Archeology of Interior Alaska/Tangle Lakes/Denali Complex (to be published by Columbia U. Press).

W. Roger Powers: The Dry Creek Site (to be published by the National Park Service).

J. L. Giddings and D. D. Anderson: Archeology of Cape Krusenstern/Beach Ridge Dating in Northwest Alaska. (To be published by the National Park Service).

Peter Schledermann and Wendy Arundale (eds.): Recent Eskimo Archeology; papers presented at the joint sessions of the S.A.A. and C.A.A. meetings, Vancouver B.C., April 25-27, 1979. (To appear sometime next summer (?) in a special issue of Arctic).

Mim Dixon: What Happened to Fairbanks? The Effects of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline on the Community of Fairbanks, Alaska. (Currently being reprinted in paperback, Social Impact Assessment Series No. 1, Boulder, Colorado).

Herb Alexander: The Putu Site, North Slope, Alaska. (Reportedly being published by Laboratory of Anthropology Series, Simon Fraser University).

## INDIVIDUAL AND PROJECT NEWS

Dr. Judith Kleinfeld and Dr. Anne Shinkwin have received a two-year grant from the National Institute of Education to study volunteer youth organizations as educational environments. In particular, the research focuses on the relevance of such organizations to minority youth. Local Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and 4-H organizations have been supportive and Shinkwin plans several trips to the bush to study their operations in northern Alaska.

Elizabeth Andrews has been working for the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) compiling all information that is known about oral history for their area. To date 776 stories from 30 villages have been documented. A major goal of the survey is to highlight gaps and identify future research goals.

Elizabeth Andrews and Chad Thompson (ANLC) conducted place name research at Minto for Minto Flats TCC and the village of Minto. Analysis is presently being completed.

Dr. Anne Shinkwin has been appointed to the State Historic Sites Advisory Committee by Governor Hammond.

Dr. Anne Shinkwin traveled to Barrow to consult with the North Slope Borough School District regarding a large archaeological collection obtained locally. Dr. Bill Schneider (NPA) and Grant Spearman (North Slope Borough) also participated in a two-day conference with school officials. Two video-tapes were prepared for use in the local schools regarding the importance and use of the collection; its proper processing and storage, its potential integration in the school curriculum, the nature of cultural resources and the importance of their preservation.

Dr. Jean S. Aigner completed the second field season for archaeological survey along the proposed Northwest Alaska Pipeline (NAPLINE) from Delta Junction to the Canadian border. The final report, Historic and Prehistoric Land Use in the Upper Tanana Valley, has been submitted to the sponsor and permitting agencies. In addition to alignment and material site survey south of Delta, borehole sites between Delta and Prudhoe Bay were examined in the fall. Currently, the background study of historic, traditional and prehistoric land use from Delta north is underway. The summer of 1980 will involve survey of alignment and material sites north of Delta as well as some excavation for mitigation.

Dr. Jean S. Aigner has been invited by the Federal Republic of Germany to travel to the People's Republic of China and Korea to examine recently recovered paleolithic materials. The anticipated travel will involve visits to northern and northeast Chinese sites including Choukoutien, Lantian, Ting-t's'un and the lesser known but significant new find areas in Manchuria and on the Hopei Plain. The resulting summary of paleolithic materials will be published in the German series reviewing new data from around the world. Publication is slated for 1981.

New faculty member, Joseph J. Cross, Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from the University of Rochester, has conducted extensive field research among the Maya Indians of Guatemala and the Shoshone of Fort Hall reservation in S.E. Idaho. His major research interests are in the areas of comparative political and legal systems, economics of pre-industrial societies, social organization, and social change. Currently he is preparing a monograph for publication with the University of Arizona on Maya political and domestic organization.

During the summer of 1979, the BLM-NPRA Project (Fairbanks) continued a program of survey/mitigation within the National Petroleum Reserve. Robert Gal worked directly with Edwin S. Hall, Jr. (USGS) in conducting surveys within proposed areas of operation. Concurrently, Peter Bowers and Michael Kunz supervised a three person crew in continuation of projects previously begun. Three projects were completed: excavations at the Lisburne site (KIR-096) and South Meade No. 1 (XMR-091), and limited testing at the Mesa Site (KIR-102).

The majority of the 1979 season was devoted to the Lisburne site located about 50km Northeast of Howard Pass. This work had two major objectives: to complete the intensive systematic testing program begun in 1978, and to complete excavation of the site. The distribution of materials over this large workshop/quarry/lookout site indicates more than twenty separate activity areas, representing a number of brief encampments during the American Paleoarctic, Northern Archaic, Arctic Small Tool, and late prehistoric Eskimo traditions.

In August, a crew of five spent 2½ days testing the Mesa site, a site which had been mapped and intensively surface-collected the previous summer. Objectives of the 1979 field work were to obtain pedologic data and determine if cultural stratigraphy could be identified, to determine if cultural materials had a subsurface as well as a surface distribution, and to collect materials for radiocarbon dating. The limited excavations at the Mesa site resulted in the recovery of more than 35 artifacts (mostly projectile points) and three C-14 samples. Although the 1978 surface collection had initially been interpreted as showing similarities with the

Portage complex of Onion Portage (based on the co-occurrence of oblongate and pentagonal points and large knife bifaces), a Choris interpretation is now favored. A mid to late 1st millennium B.C. dating for the hearths and associated cultural materials is anticipated, based on stone workmanship which more resembles Norton than Denbigh flintwork. The site's significance clearly stems from its special-use characteristics (hunting stand) and artifact homogeneity, rather than its typological-chronological affiliation.

Ed Hall (USGS/SUNY-Brockport) and Dale Slaughter (University of Wisconsin-Madison) investigated the historic Eskimo settlement of Sisraruq seventeen miles northeast of Wainwright. Forty-four squares ranging in depth from 20cm to 1m were excavated, resulting in removal of most of one dwelling. A total of seventeen dwellings are present. The timbers of which the dwellings are constructed are believed to have been salvaged from the numerous shipwrecks that occurred in the area during the early commercial whaling era.

John P. Cook in collaboration with L. Haskin and W. Blanchard (Washington University) is continuing work on an NSF sponsored study of the distribution of obsidian in Alaska. John made a trip to the lower 48 and Canada this winter in which he was able to study most of the major museum and university collections of Alaskan archeological sites which contain obsidian. To date, specimens from 81 sites have been collected, representing 35 quad maps in Alaska, in addition to samples from the Yukon and the Soviet Union. Two-hundred-ninety samples are being analysed by Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA), using 23 elements. Of the 60 samples thus far analysed, nine distinct groups have been identified, seven of which have not yet been matched with a known source. Although a number of obsidian sources have been reported for the Wrangell mountains, Mt. McKinley, Mt. Harper, Akutan, and Lake Clark areas, only the sources at Batza Tena, Umnak, and Ice Mt. (B.C.) have thus far demonstrated aboriginal utilization.

In addition to INAA, some experimentation is being done on the feasibility of using thermoluminescence as a dating technique. Portions of samples are being saved for hydration analysis. John requests that obsidian samples be submitted to him for inclusion in this study: John Cook, P. O. Box 81087, College, Alaska 99708; (907) 488-3383.

Rosita Worl (University of Alaska, Anchorage AFIDC) is assessing the socio-cultural effects of the International Whaling Commission quota on Bowhead whaling for northern Alaska Eskimo communities. Field research on St. Lawrence Island bowhead whaling by Siberian Yupik will begin during the 1980 spring whaling season.

PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Term of Office	1975-	1976*	1977**	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
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1 year W. Olsen W. Olsen S. Langdon D. Veltre A. Shinkwin A. Shinkwin

2 years K. Feldman K. Feldman K. Feldman L. Ellanna L. Ellanna W. Workman W. Workman

2 years W. Workman R. Scott R. Scott W. Workman W. Workman R. Shaw R. Shaw

3 years M. Firmin A. Shinkwin A. Shinkwin A. Shinkwin D. Veltre D. Veltre D. Veltre

3 years L. Naylor F. Milan F. Milan D. Reger\*\*\* D. Reger D. Reger D. Reger

1 year/ President R. Scott W. Workman W. Workman F. Milan K. Workman K. Workman  
 2 years beginning in 1979

\* Interim Board and President for the 1975-1976 membership year.

\*\* First year of elections under the new constitution.

\*\*\* Elected to complete the last year of three-year term of F. Milan.

Edwin S. Hall  
Dept. of Anthropology  
SUNY Brockport  
Brockport, NY 14420

