

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**Historical Preservation Commission Agenda**

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Andrew Schweisthal  
Kevin Toothaker – Vice Chair  
Bert Verrall - Chair  
Fran Seager-Boss  
Janet Kincaid  
Angela Wade  
Vivian Smith

Leda Borys – Staff



Michael Brown, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT  
Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director  
Vacant, Planning Services Manager  
Fred Wagner, Platting Officer

**August 15, 2024**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Employee Break Room – Off Assembly Chambers**  
**6:00 pm**

**Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 256 173 831 608

Passcode: tVGhUa

**Dial in by phone**

[+1 907-290-7880](tel:+19072907880).,108616040# United States, Anchorage

Phone conference ID: 108 616 040#

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Approval of Agenda – August 15, 2024
  - b. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting – May 9, 2024
  - c. Approval of Next Meeting – November 7, 2024
- IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION
- V. STAFF / AGENCY REPORT
  - a. State Office of Archeology News Letter – Fran
  - b. Historic Preservation Plan – Leda
  - c. State Historic Preservation Plan Update (Meeting in a Box) - Leda
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Resolution Regarding Peak Name Change Requests
- VII. MEMBER COMMENTS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**Historical Preservation Commission Minutes**

Edna DeVries, Mayor

Andrew Schweisthal  
Kevin Toothaker  
Bert Verrall  
Fran Seager-Boss  
Janet Kincaid  
Angela Wade  
Vivian Smith

Gerrit Verbeek – Staff  
Maija DiSalvo – Staff



Michael Brown, Borough Manager

PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT  
Alex Strawn, Planning & Land Use Director  
*Vacant*, Planning Services Manager  
Fred Wagner, Platting Officer

**May 9, 2024**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Willow Museum**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Bert Verrall offered to serve as Chairperson Pro Tem.

Meeting called to order at 6:24 pm

**II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Members Present: Kevin Toothaker  
Bert Verrall  
Fran Seager-Boss  
Janet Kincaid

Hosts: Madeline Gocke  
Jim Huston  
Dagmar (*surname not noted*)

Guest: Deborah Burlinski



### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion:** Janet Kincaid made a motion to approve the agenda, second Kevin Toothaker

**Vote:** All in favor

### IV. *PLACEHOLDER – OPENING CEREMONIES*

Deciding on opening ceremonies was tabled until a meeting with full attendance.

Fran Seager-Boss commented to note that this meeting is being held on traditional Dena'ina land in Willow.

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion:** Janet Kincaid made a motion to approve the February 2024 minutes, second Fran Seager-Boss.

**Vote:** All in favor

### VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Deborah Burlinski commented that she served on the HPC for 10-15 years, and is hopeful about the upcoming Historic Preservation Plan update. Once the plan is approved, she would like to see a focus on protecting archaeology. Deborah commented that it is a myth that archaeology prevents development, and points out that archaeological discoveries around Fairbanks have become a global draw for researchers and tourists.

### VII. HISTORICAL SOCIETY/MUSEUM UPDATES

Jim Huston (“Houston”) and Madeline Gocke (“Go-key”)

Homesteaders built the community center in 1961, dedicated in 1962. The building cost \$6000 and was built during a depressed economy. Local homesteaders Ray and Rosalee White got a grant and supervised the work. Labor jobs were distributed to support the entire community. The museum still has a ledger of everyone who worked on it, including locals such as Shem and Billy Pete.

The Borough later contributed another \$500,000 for upgrades.

The building could fit 150 shoulder-to-shoulder and contained a stage. It was the center for the Willow Winter Carnival, weddings, funerals, and all other community events.

The community of Willow supported the Willow Creek Gold District, which was struck ca. 1896 in Grubstake Gulch. The mines shut down during World War II except for Independence Mine, which produced tungsten and was therefore strategic.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Kevin Toothaker had previously volunteered to serve as Vice Chair and confirmed his willingness.

Bert Verrall expressed hesitation at serving as a chairperson in his first year on the HPC, but was willing to volunteer in the interest of running efficient meetings.

**Motion:** Janet Kincaid nominates Bert Verrall as Chairperson for the HPC with Kevin Toothaker as Vice Chair, second Fran Seager-Boss.

**Vote:** All in favor

### B. Discussion of Priorities and Agenda Structure for 2024

Kevin Toothaker suggested that local historical organizations could benefit from more networking and coordination to share knowledge and limited resources.

Jim Huston (non-member host) suggested that local organizations could invite each other around to meetings, and host HPC meetings. He stated that in his experience Edna DeVries is supportive and has been wonderful to work with, and the time is right to work on historical preservation while she is Borough Mayor.

Bert Verrall wonders if there is any central calendar or newsletter for organizations to share information. Fran Seager-Boss recalls that the HPC at one time collected and distributed information from local historical societies and museums about their goals and needs. She suggested a winter networking meeting of local organizations.

Fran Seager-Boss remarked that a National Heritage Area would be a good goal but there are few resources to achieve it. It was close to being introduced ca. 2015 with 6 community councils writing in support. Applications can be prepared by non-profit groups, for instance the Kenai Mountains – Turnagain Arm NHA application was prepared by a non-profit with a former NPS staff member preparing the document.

Bert Verrall summarized that the main goal appears to be supporting the Historic Preservation Plan update until its approval, followed by focusing on protection of archaeology as Deborah Burlinski suggested during public comments, and helping local groups to network.

Fran Seager-Boss: Willow won a school competition ca. 1990, when the students produced a relief map of local homesteads and oral history interviews. Does that exhibit still exist?

Jim Huston: That map is missing, and a mystery to the entire community where it may have gone

## VIII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

### A. Historic Preservation Plan Phase II Update

Gerrit Verbeek noted the Historical Themes section is mostly completed and distributed to stakeholders and experts for review. He will be leaving the Mat-Su Borough on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Robin Moffet has created a styleguide and Leda Borys will continue managing the project on behalf of the MSB. Gerrit hopes to stay involved as a concerned citizen.

X. MEMBER COMMENTS

Fran looks forward to the new preservation plan, and after it is complete would like to work on a new code for the HPC and to protect the community's subsurface cultural resources.

Kevin comments that these are great meetings, and that he would like to see more participation and more communication between different organizations.

Janet thanks Willow Historical & Wildlife Foundation for hosting.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE:

A. Next Regular Meeting: August 8th, 2024 – 6:00 pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair (Bert Verrall)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Gerrit Verbeek*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerrit Verbeek, Planner II

\_\_\_\_\_  
5/16/2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

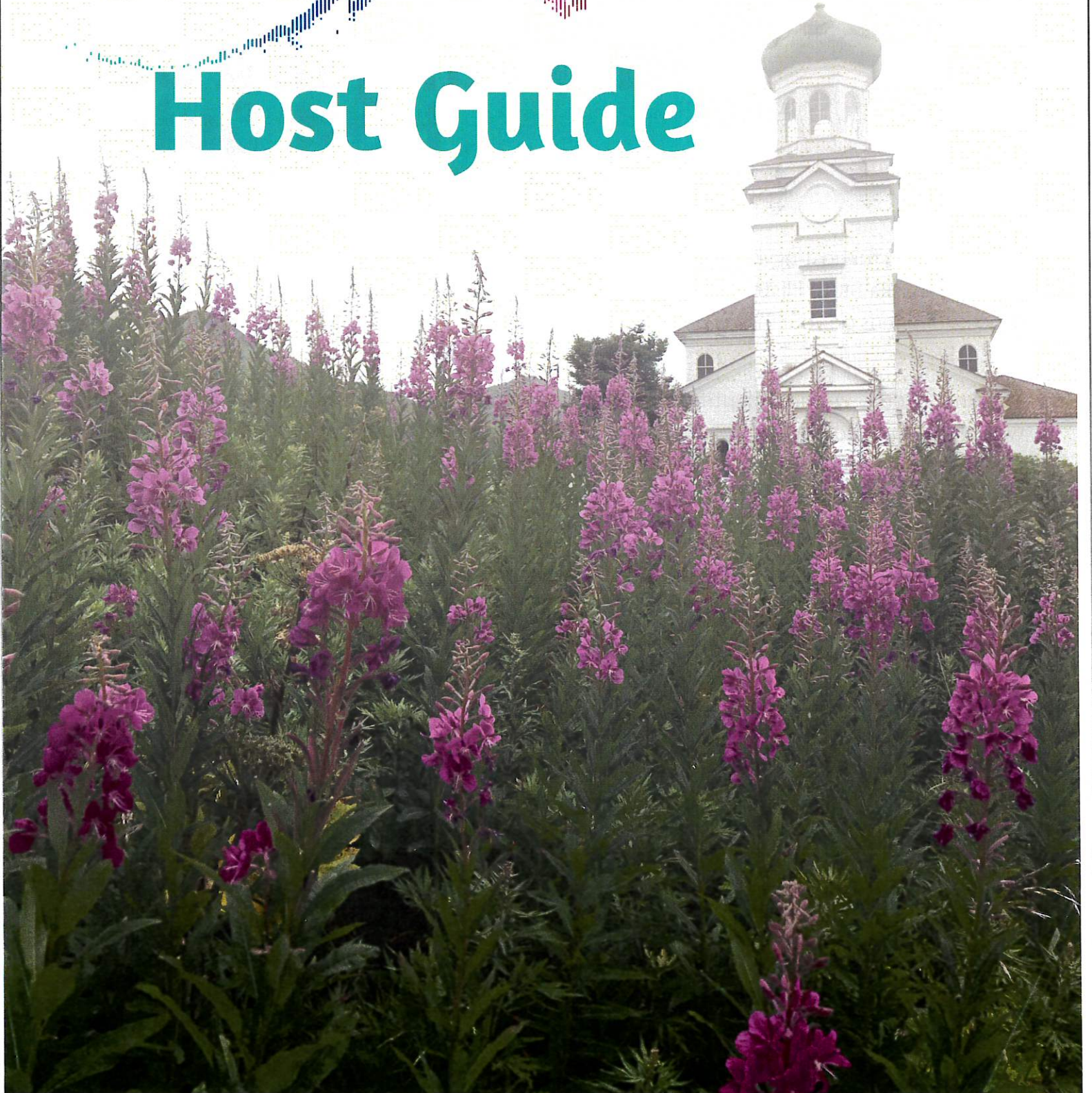






Alaska Historic Preservation Plan  
**SAVING OUR PAST:  
FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE**  
2025-2034

# Host Guide







Alaska Historic Preservation Plan  
**SAVING OUR PAST:  
FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE**  
2025-2034

# Meeting in a Box Host Guide

2024 State of Alaska Historic Preservation Plan Update

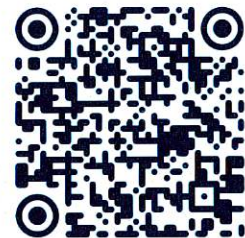
**T**hank you for hosting an Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation *Plan Meeting in a Box*. While the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office leads the statewide plan update effort, the process depends on your input.

Your input today will help identify issues about historic preservation that need to be addressed within the updated plan. Moreover, your voice will inform the Statewide vision for the future of preservation in Alaska—along with goals and objectives—so that preservation challenges can be met and overcome at the community and state level.

We encourage you to stay involved in the planning process by visiting <https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/planning/savingourpast.htm> and comment on drafts.

Sincerely,

The Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation Planning Team  
& The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office



The Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) &  
Alaska's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)





# Host Guide

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*Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church, Barrow*

# Getting Started



## 1. Invite

The *Meeting in a Box* is designed to help you incorporate the meeting exercises into a usual meeting of your commission, organization, or group, or host a separate meeting specifically to provide input for the Statewide Preservation Plan update.

## 1. Set Up

Select a location where all participants can comfortably sit in a circle or around a table. Have enough pens, participant worksheets, and other materials available.

## 2. Facilitate & Encourage

As the “host” of this discussion, your role is to ensure that:

- There are enough copies of the Participant guides (make new copies as needed)
- Everyone has a chance to say something
- No one dominates the conversation
- The discussion stays on topic
- Someone is taking notes on the conversation and filling in the host worksheet, and
- The group can summarize their top ideas for each question.

These meetings are designed to encourage active group conversations. If you are hosting a large meeting, we suggest you break into smaller groups of no more than 5-10 people and ask for a note taker/recorder and facilitator for each group. Breaking into small groups is not required, but it means people can

join more fully in the conversation.

As the meeting host, you are also a participant and should share your opinions as an equal member of the discussion.

To help, this workbook will guide you through the agenda, the warm up question, and three rounds of discussion.

If your group has limited time together, the length of this meeting can be adjusted by eliminating questions.

## 3. Return

- All worksheets and notes.
- Label your package with host name and contact information, organization (if applicable), and meeting date.
- Be sure to return your meeting results by the date on your cover letter, so that your meeting results and feedback can inform the Draft Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation Plan update.





# Hosting Your Meeting

The following exercises can be customized for the size of your group / organization and the amount of time you have. The following are suggestions to help facilitate a successful meeting. Feel free to adapt this outline to fit your group. A Host Worksheet is included in this packet to help keep your meeting on track and to summarize your notes.

## Agenda. (45-90min)

1. Welcome, Introductions & Warm-up Activity (10-20 min)
2. Three engagement exercises (30-60 min)
3. Final Conclusions (5-10 min)

### 1. Welcome, Introductions & Warm-up Activity (10 - 20 min)

Pass around the sign-in sheet

#### Warm-Up Activity:

“This is a warm up exercise to get us thinking about our passions and priorities for historic preservation.”

**Pick one of the three warm-up questions to discuss as a group.**

1. What is one Alaska place, location, or site that you want preserved to pass on to the next generation?
2. What value does historic preservation have within your community now or in the future?
3. What is your favorite memory of a historic or cultural place?



The Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) & Alaska's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



## Tips for hosting a successful meeting

### Engage the Full Group.

**1** Don't let one or two participants dominate the discussion. You can change the group dynamics easily: Avoid eye contact with more vocal members and engage more reserved group members by asking questions like, “What do you think about that?”

### Stay Focused on the

**2 Question.** Maintain gentle control of the conversation and meeting. If group members wander off the topic, remind them of the question/activity at-hand to get the group back on course.

### Open-Ended

**3 Statements.** Some participants may be reluctant to share their ideas. But there are no “correct” answers, just different ideas. Encourage them to continue by asking questions such as, “Can you tell us what you mean by that?” or “What leads you to that conclusion?”



## 2a. Engagement Exercise #1 (10 - 20 min)

“As a group, we will pick the top three benefits that make historic preservation important to us, our organization or our community:”

1. \_\_\_ Allows for community focused public spaces
2. \_\_\_ Economic vitality
3. \_\_\_ Ensuring future generations have access to historical resources
4. \_\_\_ Good urban design
5. \_\_\_ The ability to teach/learn about Alaska’s history
6. \_\_\_ The ability to conduct historical research
7. \_\_\_ The preservation of cultural identity/ heritage
8. \_\_\_ The preservation of sacred places or space
9. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Deep Dive:

“Discuss in your group why these three benefits are important to you, your organization or your community.”

If your group is large enough, divide your group in to three groups and assign each group one of the benefits you identified as important. Ask them to take notes on their discussion, then pull everyone back together and ask each group to share their findings.

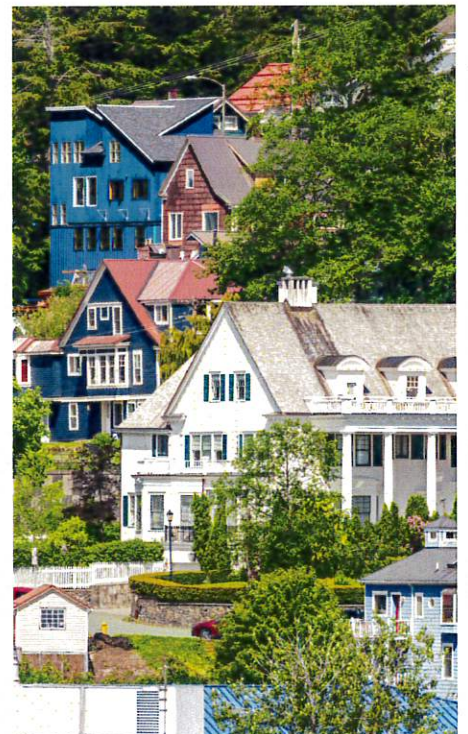
If you have time, follow up with the question:

“How would these three benefits help promote historic preservation in Alaska.”

tips continued...

**4 Be comfortable with silence.** Being the host/facilitator doesn’t mean you have to always talk. Your role is to encourage members to express their views and walk the group through the exercises. Group members may be slow to share their opinions but trust your participants. People learn best when engaged in active thinking, rather than passively listening to a presentation.

**5 Non-exercise questions.** Allow the group to try to answer the question and if the question isn’t answered, offer: “Let’s talk about that at the end of our session.”



Alaska Governor’s Mansion, Juneau





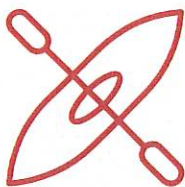
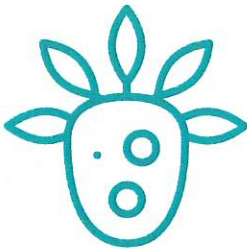
Bunker Hill, Unalaska

## 2b. Engagement Exercise #2 (10 - 20 min)

### Explanation:

“As a group, we will complete an exercise that will pick the top three challenges to historic preservation our group sees.”

1. \_\_\_ Public does not value historic preservation enough
2. \_\_\_ Lack of understanding of existing and potential resources
3. \_\_\_ Low lawmaker interest in historic preservation
4. \_\_\_ Economy
5. \_\_\_ Too much emphasis on development
6. \_\_\_ In-and-out migration of rural communities
7. \_\_\_ Too many other priorities
8. \_\_\_ Not enough people do preservation work
9. \_\_\_ Climate Change
10. \_\_\_ Perception that new is better than old
11. \_\_\_ Safety concerns (code issues, school safety, etc.)
12. \_\_\_ Natural disasters
13. \_\_\_ Site vulnerability
14. \_\_\_ Housing needs, including affordability
15. \_\_\_ Gentrification and displacement
16. \_\_\_ Public infrastructure changes and needs
17. \_\_\_ Changes in worship, recreation, transportation, or cultural norms
18. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_



### Deep Dive:

“What could our community or group do to address these challenges to historic preservation?”

If your group is large enough divide your group in to three groups again and assign each group one of the challenges the group identified. Ask them to take notes on their discussion, then pull everyone back together and ask each group to share their findings.



## 2c. Engagement Exercise #3 (10 - 20 min)

### Explanation:

Ask all participants to take 3-5 minutes to reflect and write on the following question. Reconvene the larger group. Ask people to share their reflections and thoughts.

**“What resources does your group or community need to help strengthen local preservation efforts?”**

## 3. Final Conclusions (5-10 min)

Meeting wrap-up.

Thank your participants for helping inform the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and encourage them to stay connected to the process by visiting:

<https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha/planning/savingourpast.htm>

Ask everyone to describe in one or two words how the *Meeting in a Box* experience worked for them. Note the answers on the Host Worksheet.

Collect Worksheets and group discussion notes. Complete the meeting host feedback questionnaire. Label your package with host name and contact information, organization (if applicable) and meeting date.



Saxman Totem Park, Saxman

The Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) &  
Alaska's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

## Return Instructions:

Be sure to return your meeting results to The Alaska SHPO Statewide Historic Preservation Planning Team by the date on your cover letter, so that your meeting results and feedback can inform the Draft Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation Plan.

**Please scan and send a digital copy of all materials to:**

maria.lewis@alaska.gov

OR

**Mail a printed copy to:**

Maria Lewis

State Architectural Historian

Alaska State Historic Preservation  
Office

Office of History & Archaeology  
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310,  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561

**Please return the following:**

- Host Worksheets
- Participant Worksheets
- Meeting Notes
- Host Evaluation
- Sign-In Sheets







Alaska Historic Preservation Plan

# SAVING OUR PAST: FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

2025-2034

# Participant Worksheets







Alaska Historic Preservation Plan  
**SAVING OUR PAST:  
FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE**  
2025-2034

# Meeting in a Box Participant Worksheets

## Welcome & thank you!

**T**hank you for participating in an Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation Plan *Meeting in a Box*. While the Alaska State Historic Preservation Office leads the statewide plan update effort, the process is dependent on input from people like you.

Your input today will help identify issues about historic preservation that need to be addressed within the updated plan. Moreover, your voice will inform the Statewide vision for the future of preservation in Alaska—along with goals and objectives—so that preservation challenges can be met and overcome at the community and state level.

We encourage you to stay involved in the planning process by visiting the Saving Our Past ([alaska.gov](http://alaska.gov)) webpage and comment on drafts.

Sincerely,

The Alaska Statewide Historic Preservation Planning Team &

The Alaska State Historic Preservation Office



The Office of History and Archaeology (OHA) &  
Alaska's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)





## 2a. Engagement Exercise #1

As a group, pick the top three benefits that make historic preservation important to you, your organization or your community:

1. \_\_\_ Allows for community focused public spaces
2. \_\_\_ Economic vitality
3. \_\_\_ Ensuring future generations have access to historical resources
4. \_\_\_ Good urban design
5. \_\_\_ The ability to teach/learn about Alaska's history
6. \_\_\_ The ability to conduct historical research
7. \_\_\_ The preservation of cultural identity/heritage
8. \_\_\_ The preservation of sacred places or space
9. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Deep Dive:

After the group has identified the top three benefits, divide up into three groups and your group host will assign one to each group. Discuss in your group why that reason is important to you, your organization or your community.

Our group discussed #: \_\_\_\_\_

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“How would this reason help promote historic preservation in Alaska?”

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## 2b. Engagement Exercise #2

As a group, you will complete an exercise to rank the things your group sees as the biggest challenges to historic preservation.

**As a group you will complete an exercise to rank the challenges to historic preservation that your group sees.**

1. \_\_\_ Public does not value historic preservation enough
2. \_\_\_ Lack of understanding of existing and potential resources
3. \_\_\_ Low lawmaker interest in historic preservation
4. \_\_\_ Economy
5. \_\_\_ Too much emphasis on development
6. \_\_\_ In-and-out migration of rural communities
7. \_\_\_ Too many other priorities
8. \_\_\_ Not enough people do preservation work
9. \_\_\_ Climate Change
10. \_\_\_ Perception that new is better than old
11. \_\_\_ Safety concerns (code issues, school safety, etc.)
12. \_\_\_ Natural disasters
13. \_\_\_ Site vulnerability
14. \_\_\_ Housing needs, including affordability
15. \_\_\_ Gentrification and displacement
16. \_\_\_ Public infrastructure changes and needs
17. \_\_\_ Changes in worship, recreation, transportation, and other cultural norms
18. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Deep Dive:

**After the group has identified the top three challenges, divide up into three groups. The group host will assign one to each group. Discuss in your group what your community or group could do to address this challenge to historic preservation.**

Our group discussed #: \_\_\_\_\_

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**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 24-01**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION **SUPPORTING / IN OPPOSITION** TO THE PROPOSALS TO NAME AND RENAME ARKOSE PEAK, ARKOSE RIDGE AND MOUNT CAROLA.

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WHEREAS, the Historical Preservation Commission uniquely equipped to understand and give comment on the naming or renaming of geographic features; and

WHEREAS, the current name of Arkose Peak is being requested to change to Souvenir Peak; and

WHEREAS, the currently unnamed peak is being requested to change to Arkose Peak; and

WHEREAS, the currently unnamed peak is being requested to change to Mount Carola; and

**WHEREAS, ; and**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Historical Preservation Commission supports / is in opposition to the naming and renaming of these three geographic features.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Historical Preservation Commission this 15th day of August, 2024.

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Bert Verall, Chair

ATTEST:

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Leda Borys, Long Range Planner



**From:** [Peggy Horton](#)  
**To:** [Leda Borys](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for Comment on Geographic Name Proposals: Arkose Peak, Souvenir Peak, and Mount Carola  
**Date:** Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:47:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [3050-3 Mount Carola Request for Comment MSB.pdf](#)  
[3050-4 Souvenir Peak Request for Comment MSB.pdf](#)  
[3050-4 Arkose Peak Request for Comment MSB.pdf](#)

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Hi, Leda,

This is the information I have for these geographic feature naming requests. I'm hoping to get these on the Planning Commission's agenda on August 5 to meet their requested date of August 15. Alex said you're handling getting it on the HPC agenda. Is it possible for the HPC comments to be ready for the August 5 PC meeting? If not, would August 19 work?

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**From:** Sine, Mary M (DNR) <mary.sine@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2024 3:02 PM  
**To:** Mike Brown <Mike.Brown@matsugov.us>; Peggy Horton <Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us>  
**Cc:** Ringsmuth, Katie J (DNR) <katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov>; Bittner, Judith E (DNR) <judy.bittner@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Request for Comment on Geographic Name Proposals: Arkose Peak, Souvenir Peak, and Mount Carola

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL - CAUTION: Do not open unexpected attachments or links.]**

Dear Borough Manager,

The Alaska Historical Commission has received several geographic name proposals that we would like to hear your comments and input regarding.

These include:

- One proposal concerning changing the name of the currently named Arkose Peak on Arkose Ridge to "Souvenir Peak."
- One proposal concerning naming a currently unnamed peak on Arkose Ridge as "Arkose Peak."
- One proposal concerning naming a currently unnamed peak in southern Denali National Park & Preserve with the commemorative name of "Mount Carola."

In this email, I have attached the comment forms, proposal reports, maps, supplemental information, and the Alaska Historical Commission's geographic name guidelines for you to review. We ask that you return any comments you have on these proposals by August 15, 2024. These geographic name proposals will be on the agenda for the Alaska Historical Commission's Fall meeting, currently scheduled for October 3, 2024.

Thank you for your time,

Mary Sine (she/her)

Natural Resource Specialist 2

State of Alaska/DNR/DPOR

Office of History and Archaeology

550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1310

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Email: [mary.sine@alaska.gov](mailto:mary.sine@alaska.gov)

Phone: (907) 269-8749



THE STATE  
of ALASKA

GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION  
Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565  
907.269.8721

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha>

June 3, 2024

Re: 3050-4 Arkose Peak

Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
350 E Dahlia Ave  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

[mike.brown@matsugov.us](mailto:mike.brown@matsugov.us)

cc: [Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us](mailto:Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us)

Dear Borough Manager,

The Alaska Historical Commission has received a geographic name proposal to name a currently unnamed 5,325-foot mountain peak on Arkose Ridge between the head of Lone Tree Gulch and the head of Iron Creek in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, north of Palmer. The proposed name is "Arkose Peak", and this proposal is concurrent with a proposal to rename the current "Arkose Peak" as "Souvenir Peak." A copy of the proposal is enclosed for review, as well as a map showing the feature's location, and the guidelines for geographic names that the Alaska Historical Commission members have established.

The commission would appreciate your comments on the proposed name. To object or to endorse the proposed name, you must respond in writing. Your comments need to be received by **August 15, 2024**. You can respond with a letter or by writing your comments in the box below. Please send your comments by mail to the address above or by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

If you have any questions about the state geographic names program, please contact Katie Ringsmuth at email [katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov](mailto:katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov) or by phone at (907) 269-8714.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ringsmuth  
Geographic Names Coordinator and State Historian  
KJR: mms

Enclosures

I \_\_\_\_\_ object / \_\_\_\_\_ endorse the proposed name because: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



This proposal was submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee to change the name “Arkose Peak.” In 1969, at the request of the MCA, the federal Board of Geographic Names (BGN) approved the name “Arkose Peak” for the 5,804-foot peak (subject of the concurrent proposal for “Souvenir Peak”) in Sections 26 & 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East. According to the BGN, the original 1969 case brief proposing “Arkose Peak” included the notation that “Arkose” was “[proposed] because of the type of granitic rock present.” However, since 1985, USGS topographic maps have mistakenly placed the label, applying it instead to the 5,325-foot peak in Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 2 East, approximately 1.3 miles to the southeast of its intended location (and the location of the new proposed “Arkose Peak”). Because of this discrepancy, the incorrect location became known locally as “Arkose Peak,” while the 1969 named peak is now locally known as “Souvenir Peak.” This proposal is to recognize the local use of the name “Arkose Peak” with the correct 5,325-foot summit, listed in MCA publications between 1986 and 2019, along with the concurrent proposed name of “Souvenir Peak.”

According to the proponents, “Now that the Anchorage D-6 SE and Anchorage D-S SW maps have been published (2023), local map users are questioning the placement of the ‘Arkose Peak’ label on the location now commonly known as ‘Souvenir Peak.’” They further state that, “because the name ‘Arkose Peak’ is now in common use for the 5,325-foot peak at the southeast head of Lone Tree Gulch, we propose to adjust the placement of the BGN-approved name ‘Arkose Peak’ to that location.” The proposed location also brings “Arkose Peak” closer to the main part of the ridge, which is named “Arkose Ridge.”

Orth’s *Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (1967) does not list this peak and notes that “Arkose Ridge” and “Arkose Peak” were local names reported by USGS in 1962 (pg. 87), presumably referring to the “Arkose Peak” named in the previous geographic name proposal in the 1960s, now proposed to be changed to “Souvenir Peak.” The originally named “Arkose Peak” (proposed new name of “Souvenir Peak”) and its neighboring Arkose Ridge are reported as the Ahtna name “Tsida K’ae Dgilaaye” in *Shem Pete’s Alaska: The Territory of Upper Cook Inlet Dena’ina* (Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2016, pg. 297) by James Kari and James A. Fall, with principal contributor Shem Pete. Here, “Tsida K’ae Dghilaaye” means “Grandmother’s Place Mountain” in Ahtna (Kari & Fall, 2016, pg. 297).

sF

**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes  No  If Yes, approximately how many years? 40-50

**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?** None Listed

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:** None listed

**Additional information:**

The mountain is on State land in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in the Hatcher Pass Planning Area.

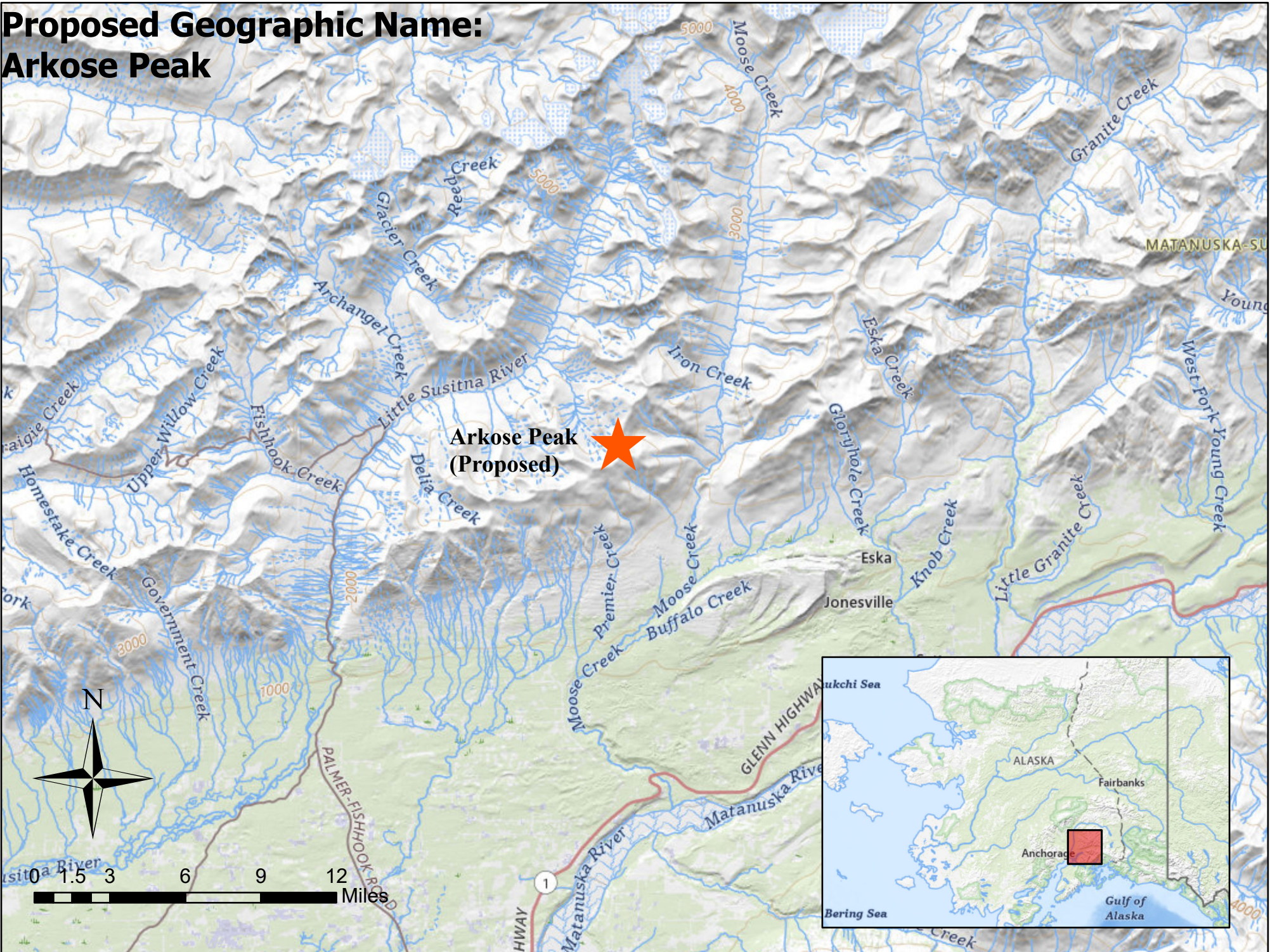
**Organizations for Consultation:**

- Chickaloon Native Village
- Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Knik Tribal Council
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Mountaineering Club of Alaska
- Native Village of Eklutna
- State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water
- State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
- Alaska State Parks, Mat-Su/Copper River Basin Region

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Steve Gruhn	Chair of Geographic Names Committee		8/4/2023
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
Mountaineering Club of Alaska			
Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Judith E. Bittner	SHPO	(907) 269-8721	
Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)		
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology			
550 West 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565			
Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area



# Proposed Geographic Name: Arkose Peak



USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State HII; NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information



## Change application of Arkose Peak

### Proposal Information

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Proposed name	<b>Arkose Peak</b>
Proposal type	application change to recognize present-day use
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6108
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

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Primary coordinates	61.770844, -149.069003
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,316 ft.
Feature description	Between the head of Lone Tree Gulch and the head of Iron Creek
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Anchorage D-6 SW 1:25,000
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- None

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: Arkose Peak: USGS 1985, 1994, 2023

### Case Summary

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This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee, is to change the application of the name Arkose Peak. The current and proposed locations are within the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

In 1969, at the request of the MCA, the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5,804-foot peak in Sections 26 & 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East; however, since 1985, USGS topographic maps have mistakenly placed the label, applying it instead to the 5,325-foot peak in Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 2 East, approximately 1.3 miles to the southeast of its intended location. Because of the longstanding discrepancy, the incorrect location has become known locally as Arkose Peak. The peak that was the subject of the 1969 decision has acquired the name Souvenir Peak (q.v.).



The proponent writes, “now that the Anchorage D-6 SE and Anchorage D-S SW maps have been published (2023), local map users are questioning the placement of the ‘Arkose Peak’ label on the location now commonly known as Souvenir Peak.”

He further states, “because the name Arkose Peak is now in common use for the 5,325-foot peak at the southeast head of Lone Tree Gulch, we propose to adjust the placement of the BGN-approved name Arkose Peak to that location.”

The proposed location is also closer to the main part of the ridge named Arkose Ridge.

No information has been found regarding the origin of the word “Arkose,” although the 1969 case brief includes the notation “[proposed] because of the type of granitic rock present.” The Alaska Board on Geographic Names minutes from the 1969 decision stated “Arkose Peak was approved by the [Alaska] Board. It was originally submitted as ‘Archois Peak’ but [a member] moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error.” *The Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (Orth, 1967) does not list the peak, and for the ridge simply notes “Local name reported in 1962 by USGS.”

Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5,325-foot peak	5,820-foot peak
“Souvenir Peak”	5,820-foot peak	N/A

### Stakeholder Input

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Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

## Change Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak

### Proposal Information

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Proposed name	<b>Souvenir Peak</b>
Proposal type	make official name in local use
Current official name	Arkose Peak
GNIS ID	<a href="#">1854183</a>
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6109
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

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Primary coordinates	61.7885220, -149.0525085
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,804 ft.
Feature description	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. ESE of Idaho Peak, 3.5 mi. WNW of Eska Mountain.
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
PLSS	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- Arkose Peak (1969)

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: Souvenir Peak (local use)
- Published names:
  - Arkose Peak: USGS 1979, 2016, 2023
  - K'ae Dghelaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Souvenir Peak: Will Hersman's *History Corner, Mountaineering Club of Alaska Scree*, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2019

### Case Summary

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This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Geographic Names for the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, is to change the name of Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak to recognize the name in local

use. The summit has an elevation of 5,804 feet and is located in the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Although the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for this peak in 1969, USGS maps mislabeled the name and over the subsequent 50 years, the incorrect location became accepted as correct. The name Souvenir Peak came into use for the BGN-approved Arkose Peak. According to the proponent, “It was published in Willy Hersman’s *History Corner* article that appeared in the August 1986 edition of *Scree*, the monthly newsletter of the MCA. At that time the name Souvenir Peak had been in use for nearly 20 years (since at least 1968) but had been applied to various other features. Since Hersman’s article was published, the local mountaineering and skiing community has called the 5,820-foot peak Souvenir Peak.” The name appears in other MCA publications between 1986 and 2019.

### Stakeholder Input

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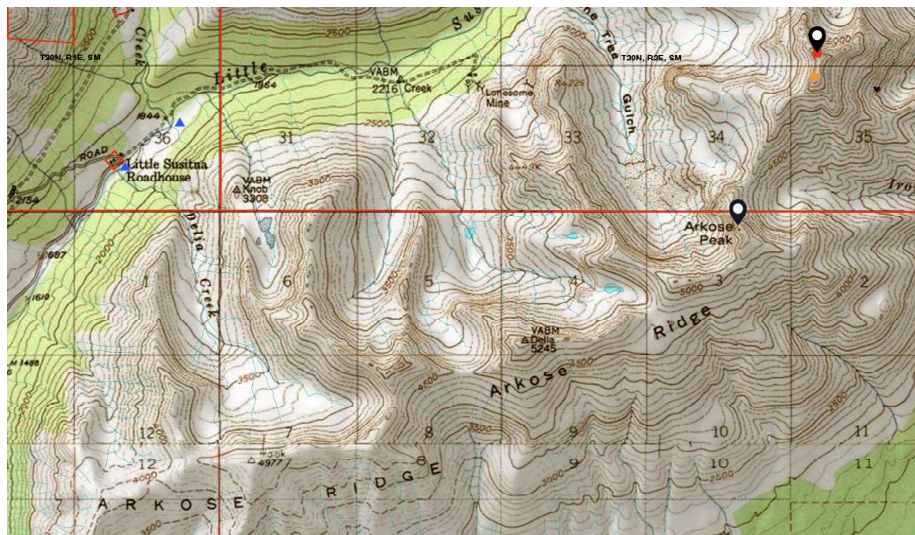
Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

**Name current Arkose Peak (GNIS Location) to Souvenir Peak  
Change application of Arkose Peak to reflect local use and topographic map location**

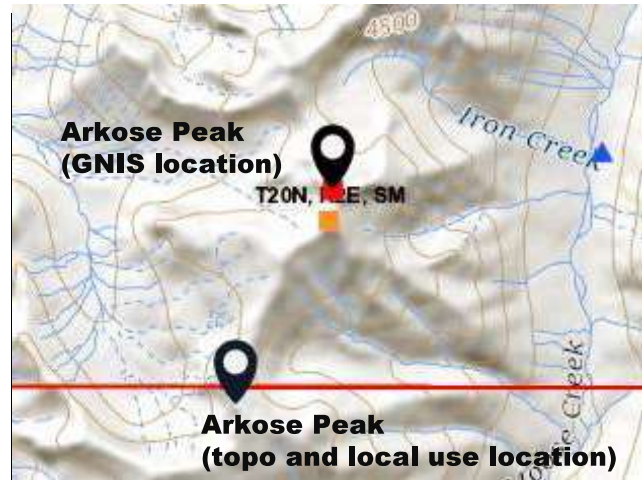


Change location of Arkose Peak from 5,804-ft. peak to 5,316-ft. peak to reflect local use. GNIS notes that following the 1969 decision, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the wrong peak.

Name 5,804-ft peak as Souvenir Peak to make official a name in local use.



**Current GNIS and Topo map Locations**



Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5316-foot peak	5804-foot peak
"Souvenir Peak"	5804-foot peak	N/A



# Feature Details

<b>Feature ID</b>	1854183		
<b>Name</b>	Arkose Peak		
<b>Class</b>	Summit		
<b>Feature Code</b>	Summit		
<b>Location</b>	Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Alaska		
<b>Citation</b>	<b>Source Type</b>	Text	
	<b>Reference</b>	US	
	<b>Originator</b>	U.S. Board on Geographic Names	
	<b>Distribution Date</b>	January 1, 2000	
	<b>Title</b>	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions	
	<b>Edition</b>		
	<b>Original Citation</b>	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.	
<b>Entry Date</b>	March 30, 2000		
<b>*Elevation</b>	1766 meters / 5794 feet		
<b>Designations</b>			
<b>History</b>	Note: the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5850-foot peak at 614719N, 1490320W; however, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the 5350-foot peak at 614617N, 1490409W. The 2016 US Topo shows the name at the correct location.		
<b>Description</b>	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi SE of Idaho Peak, 13 mi N of Palmer, Chugach Mountains.		

<b>Census Code</b>	<b>Class Code</b>	<b>GSA Code</b>	<b>OPM Code</b>
-	-	-	-

# Variant Names

Name  Asc

Name	In Part	Originator	Reference	Series Name	Publication Date	Source URL	Title	Edition	Notes	Additional Information
Archois Peak	No	U.S. Board on Geographic Names	US	-	January 1, 2000	-	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions	-	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.
K'ae Dghelaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-
Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-

# Decisions

Name	Date	Authority	Type
Arkose Peak	May 13, 1969	Board Decision	Official

# Decision Cards

Filename

## Coordinates

Sequence	Coordinates	Map	State
1	61.7885220, -149.0525085 / 61° 47' 18.68" N, 149° 3' 9.03" W	Anchorage D-6 SE	AK

## Government Units

Sequence	State or Equivalent	County or Equivalent
1	Alaska	Matanuska-Susitna Borough

## Map

**Feature ID:** 1854183

**Official Name:** Arkose Peak

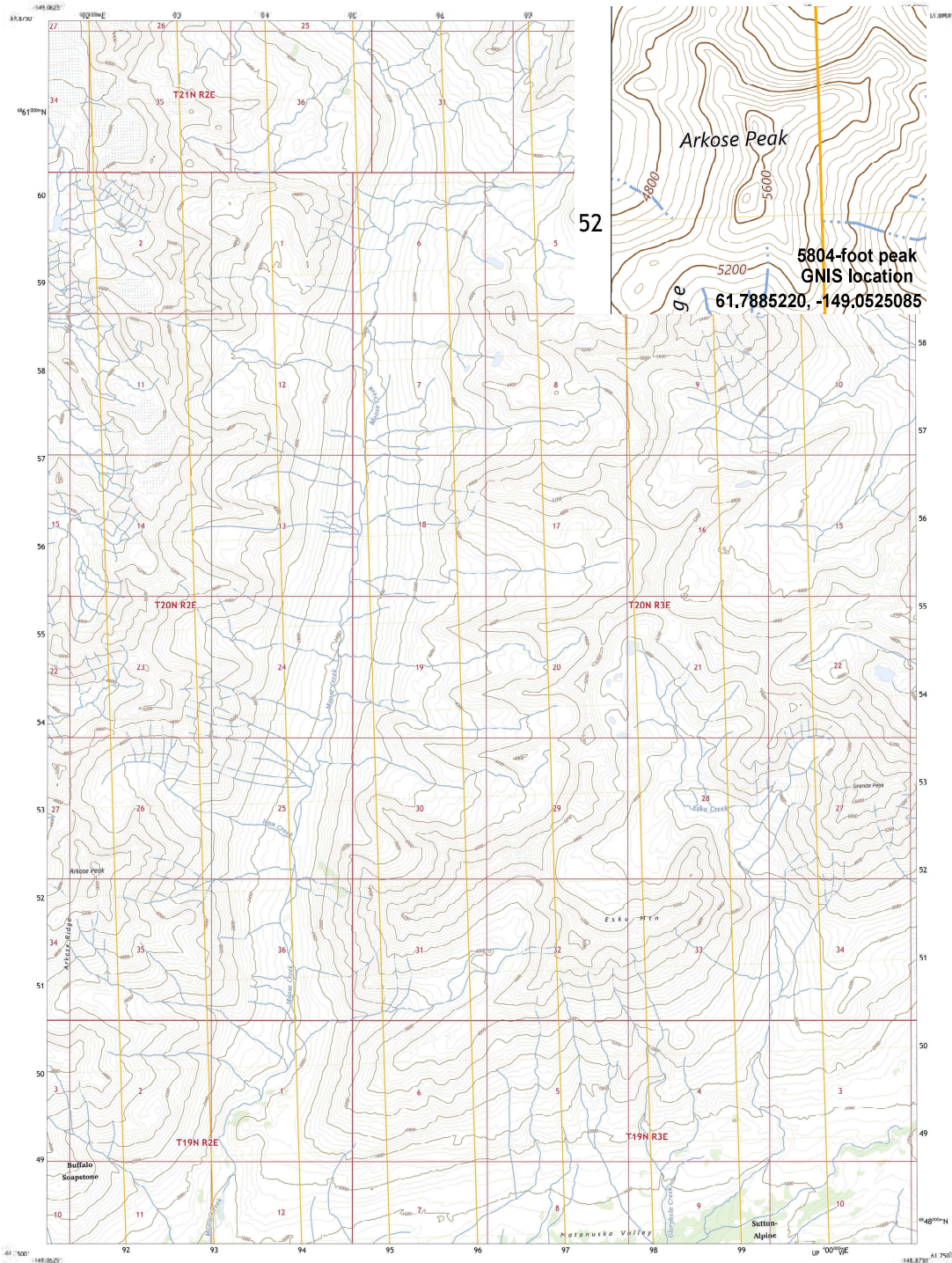
**Sequence Number:** 1

**Location DD:** 61.788522, -149.0525085

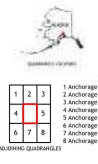
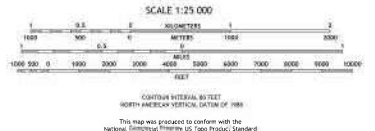
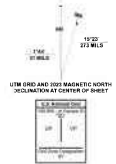
**Location DMS:** 61° 47' 18.68" N 149° 3' 9.03" W

61.7969383, -148.9877999, 14z

Powered by Esri | The National Map Base Layer, The National Map + Aerial Imagery", Usa Topo

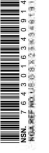


Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
1.0-Meter geotiff-derived Triangulation Accuracy, Zone 18  
This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be  
generalized for this map scale. Private lands with government  
rights may not be shown. Obtain permission before  
entering private lands.  
Imagery: 2021, © September 2010 - September 2010  
Roads: Alaska Dept. of Transportation, © Available  
Name: 2023, © 2023  
Hydrography: National Hydrography Dataset, 2001 - 2016  
Contours: National Elevation Dataset, 2013  
Boundaries: Multiple sources see metadata file 2023\_10\_01  
Public Land: Survey System, 2002  
Wetlands: FWS National Wetlands Inventory Not Available

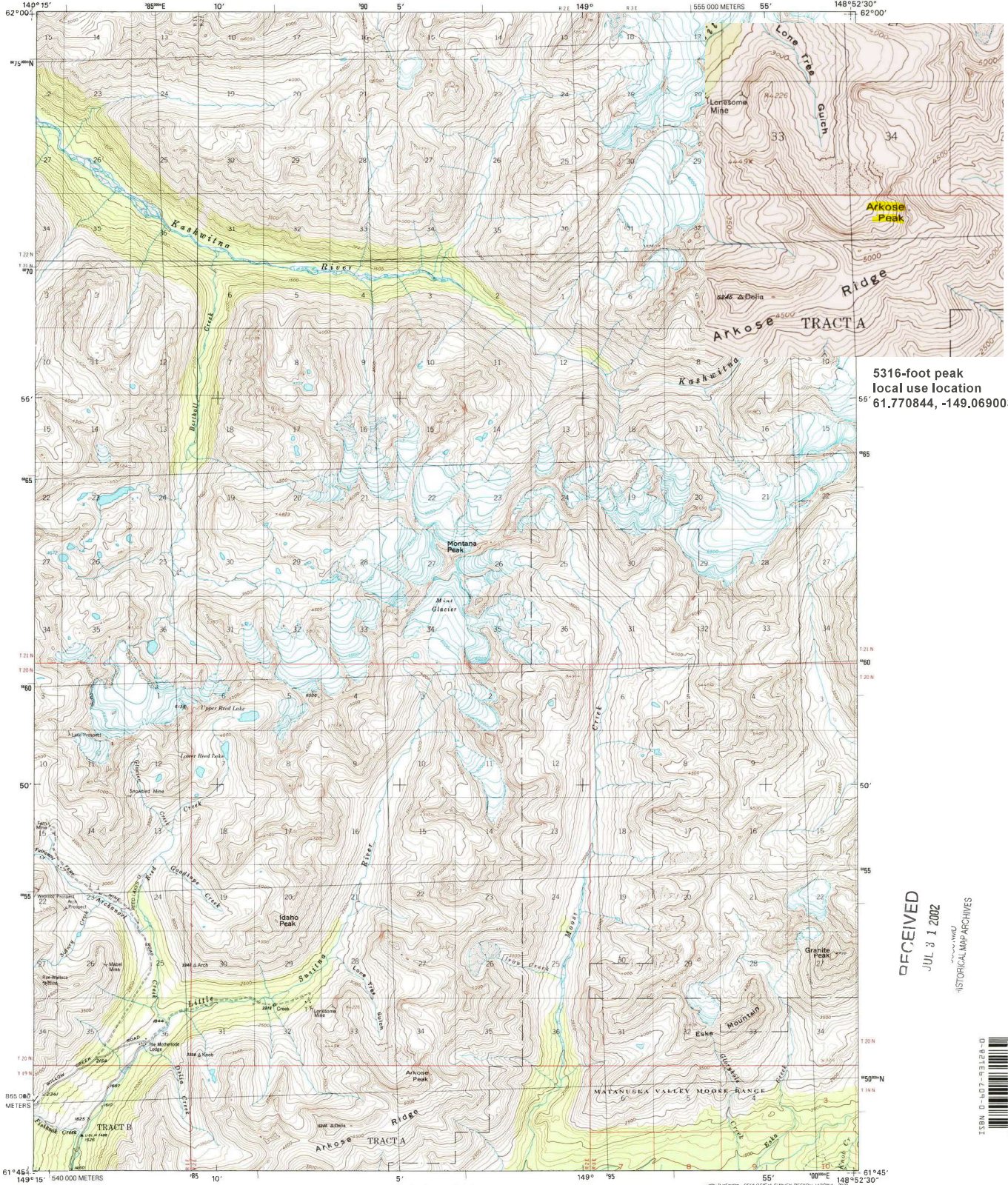


ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Expressway	Local Connector
Secondary Hwy	Local Road
Route	AK-5
Interstate Route	US Route
	State Route





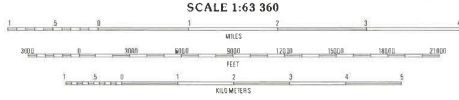
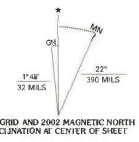


5316-foot peak local use location 61.770844, -149.069003

RECEIVED JUL 3 1 2002 HISTORICAL MAP ARCHIVES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey Topography compiled 1949. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1994 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1950. South edge current as of 1993. This map has not been field checked. Boundaries current as of 2000. North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 5 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 6. 5 000-meter grid: Alaska Coordinate System of 1983 (zone 4). North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Protracted land lines are predetermined by the Bureau of Land Management, Folio S-1, Seward Meridian.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929 TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



ADJOINING QUADRANGLES

1	2	1 Talkatche Mountains A-5 2 Talkatche Mountains A-4 3 Anchorage D-7
3	4	4 Anchorage D-5 5 Anchorage C-7 6 Anchorage C-6 7 Anchorage C-5
5	6	7

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway hard surface	Unimproved road
Secondary highway hard surface	4 wheel drive
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Trails
	State Route





MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

AUGUST 1986

Volume 29, Issue 08

### AUGUST MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, August 20th at 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets, Anchorage. After the business meeting, Mark Findlay will give a slide show on a June 1986 Valdez to Whittier kayak trip.

### MINUTES FOR THE JULY MEETING

The meeting was held July 16th, 1986 at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, and was called to order by President Mark Findlay at 7:42 p.m. The reading of the minutes for June was waived.

Mark extended his thanks to Willie Hersman for filling in for him at the June meeting.

The club welcomed new members and guests.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

\$ 245.00 - Petty Cash  
716.20 - Checking Account  
4,018.23 - Money Market Account  
\$4,979.43 - Total MCA Monies

Individual membership is \$10.00. Family membership is \$15.00

Send to: P.O. BOX 102037  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
Attn. Treasurer

### I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Hiking Committee

The Crow Pass hike was changed from July 19th to July 20th. Twin Peaks hike will be rescheduled from July 26th to another date (check the hiking schedule).

### II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Willy Hersman has applied for the Personal Use Cabin Permit, but has not received anything yet.

## ICE CLIMBING CLASS

The annual MCA technical ice climbing school will be held the last weekend in September. The course will consist of one classroom session, which is MANDATORY, and two days of ice climbing at the Matanuska Glacier. This class is for learning the basics about vertical ice climbing (i.e. waterfalls and gullies) only. No glacier walking techniques will be covered! Due to the limited availability of equipment, we are forced to limit the size of this year's school to 44 students. Present dues-paying members will have priority. They will be able to sign up at the August meeting. Further details will be published in next month's SCREE. Those interested in instructing should contact Paul Denkwalter at Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking (AMH) at 272-1811.

## HISTORY CORNER

While recently working on an update of the master Peak Index for the SCREE, I found several accounts of first ascents which were quite confusing to me, sometimes because of the way they were written, sometimes because the maps then were probably inadequate. Persistence usually cleared up the confusion, but the worst of these puzzling accounts concerns the first ascent of Arkose Peak, the peak at the north end of Arkose Ridge above the Little Susitna drainage in the Talkeetnas.

I wasn't the first to be perplexed, Vin and Grace Hoeman made efforts to find out the story as well back in 1969. Grace made two trips to the area and thought she had cleared it up in an article she wrote in June 1969. She climbed twice the double-summited peak above Lone Tree Gulch (5850') to find only a cairn. She wrote, "There's no doubt in my mind that what the 1961 party climbed is indeed Arkose." The trouble is Arkose Peak is at an elevation just above 5300'. She still had the story wrong.

The account of July 1961 describes a peak with a double summit at about 6000 feet. True, Grace climbed the same one, at least by comparing the descriptions, but it's not Arkose. An article written in December 1968 took the liberty of naming many peaks between the roadhouse and the Mint Glacier. Some of those names faded away, some were not peaks at all, but they did give our peak in question the name of Souvenir Peak, which they claimed was 5715' high. This name cropped up again in a Dec. 1970 article.

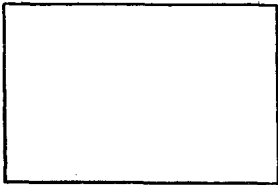
It appears to me that Arkose was first climbed in 1960 by an MCA party, with an account by Helga Bading entitled "Little Montana Peak" (Aug. 1960, pg. 2), where she gives the elevation as about 6200'. The only two members on both first ascents were Helga and John Dillman. John confirms the fact that in 1961 he and Helga and Gwynn Wilson climbed the 5850' peak above Lone Tree Gulch, now known as Souvenir Peak; the other climb in 1960 is less certain.

Based on all the descriptions found in the old SCREES, the record should reflect: Arkose Peak (5300') F.A.: 1960 (Bading, Erickson, Dillman, Putschler, Dahlke, Gessel) and Souvenir Peak (5850') F.A.: 1961 (Bading, Dillman, Wilson). Gee, I'll bet you were wondering about that one, right? Right!

Willy Hersman

APPROVED MAY 13 1969  
 Promulgation authorized  
 Executive Secretary  
 Domestic Geographic Names  
*J. K. Linnaman*

UNITED STATES  
 BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
 Case Brief (Domestic)



Recommended Name: Arkose Peak

Source

State: Alaska Civil Division: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

\_\_\_\_\_ sec. \_\_\_\_\_ T. \_\_\_\_\_ R. \_\_\_\_\_ meridian ( )

Lat. 61° 47' 20" N., Long. 149° 03' 00" W. \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ N., Long. \_\_\_\_\_ W. \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Description: mountain, highest elevation over 5,800 ft. ( ) ( ) ( )  
at the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. SE of Idaho Peak  
and 13 mi. N of Palmer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Verification of Names in Descrip.	Check	
	Dec.	WkCd
<u>Arkose Ridge</u>		<u>✓</u>
<u>Idaho Peak</u>		<u>✓</u>
<u>Palmer</u>		<u>✓</u>
_____		
_____		

Not: - Archois Peak

Summary, indicating submitting person, or agency, source for locating the feature; reason for submittal of the name and pertinent facts of the case, for presentation to DNC.

Alaska Board, Anchorage (D-6); approved by the Alaska Board; "Arkose Peak" was proposed originally, because feature "is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge" and because of the "type of granitic rock... present"; however, the Alaska Board changed the name to "Archois Peak" but gives no reason for doing so; not in a USNF

Submitted by: Alaska Board  
 Prepared by: Lyle  
 Reviewed by: Berringer

Date: Nov. 13, 1968 Docket List No. 124  
 Date: Jan. 28, 1969 Date Approved by Sec.  
 Date: 2/19/69 of Int.  
 Promulgation Date:

Alaska Bd. on 5-6-69 said the spelling should be "Arkose"

(1a) Archois Peak 1968 Nov. 13, letter  memo

USC&GS  USFS  DGN  USGS

(1b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Alaska State Geogr. Bd.

Other:

Field names report Dec. 18 1967

Annotated maps ( ) ( )

(2a) Shown but not named 1950(68) USGS Anchorage (D-6) 1:63  
(2b) Shown but not named 1962(66) USGS Anchorage 1:250  
(2c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2d) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2e) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2f) not shown 1954(64) USGS Alaska State Base

(3a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(3b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(4a) NOT IN NATIONAL FOREST 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(4b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(5a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USC&GS \_\_\_\_\_

(5b) not shown 1968 Aero Ch. Anchorage 1:500

(5c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Coast Pilot \_\_\_\_\_

(6) not shown 1964 Off. State Road Map  Not Shown

(7a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(7b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Rand, McNally Com. Atlas, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 U.S. Postal Guide, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_ 1960 U.S. Census, Table 7, Pop., Vol. 1

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ BGN Decision

(12) not listed 1967 Dictionary of Alaska Place Names



3/1/68

*app*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

PROPOSAL OF NAME  
FOR AN UNNAMED DOMESTIC FEATURE

Proposed name

~~Arkose Peak~~ *Archaic Peak*

State Alaska County

Pronunciation, if not obvious (use Webster's Dictionary symbols)

Location of Feature

Latitude 61° 47' 19" N.

Longitude 149° 03' 20" W.

Section(s) 26.35, T. 20 N., R. 2 E., Seward Meridian

Description and extent of feature: Mountain peak 5850 plus or minus 50, including also peak 5750 plus or minus 50,  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile south of it and all slopes rising to these summits.

Distance and direction from prominent features or towns: 13 miles north of Palmer, 3 miles SE of Idaho Peak at the northern end of Arkose Ridge.

Basis of knowledge that the feature is unnamed: Anchorage D-6 quad, local knowledge

- Reason for Choice of Name:
- descriptive
  - other (state reason): Provides a definite terminus for Arkose Ridge, the only other place-name usage of arkose in Alaska.
  - for a nearby feature
  - for a person

If the name is descriptive, state why it is appropriate: This type of granitic rock is present

If named for another feature, state for that other feature:

1. Name Arkose Ridge Lat. 61° 44-46' " N. -- Long. 149° 03-13' " W.

Section(s) 3,4,7,8,9,12 T. 19 N., R. 2 E., Seward Meridian

2. Any known variant spellings or other names:

3. Number of years known by present name: on 1951 AMS map, so at least 16

4. Relation of the two features: Arkose Peak is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge.

If the name commemorates a person, state:

1. Full name of the person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(do not propose name of a living person)
2. Date of the person's death: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Last residence: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Association, if any, of the person with the feature to be named: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Brief biography: \_\_\_\_\_

List any  
Attached  
Identification  
Aids

Marked map: easily located on Anchorage D-6 (have C-6 available)  
Marked photographs:  
Other:

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Individual or private organization

Name J. Vin Hoeman, Chairman, Committee on Geog. Names  
Address Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
2500 Glehwood, Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Date 18 December 1967

Government agency (State or Federal)

Check appropriate box

Field officer of a mapping agency

Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and title \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

November 13, 1968

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:


The Alaska State Geographic Board has considered and approved the following name proposals at recent meetings:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ✓McHugh Peak          | ✓Mount Alpenglow     |
| ✓Aniakchak Peak       | ✓Matanuska Peak      |
| ✓Sharkstooth Mountain | ✓Cul-de-sac Glacier  |
| ✓One Shot Gap         | ✓Shelf Glacier       |
| ✓Institute Peak       | ✓Spyglass Hill       |
| ✓Archois Peak         | ✓Tranquillity Pass X |
| ✓Artillery Hill       | ✓Byron Peak          |
| ✓Crystalline Hills    | ✓Resurrection Peaks  |
| ✓Dogsled Pass         |                      |

A completed Form 9-1344 "Proposal of Name for an Unnamed Domestic Feature" is enclosed for each name proposal.

Would you please forward copies of any decision lists indicating approval to this Board.

Very truly yours,



Michael S. Leach  
Acting Chairman, Alaska  
State Geographic Board

MSL:ss  
Enclosures (17)  
cc. J. Vin Hoeman, Chairman  
Mountaineering Club of Alaska

# STATE OF ALASKA

KEITH H. MILLER, Governor

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY / POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

April 25, 1969

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

At the recent April 22, 1969, Alaska State Geographic Board meeting, the Board approved the U. S. Geographic Board's decision, the spelling Meyers Chuck. Done

The following disapproved names were deferred pending further research: \* Banks Lake, \* Cascade Creek, \* Mary Lake, \* Milk Creek, and \* Snipe Lake. These names have been disapproved due to duplication of names. Action was also deferred on the name Antler Lake until further information can be obtained.

Action was referred to Docket 124. All were approved by the Board.

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes from the April 22, 1969 meeting.

Very truly yours,

Alfred E. Widmark  
Chairman, Alaska State  
Geographic Board

by: Phyllis Ann Kunz  
Phyllis Ann Kunz, Secretary

Enclosure

A r kose Peak

Withdrawn-5-13-69



ALASKA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

May 6, 1969

The Alaska State Geographic Board Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Present were: Jean Jeffers, Department of Highways; Phyllis Nottingham, State Library; Mr. Hagmeier, Department of Education, and Al Widmark, Local Affairs Agency.

The minutes of the previous meeting, April 22, were read and stand approved as read.

A letter of March 20, 1969 from Mrs. Barbara D. Kalen to Mike Leach was read regarding the naming of two mountain peaks, Nimrod and Jeffrey. It has been assigned to Mike Leach to answer this letter.

Action was referred to Docket 122. The board approved the name Antler Lake.

Action was referred to Docket 124. Arkose Peak was approved by the Board. It was originally submitted as Archois Peak. Phyllis Nottingham moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error. Jean Jeffers seconded it and it was unanimously carried.

Crystalline Hill, Docket 124, was approved by the Board. It is the name originally submitted and was approved as such.

A letter from Mr. Kilmartin was read. The following names from Docket 121 were approved by the Board:

Aiken Creek	Kugel Creek
Aiken Lake	Kugel Lake
Anmer Creek	Myrtle Creek
Conclusion Creek	Niblack Lake
Four Falls Lake	Spruce Creek
Harley Creek	

From Docket 122, the following names were approved by the Board:

Gossan Ridge	Olive Lake
Lake Luella	Weather Ridge
Mount Ascension	

Mr. Widmark also read another letter from Mr. Kilmartin regarding the acceptance of the following Alaskan names for Federal use: from Docket 121, Lake Paul; Docket 122, Little Nugget Creek; Docket 123, Eulachon River; and Docket 124, Aniakchak Peak, Artillery Hill, Cul-de-sac Glacier, Dogsled Pass, Institute Peak, Matanuska Peak, One Shot Gap and Shelf Glacier.

Action on the remaining names on Docket 121, 122, 123, and 124 was deferred.

Mr. Widmark adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. until the next

# **Shem Pete's Alaska**

*The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina*

2016 Edition

by **James Kari** and **James A. Fall**

*Principal contributor*

**Shem Pete**

*Additional place names and commentary by*

Daniel Alex	Alec Peter
Mike Alex	Henry Peters
Nickafor Alexan	Annie Ronning
Emma Alexie	Fedosia Sacaloff
Alexandra Allowan	Dick Secondchief
Tommy Allowan	Morrie Secondchief
Harry Balluta	Jim Sinyon
Pete Bobby	Johnny Shaginoff
Sergei Californsky	Mary Shaginoff
Maxim Chickalusion	Alberta Stephan
Nellie Chickalusion	John Stephan
Ella Chuitt	Leo Stephan
Fedora Constantine	Pete Stephan
Peter Constantine	Sava Stephan
Miska Deaphon	Terry Stephan
Bobby Esai	Frank Stickwan
Hester Evan	John Stump
Fred Ewan	Jake Tansy
Betty Gilcrist	Arthur Theodore
Charlie Hubbard	Bailey Theodore
Peter Kalifornsky	Lillian Theodore
Ben Neely	Mike Theodore
Dick Mishakoff	Andy Tyone
Jim McKinley	Jack Tyone
Katherine Nicolie	Jim Tyone
Billy Pete	Katie Wade

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*Translations from Dena'ina Athabascan*

Shem Pete  
Billy Pete  
Katherine Nicolie  
Sava Stephan  
James Kari

*Maps*  
Matt Ganley, Map Alaska: [www.map-alaska.com](http://www.map-alaska.com)

*Music transcriptions*  
Thomas F. Johnston, University of Alaska Fairbanks

*Design*  
Dixon J. Jones, UAF Rasmuson Library Graphics

*Front cover*  
Lynx Lake and lakes west of Willow, photo by Fred  
Hirschmann AK-6838. See Plate 5 and Fig. 61.  
Inset photos: top, see page 394; bottom left to right, see Plate  
24, Fig. 3, Plate 9 and Map 17.

*Back cover*  
See Fig. 5.

*Vignette backgrounds*  
Close-up of dentalia shell necklace worn by Shem Pete at  
the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. potlatch on October 17, 1985.  
Dentalia shells are called *k'enq'ena* and the necklace is called  
*t'uiedi*. Photo by Kathy Kiefer.

Detail of a large birchbark basket, the elegant utility vessel  
of the Dena'ina, called *Ich'ehi* or *q'ey Ich'eha*. This basket was  
made by Emma Alexie of Lime Village. Digital image by Kim  
Armstrong, UAF Rasmuson Library Photographic Unit.

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Kind of a hot spring through the timber in there, and it's kind of a village meeting place."

- 14.11 **Kisidlentnu** • 'Point Current Creek'  
*Wolverine Creek*

- 14.12 **Kisidlen Bena** • 'Point Current Lake'  
*Wolverine Lake*

- 14.13 **C'ek'aali Cene** (Ahtna) • 'Whetstone Flat'  
*bluff on north side of Matanuska River between Palmer and Moose Creek*

Jim Tyone: "It is like it has been filed by the wind."

Johnny Shaginoff reported that a village site was located on this bluff near the mouth of Moose Creek. "It was a well-known place for Natives. All big high bluffs have names."

- 14.14 **Chidaq'atnu** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'etna** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Creek'  
*Moose Creek, formerly called Tsadaka Creek*

This name is distinctively Dena'ina in origin, based upon the word **chida** 'old lady, grandma.' Note however that Orth (1971:987) stated, "Tanaina Indian name meaning "moose," reported in 1898 by Capt Glenn." Mendenhall (1898, Map 58) wrote this as "Tsadaka."

Castner (1899:199): "Above Moose Creek on our [north] side of the Matanuska was an old camping place of the Matanuskas used in their journeys up and down the river."

According to Johnny Shaginoff and Katie Wade, there are burials on both sides of the mouth of Moose Creek. Some graves have washed out. Several people died here during the 1918 flu epidemic.

There is a modest king salmon run in Moose Creek. The fish were harvested with spears, according to Katie Wade.

- §14.78 **Chidaq'a Denyi** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'e Dyii** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Canyon'  
*Tsadaka Canyon on Moose Creek*

Cole et al. (1985:75): "As early as 1894, trappers and prospectors heard about the rich coal veins in the Matanuska Valley from local Indians."

In the 1940s the Wade and Larson families lived near the Premier Mine and hunted and harvested berries throughout this area.

- 14.15 **Chidaq'ashla Bena** • 'Lake of Grandmother's Little Place'  
*Wishbone Lake*

A trail leads up from the Moose Creek homestead of the Shaginoffs and Wades up to Wishbone Lake, a popular fishing spot.

- 14.16 **Chidaq'ashla** • 'Grandmother's Little Place'  
*Wishbone Hill*

Katie Wade said that this is thought of as a dangerous area. Many hunters have gotten lost here. A giant with feet that are turned backwards is said to have lived in the area.

- §14.79 **Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Mountain'  
*Arkose Peak and ridge*

The name of this ridge at the head of Moose Creek is implied from the suffix **-shla**, 'small, little' for 14.16, Wishbone Hill. Typically a hill or mountain noted as 'small' is paired with a nearby larger named feature.

According to Johnny Shaginoff, a trail led up Moose Creek and over the mountains to the upper Kashwitna River. The Larsons from Talkeetna used to travel this trail. "I know some people went through. Jack Larson went up Moose Creek, came down Kashwitna. He used to trap beaver someplace on Kashwitna." See 8.44.

- §14.80 **Tanilent** • 'Where Current Flows to Water'  
*rapids probably above Moose Creek*  
Name provided by John Stump.

- §14.81 †**U'el Naak** **Dghiltaazi** (Ahtna) • 'Bar That Is Turning With It'  
*bar on Matanuska River at Sutton*  
Name from the text by Jim Tyone. See p. 226.

- 14.17 **Ts'es Tuk'ilaght** (Dena'ina); **Ts'es Tac'ilaexde** (Ahtna) • 'Where Fish Run Among Rocks'  
*Eska Creek; Sutton*

A name written by Mendenhall in 1898 as "Chistookalat," or "Spring Creek," is clearly the Dena'ina name for Eska Creek.

The salmon fishery on the Matanuska River was on a much smaller scale than it was for the Dena'ina peoples on Knik Arm or for the Ahtna on the Copper River (for which see Simeone and Kari 2002.). The Chickaloon Ahtna did not spend much time salmon fishing. Some salmon were harvested here and at a small stream now called Mile Seventeen Creek (ponds near Eska Creek mouth) and at Little Granite Creek. Mary Shaginoff noted that she did little fishing following her family's move to Chickaloon in 1915. Johnny Shaginoff said that the salmon are good only the first two or three days of the run. In the past, salmon from the Eska area were mainly used as dog feed. The people in this area obtained dried salmon through trade with the people downstream at **Niteh**. See also Fall (1981:178, 203–205, and 1987:31, 36).

Katie Wade notes that the main traditional method of harvesting the salmon in the sidestreams and ponds along the Matanuska River was the fish spear. She also notes that the Ahtna-style **ciisi** or dipnet did not seem to have been used for any salmon fishing on the Matanuska River. Katie has noted that along the Matanuska River **ba'** or spread and scored dry fish was made only when there were enough good quality fish, and that they did not make **dzenax** or **nelk'oli**, the two styles of fermented fish that are made by the Ahtna on the Copper River.

- 14.18 **Neltsii Ce'e** (Ahtna) • 'Big One That Is Made Like a Face'  
*"Mount Sutton," mountain elev. 4415', "Crag"*

# Department of Natural Resources

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
: 907.269.8721  
dnr.oha@alaska.gov

## ALASKA'S GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

a program of the

## ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Alaska Historical Commission serves as the geographic names board for the State of Alaska (AS 41.35.350). The citizen board, chaired by the Lt. Governor, reviews names proposed for lakes, streams, mountains, and other physical features in the state. The commission coordinates its program with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The commission has established a process to consider proposals, as has the federal board. It takes at least a year to name a geographic feature.

In 1982 the State of Alaska enacted a law urging the state geographic names board to consider Alaska Native place names for geographic features in the state that have not previously been named, using Native language writing systems accepted by the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names has a policy to identify a single official name and spelling for each geographic feature. One or more **variant** names can be identified if needed for clarity or reference. A variant is any current or historic name or spelling for a geographic feature other than the official name. It might appear on maps in parentheses following the official name.

To propose an official name for a geographic feature, an application is made to the Alaska Historical Commission. The form is available at:

[http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname\\_app.pdf](http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname_app.pdf) or from the Office of History & Archaeology, 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501, 907.269.8721. The complete application and supporting material should be mailed, delivered to the office, or sent by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

All proposals must be accompanied by a **map** showing U.S. Geological Survey information and identifying clearly the feature to be named. Additional maps are encouraged that show the immediate area around the feature to be named, or show the feature in relation to major geographic features, communities, and roads as appropriate. Photographs and other identifying aids are useful but are not required.

**Evidence of local support** is encouraged. These might be letters, petitions, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor, showing public awareness and endorsement of the proposed name. The proposer must establish that property owners of the feature or close to it have been made aware of the name proposal and given a chance to comment.

## GUIDELINES

In the review of a proposed name, the Alaska Historical Commission uses the following guidelines and the policies of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (*Principles, Policies, and Procedures for Domestic Geographic Names*, <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/policies.htm>). A proposal must identify the type of proposed name from the categories below, address the special conditions, and establish why the feature needs an official name.

### Local usage

Active local use is the single, best reason to name a geographic feature. Local usage refers to a name for a geographic feature that has evolved over a period of years, is called that name by the community or area as a whole, and is supported by local petitions, oral histories, documents, or other publications. A feature named by the applicant is not considered local usage, even when the applicant has called the feature by that name for a number of years.

The Alaska Historical Commission encourages the proposer to:

- include evidence of common verbal or written usage of the proposed name, such as petitions signed by local residents, resolutions, or letters of support for the proposed name from local government entities and community groups

### Descriptive names (includes features named by applicant)

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is relevant and descriptive of the feature
- the name is not in use elsewhere in the region (unless for a related feature)
- the name is in good taste and not frivolous
- the name has been used for a minimum of five years and evidence is provided of the use
- the property owners of the feature and those living adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it

### Alaska Native names

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is or was in common local use and that use is documented
- the name is linguistically appropriate to the area in which it is to be applied
- the land owner has been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it
- there has been consultation on the spelling and use of diacritical marks (special marks not normally used in the English alphabet) with all Native groups in the area and with the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks



### **Commemorative names** (*please read the special section*)

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the individual has been deceased for five (5) years and evidence of this (such as an obituary and biography) is provided
- . the individual made a significant, acknowledged contribution over time to the community or state
- . the individual had a direct association with the feature for a period of years
- . there is local support by residents and local authorities as evidenced by including letters, petitions, and resolutions

### **Historical names**

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the proposed name was in common local use and that use is documented
- . the name is clearly associated with the area

### **Name changes**

The Alaska Historical Commission is reluctant to change existing names, but will consider doing so if the proposer demonstrates a compelling reason and if there is local support for the change. It has been shown that changing long-standing names can cause confusion and unforeseen costs.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish, as appropriate, that:

- . the current official name is derogatory to a racial, ethnic, gender, or religious group
- . the current official name is duplicative and causing confusion
- . the current official name is not spelled correctly
- . there is extensive local support by local authorities and residents for the name proposed and the name change as evidenced by letters, local petitions, and resolutions from local government entities and organizations
- . the property owners of the feature and adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment

### **Names in wilderness areas** (including wilderness study areas)

The Alaska Historical Commission does not approve names for natural features in federally designated wilderness areas or study areas unless the proposer demonstrates that an exception is warranted.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- there is an overriding need to name the feature (such as for purposes of safety, education, or area administration)

the land manager has been consulted and provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed name

### **Associative names**

The Alaska Historical Commission accepts, in fact encourages, using the same name for features related to each other, such as forks of a river or a creek that comes from a glacier.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks to proposer to establish:

- the relationship between the two features using maps
- the property owners of the features and those adjacent to them have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment
- the provisions for descriptive, commemorative, Alaska Native, wilderness and other categories are addressed as well

## **COMMEMORATIVE NAMES**

A commemorative name of a geographic feature is to honor and recognize an individual who has made an outstanding or noteworthy contribution to an area or the state, or is a national or international figure. A commemorative name might be for an event. A commemorative place name is not intended to memorialize a family member, friend, pet or animal.

Proposals containing a given name (first or last) or nickname of an individual are considered commemorative. The full name of a person as part of a geographic name normally is not approved unless surname use alone would be ambiguous.

The person must have been deceased *for at least five (5) years* before the Alaska Historical Commission will consider a commemorative name proposal. An obituary or biography of the individual must be part of the proposal. The information should establish the individual's *direct association* with the feature, and that the individual made a *significant contribution* to the area in which the feature is located.

*Direct association.* To commemorate an event, it should have occurred at or near the feature or have had an impact on the region or state. To commemorate a person, the individual should have been physically present at or near the feature for a number of years, or engaged in some activity that affected the feature. A person's death on or at a feature, such as a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the ownership of land adjacent to or of the feature, and recreational use or visits to a feature do not normally meet this criterion.

*Significance.* The proposer must establish why the event or individual is particularly worthy of recognition. The importance of an event can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution of an individual must be notable, of consequence, and have had an impact on the community,

region or state. A significant contribution is an extraordinary effort, achievement, or impact. It may come from the individual's work, professional or civic activities, and can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution should have benefitted Alaskans beyond the individual's immediate circle of family and friends. Generally, these individuals will have been recognized through a letter of thanks from the Governor or Legislature, certificates of appreciation from an agency or group, awards, newspaper articles featuring the contribution made, dedication of local man-made features (park, street, garden, building), and the like. The individual might be a historical figure.

Features in Alaska can be named for events of significance nationally or internationally. Features also can be named for persons who made a significant contribution nationally or internationally, especially if the contribution was exceptional and unique. In such instances, the requirement of direct association does not need to be met, but the other requirements for commemorative names must be met.

Commemorative name proposals must demonstrate local residents have been advised of the proposal. Proposals should include evidence of local support by local authorities and residents attesting to the individual's association with the feature and significant contribution locally, to the state or nation, or internationally.

## **GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PROCESS**

Upon receipt, a name proposal is reviewed for completeness. If necessary, the applicant is asked for additional information. Of particular concern is that adjacent land owners have been advised of the proposed name and had a chance to comment on it.

A Domestic Geographic Name Report (a U.S. Board on Geographic Names form) is prepared and sent with a map and supporting information to relevant Native groups, public land managers, local governments, and other interested parties and local media for comment on the proposed name. For proposed Native names, the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is consulted. Interested parties might include local civic groups, historical organizations, pilot associations, and outdoor groups.

The Alaska Historical Commission members receive the report, map, and all public input before discussing and acting to approve or not approve a proposed name. The nine-member commission meets at least two times a year. Commission members reference these guidelines in their formal action. The applicant is notified of the meeting at which the commission will consider their proposed name and provided with copies of comments received from reviewers. Every meeting has a public comment period when an applicant and others interested in the proposed name can address commission members. Place names approved by the Alaska Historical Commission are official for the State of Alaska.

Following the meeting, applicants are notified in writing of the Alaska Historical Commission's action on their proposal. Unless tabled, the Domestic Geographic Name Report, all comments received, and record of the commission's action are sent to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Staff there also have a review process before the board considers and votes on a proposed name. The USBGN is the final word on choice, spelling, and official use of the place names in the U.S. Its approval makes a name official nationally. The name is entered in the Geographic Name Information System (GNIS), <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/>. When a



federal map is revised and updated an effort is made to add the name, but approval does not guarantee a name will appear on USGS and other federal maps.

The Alaska Office of History & Archaeology has a program manager for geographic names who can answer questions or provide additional information.

[AHC adopted 12.8.2015]

[Link updates 04.05.2017]



THE STATE  
of ALASKA

GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION  
Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565  
907.269.8721

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha>

June 3, 2024

Re: 3050-4 Souvenir Peak

Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
350 E Dahlia Ave  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

[mike.brown@matsugov.us](mailto:mike.brown@matsugov.us)

cc: [Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us](mailto:Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us)

Dear Borough Manager,

The Alaska Historical Commission has received a geographic name proposal to re-name the 5.804-foot mountain peak currently named "Arkose Peak" found at the northeast end of Arkose Ridge, north of Palmer in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The proposed new name is "Souvenir Peak." A copy of the proposal is enclosed for review, as well as a map showing the feature's location, and the guidelines for geographic names that the Alaska Historical Commission members have established.

The commission would appreciate your comments on the proposed name. To object or to endorse the proposed name, you must respond in writing. Your comments need to be received by August 15, 2024. You can respond with a letter or by writing your comments in the box below. Please send your comments by mail to the address above or by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

If you have any questions about the state geographic names program, please contact Katie Ringsmuth at email [katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov](mailto:katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov) or by phone at (907) 269-8714.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ringsmuth  
Geographic Names Coordinator and State Historian

KJR: mms

Enclosures

I \_\_\_\_ object / \_\_\_\_ endorse the proposed name because: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Domestic Geographic Name Report

1 Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544.

5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic  
 Geographic Names  
 U.S. Geological Survey  
 523 National Center  
 Reston, VA 22092

**Action Requested**

Proposed New Name: _____	<b>Recommended Name:</b> <u>Souvenir Peak</u>	
Application Change: _____	<b>State:</b> <u>Alaska</u>	
Name Change: <u>X</u>	<b>County or Equivalent:</b> <u>Matanuska-Susitna Borough</u>	
Other: _____	<b>Administrative Area:</b> _____	

**Specific Area Covered:**

Latitude: 61 ° 47 ' 18.67 " N      Longitude: 149 ° 3 ' 9.03 " W  
 Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " NS      Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ' \_\_\_\_\_ " WS  
 Center: \_\_\_\_\_      Heading End \_\_\_\_\_  
 Section(s) 26&35 Township( 20N Range(s) 2E Meridian Seward Elevation 5804'

**Type of Feature** (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Mountain

**Is the Feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?**  
 Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, how is it listed? Arkose Peak (GNIS ID: 1854183)

**Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):**  
The 5,804-foot summit at the NE end of Arkose Ridge. 3.5 miles ESE of Idaho Peak.

<b>Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date).</b>	<b>Other names (variants)</b>	<b>Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date).</b>
		<b>Arkose Peak:</b> USGS 1979, 2016, 2023.
	<b>Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye'</b> (Ahtna name): <i>Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina</i> , 2016 (pg 297).	



	<b>K'ae Dghelaaye':</b> <i>Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2003.	
<b>Souvenir Peak:</b> Will Hersman's <i>History Corner, Mountaineering Club of Alaska Scree</i> , 1986, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2019.		

**Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:**

This proposal was submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee to change the name of the current "Arkose Peak" to "Souvenir Peak" to recognize the name in local use. Located in the Talkeetna Mountains and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the summit rises 5,804 feet.

Although the federal Board of Geographic Names (BGN) approved the name "Arkose Peak" for this peak in 1969, USGS maps mislabeled the name. Over the subsequent 50 years, the incorrect location became accepted as correct, and the originally named "Arkose Peak" was called "Souvenir Peak" by the local population instead.

According to the proponent, "It was published in Willy Hersman's *History Corner* article that appeared in the August 1986 edition of *Scree*, the monthly newsletter of the MCA. The name "Souvenir Peak" had been used for nearly 20 years (since at least 1968) but had been applied to various other features. Since Hersman's article was published, the local mountaineering and skiing community has called the 5,820-foot peak 'Souvenir Peak.'" The name appears in other MCA publications between 1986 and 2019.

The current "Arkose Peak" (proposed Souvenir Peak) and the neighboring Arkose Ridge are reported as the Ahtna name "Tsida K'ae Dgilaaye" in *Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* (Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2016, pg. 297) by James Kari and James A. Fall, with principal contributor Shem Pete. Here, "Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye" means "Grandmother's Place Mountain" in Ahtna (Kari & Fall, 2016, pg. 297). "Arkose Peak" also has an entry in Orth's *Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (1976), stating that the local name was reported in 1962 by USGS (pg. 87). There are no other records of different names for the 5804-foot summit.

**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes  No  If Yes, approximately how many years? 40-50

**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?** None Listed

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:** N/A

**Additional information:**

The mountain is on State land in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in the Hatcher Pass Planning Area.

**Organizations for Consultation:**

Chickaloon Native Village

Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.

Cook Inlet Tribal Council

Knik Tribal Council

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Native Village of Eklutna

State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water

State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Alaska State Parks, Mat-Su/Copper River Basin Region

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Steve Gruhn

Chair of Geographic Names Committee

8/4/2023

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

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Copy Prepared by (if other than above)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Judith E. Bittner

SHPO

(907) 269-8721

---

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

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Authority for Recommended Name:

Mailing Address and Telephone

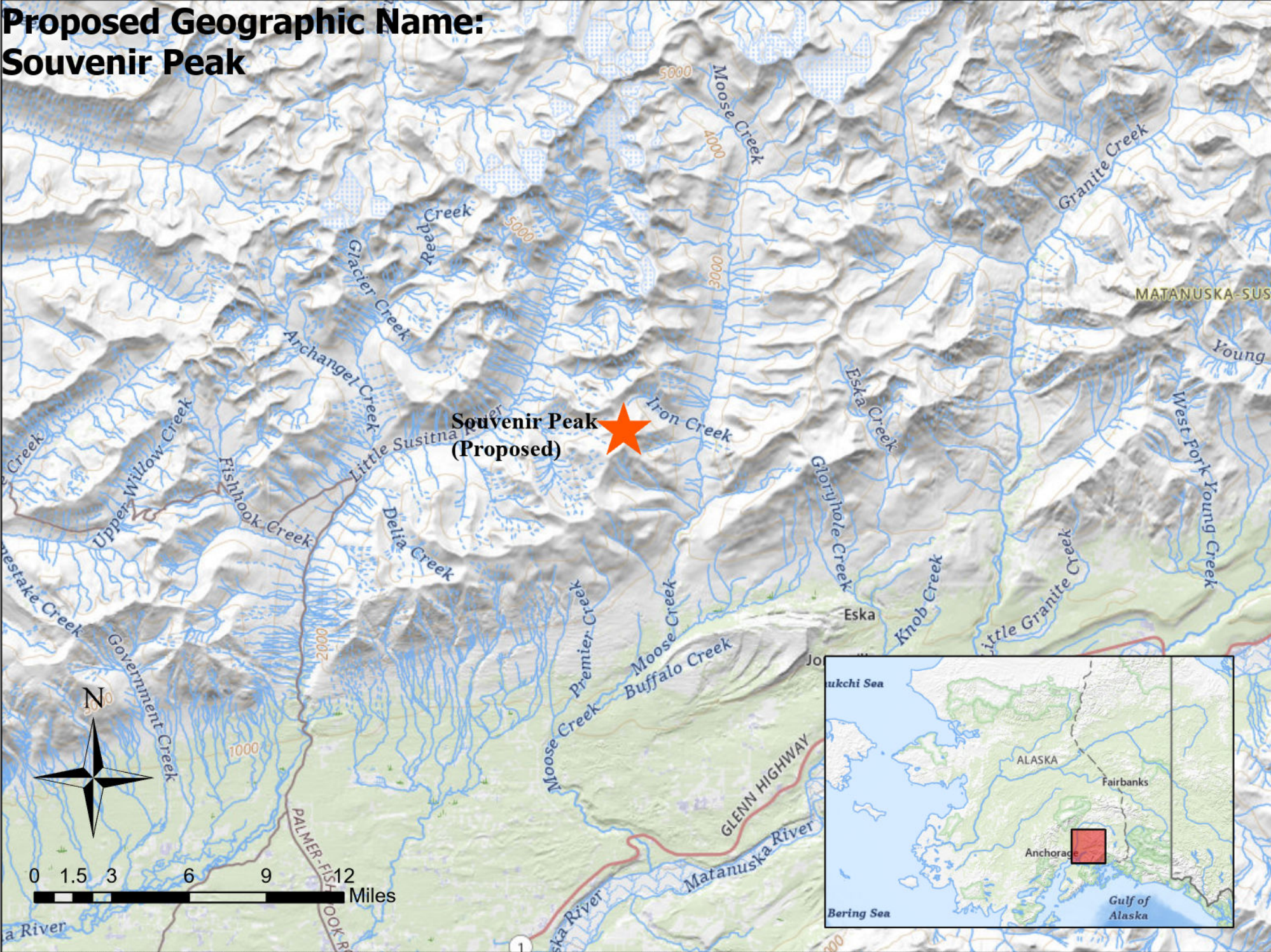
Occupation

Years in Area

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# Proposed Geographic Name: Souvenir Peak



USGS The National Map; National Boundaries Dataset, 30EP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau HCBN/Line data; USFS Road data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State HII; NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information



## Change application of Arkose Peak

### Proposal Information

---

Proposed name	<b>Arkose Peak</b>
Proposal type	application change to recognize present-day use
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6108
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

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Primary coordinates	61.770844, -149.069003
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,316 ft.
Feature description	Between the head of Lone Tree Gulch and the head of Iron Creek
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Anchorage D-6 SW 1:25,000
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- None

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: Arkose Peak: USGS 1985, 1994, 2023

### Case Summary

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This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee, is to change the application of the name Arkose Peak. The current and proposed locations are within the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

In 1969, at the request of the MCA, the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5,804-foot peak in Sections 26 & 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East; however, since 1985, USGS topographic maps have mistakenly placed the label, applying it instead to the 5,325-foot peak in Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 2 East, approximately 1.3 miles to the southeast of its intended location. Because of the longstanding discrepancy, the incorrect location has become known locally as Arkose Peak. The peak that was the subject of the 1969 decision has acquired the name Souvenir Peak (q.v.).

The proponent writes, “now that the Anchorage D-6 SE and Anchorage D-S SW maps have been published (2023), local map users are questioning the placement of the ‘Arkose Peak’ label on the location now commonly known as Souvenir Peak.”

He further states, “because the name Arkose Peak is now in common use for the 5,325-foot peak at the southeast head of Lone Tree Gulch, we propose to adjust the placement of the BGN-approved name Arkose Peak to that location.”

The proposed location is also closer to the main part of the ridge named Arkose Ridge.

No information has been found regarding the origin of the word “Arkose,” although the 1969 case brief includes the notation “[proposed] because of the type of granitic rock present.” The Alaska Board on Geographic Names minutes from the 1969 decision stated “Arkose Peak was approved by the [Alaska] Board. It was originally submitted as ‘Archois Peak’ but [a member] moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error.” *The Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (Orth, 1967) does not list the peak, and for the ridge simply notes “Local name reported in 1962 by USGS.”

Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5,325-foot peak	5,820-foot peak
“Souvenir Peak”	5,820-foot peak	N/A

### Stakeholder Input

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Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

## Change Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak

### Proposal Information

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Proposed name	<b>Souvenir Peak</b>
Proposal type	make official name in local use
Current official name	Arkose Peak
GNIS ID	<a href="#">1854183</a>
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6109
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

---

Primary coordinates	61.7885220, -149.0525085
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,804 ft.
Feature description	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. ESE of Idaho Peak, 3.5 mi. WNW of Eska Mountain.
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
PLSS	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- Arkose Peak (1969)

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: Souvenir Peak (local use)
- Published names:
  - Arkose Peak: USGS 1979, 2016, 2023
  - K'ae Dghelaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Souvenir Peak: Will Hersman's *History Corner, Mountaineering Club of Alaska Scree*, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2019

### Case Summary

---

This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Geographic Names for the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, is to change the name of Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak to recognize the name in local



use. The summit has an elevation of 5,804 feet and is located in the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Although the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for this peak in 1969, USGS maps mislabeled the name and over the subsequent 50 years, the incorrect location became accepted as correct. The name Souvenir Peak came into use for the BGN-approved Arkose Peak. According to the proponent, “It was published in Willy Hersman’s *History Corner* article that appeared in the August 1986 edition of *Scree*, the monthly newsletter of the MCA. At that time the name Souvenir Peak had been in use for nearly 20 years (since at least 1968) but had been applied to various other features. Since Hersman’s article was published, the local mountaineering and skiing community has called the 5,820-foot peak Souvenir Peak.” The name appears in other MCA publications between 1986 and 2019.

### Stakeholder Input

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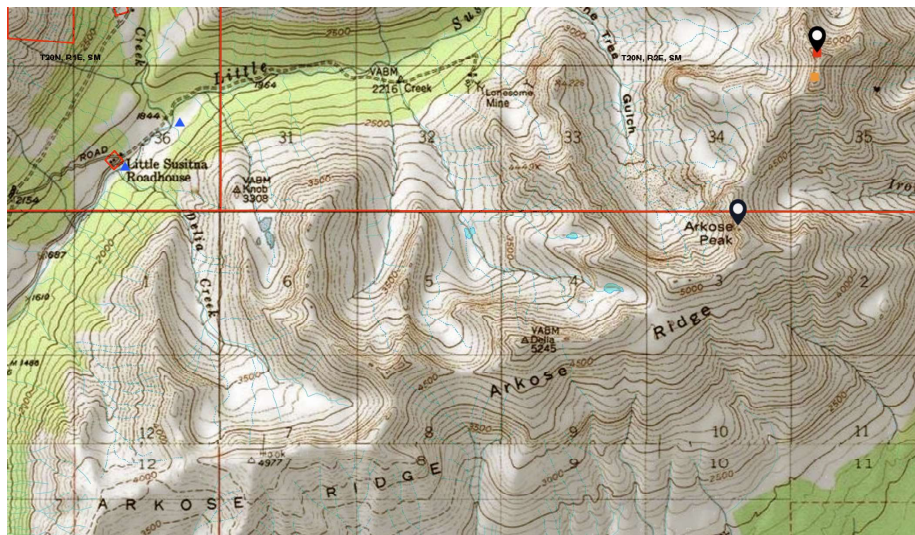
Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

**Name current Arkose Peak (GNIS Location) to Souvenir Peak  
Change application of Arkose Peak to reflect local use and topographic map location**



Change location of Arkose Peak from 5,804-ft. peak to 5,316-ft. peak to reflect local use. GNIS notes that following the 1969 decision, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the wrong peak.

Name 5,804-ft peak as Souvenir Peak to make official a name in local use.



**Current GNIS and Topo map Locations**



Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5316-foot peak	5804-foot peak
"Souvenir Peak"	5804-foot peak	N/A

# Feature Details

<b>Feature ID</b>	1854183		
<b>Name</b>	Arkose Peak		
<b>Class</b>	Summit		
<b>Feature Code</b>	Summit		
<b>Location</b>	Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Alaska		
<b>Citation</b>	<b>Source Type</b>	Text	
	<b>Reference</b>	US	
	<b>Originator</b>	U.S. Board on Geographic Names	
	<b>Distribution Date</b>	January 1, 2000	
	<b>Title</b>	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions	
	<b>Edition</b>		
	<b>Original Citation</b>	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.	
<b>Entry Date</b>	March 30, 2000		
<b>*Elevation</b>	1766 meters / 5794 feet		
<b>Designations</b>			
<b>History</b>	Note: the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5850-foot peak at 614719N, 1490320W; however, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the 5350-foot peak at 614617N, 1490409W. The 2016 US Topo shows the name at the correct location.		
<b>Description</b>	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi SE of Idaho Peak, 13 mi N of Palmer, Chugach Mountains.		

<b>Census Code</b>	<b>Class Code</b>	<b>GSA Code</b>	<b>OPM Code</b>
-	-	-	-

# Variant Names

Name  Asc

Name	In Part	Originator	Reference	Series Name	Publication Date	Source URL	Title	Edition	Notes	Additional Information
Archois Peak	No	U.S. Board on Geographic Names	US	-	January 1, 2000	-	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions	-	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.
K'ae Dghelaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-
Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-

# Decisions

Name	Date	Authority	Type
Arkose Peak	May 13, 1969	Board Decision	Official



# Decision Cards

Filename

## Coordinates

Sequence	Coordinates	Map	State
1	61.7885220, -149.0525085 / 61° 47' 18.68" N, 149° 3' 9.03" W	Anchorage D-6 SE	AK

## Government Units

Sequence	State or Equivalent	County or Equivalent
1	Alaska	Matanuska-Susitna Borough

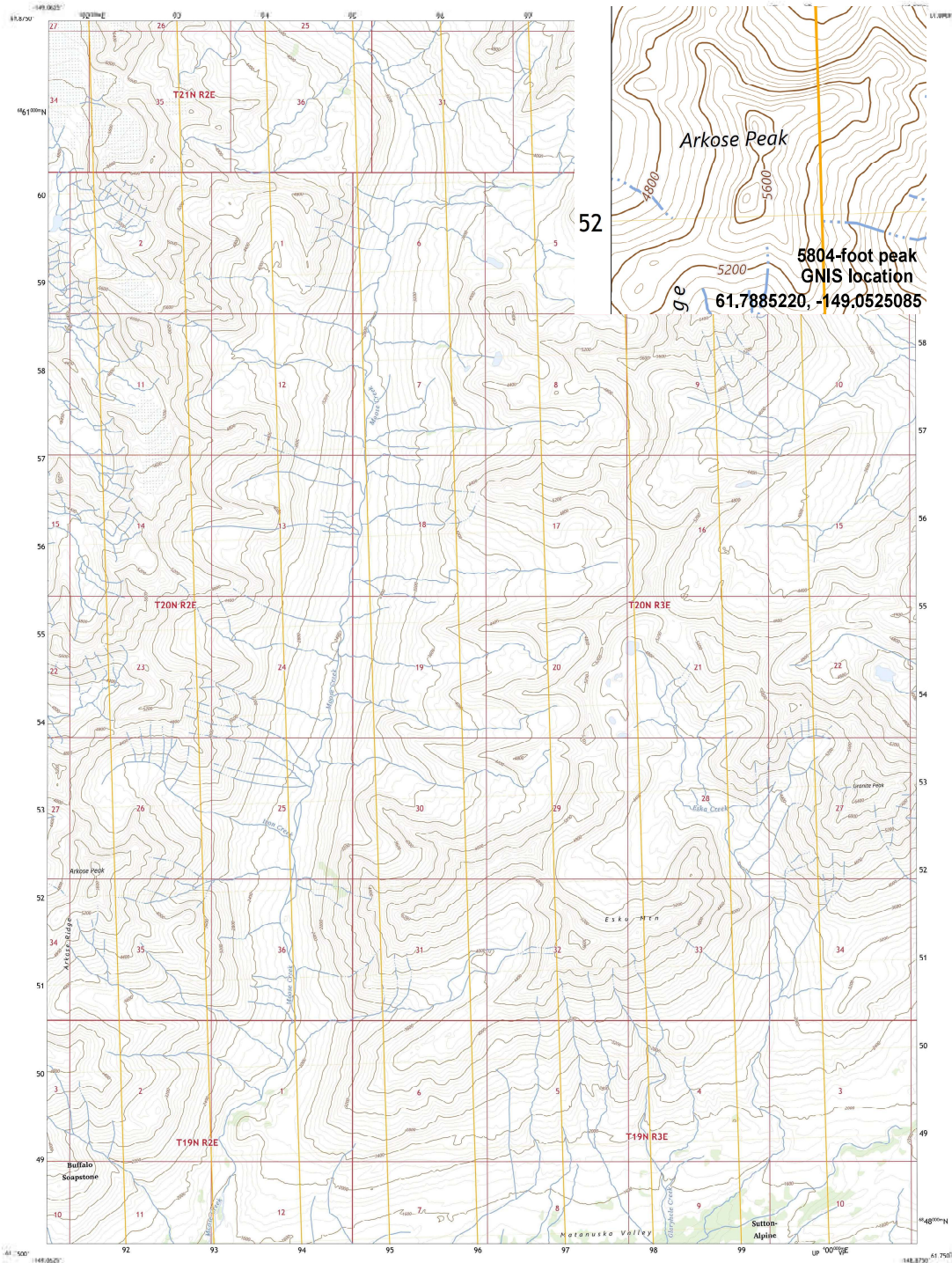
## Map

**Feature ID:** 1854183  
**Official Name:** Arkose Peak  
**Sequence Number:** 1  
**Location DD:** 61.788522, -149.0525085  
**Location DMS:** 61° 47' 18.68" N 149° 3' 9.03" W

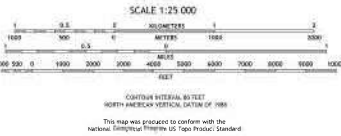
61.7969383°, -148.9877999°, 14z

Powered by Esri | The National Map Base Layer, The National Map + Aerial Imagery", Usa Topo





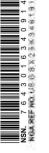
Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
1:62,500-meter geoid/mean sea level datum. Zone 18  
This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be  
generalized for this map scale. Private lands within government  
jurisdiction may not be shown. Obtain permission before  
entering private lands.



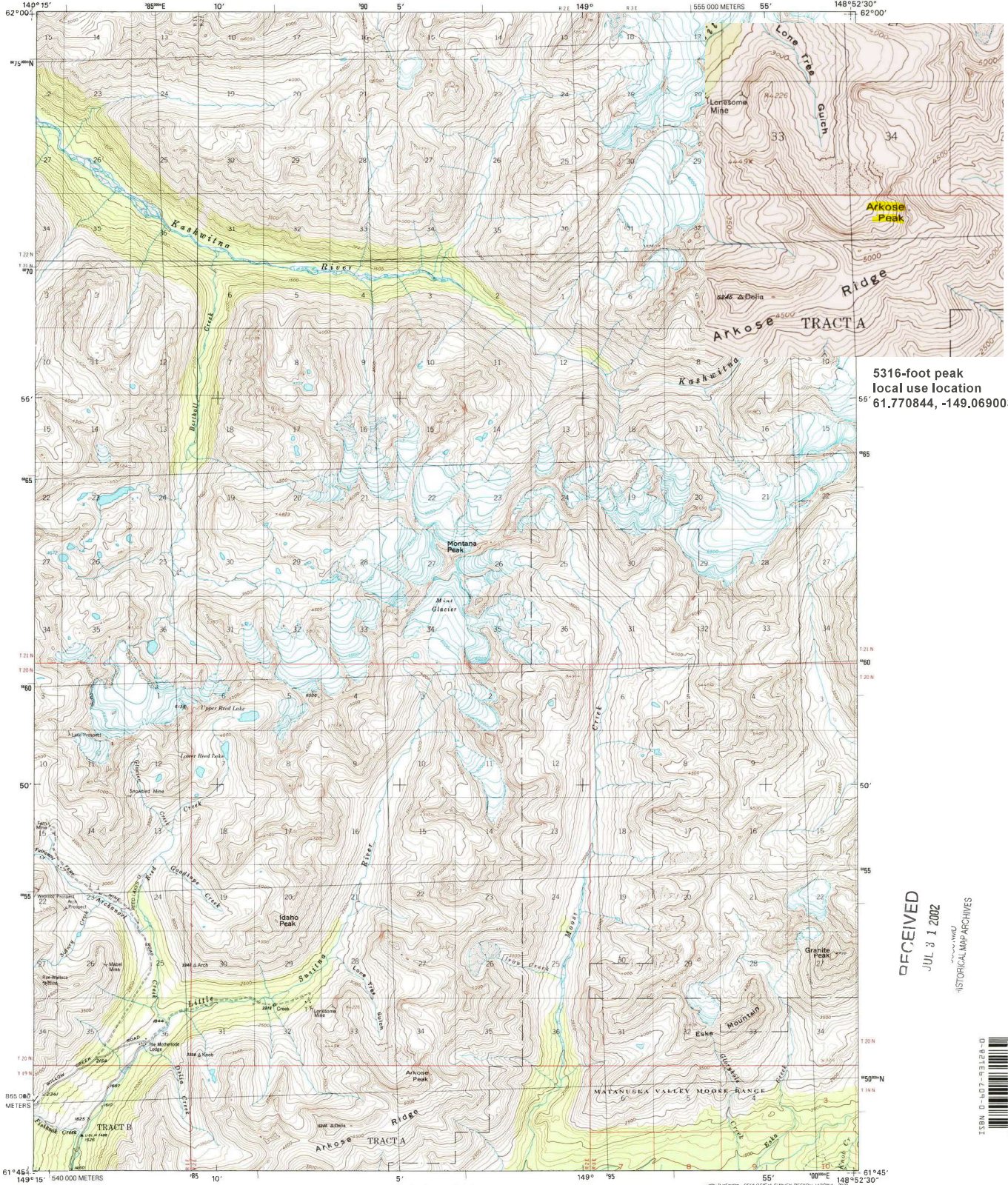
ANCHORAGE D-6 SE

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

ANCHORAGE D-6 SE





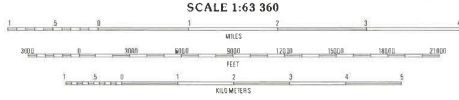
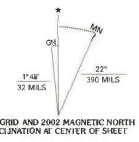


5316-foot peak local use location 61.770844, -149.069003

RECEIVED JUL 3 1 2002 HISTORICAL MAP ARCHIVES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey Topography compiled 1949. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1994 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1950. South edge current as of 1993. This map has not been field checked. Boundaries current as of 2000. North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 5 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 6. 5 000-meter grid: Alaska Coordinate System of 1983 (zone 4). North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Protracted land lines are predetermined by the Bureau of Land Management, Folio S-1, Seward Meridian.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 100 FEET NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929 TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway hard surface	Unimproved road
Secondary highway hard surface	4 wheel drive
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Trails
State Route	

ADJOINING QUADRANGLES

1	2	1 Talkatche Mountains A-5 2 Talkatche Mountains A-4 3 Anchorage D-7
3	4	4 Anchorage D-5 5 Anchorage C-7 6 Anchorage C-6 7 Anchorage C-5
5	6	7

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

AUGUST 1986

Volume 29, Issue 08

### AUGUST MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, August 20th at 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets, Anchorage. After the business meeting, Mark Findlay will give a slide show on a June 1986 Valdez to Whittier kayak trip.

### MINUTES FOR THE JULY MEETING

The meeting was held July 16th, 1986 at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, and was called to order by President Mark Findlay at 7:42 p.m. The reading of the minutes for June was waived.

Mark extended his thanks to Willie Hersman for filling in for him at the June meeting.

The club welcomed new members and guests.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

\$ 245.00 - Petty Cash  
716.20 - Checking Account  
4,018.23 - Money Market Account  
\$4,979.43 - Total MCA Monies

Individual membership is \$10.00. Family membership is \$15.00

Send to: P.O. BOX 102037  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
Attn. Treasurer

### I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Hiking Committee

The Crow Pass hike was changed from July 19th to July 20th. Twin Peaks hike will be rescheduled from July 26th to another date (check the hiking schedule).

### II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Willy Hersman has applied for the Personal Use Cabin Permit, but has not received anything yet.



## ICE CLIMBING CLASS

The annual MCA technical ice climbing school will be held the last weekend in September. The course will consist of one classroom session, which is MANDATORY, and two days of ice climbing at the Matanuska Glacier. This class is for learning the basics about vertical ice climbing (i.e. waterfalls and gullies) only. No glacier walking techniques will be covered! Due to the limited availability of equipment, we are forced to limit the size of this year's school to 44 students. Present dues-paying members will have priority. They will be able to sign up at the August meeting. Further details will be published in next month's SCREE. Those interested in instructing should contact Paul Denkwalter at Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking (AMH) at 272-1811.

## HISTORY CORNER

While recently working on an update of the master Peak Index for the SCREE, I found several accounts of first ascents which were quite confusing to me, sometimes because of the way they were written, sometimes because the maps then were probably inadequate. Persistence usually cleared up the confusion, but the worst of these puzzling accounts concerns the first ascent of Arkose Peak, the peak at the north end of Arkose Ridge above the Little Susitna drainage in the Talkeetnas.

I wasn't the first to be perplexed, Vin and Grace Hoeman made efforts to find out the story as well back in 1969. Grace made two trips to the area and thought she had cleared it up in an article she wrote in June 1969. She climbed twice the double-summited peak above Lone Tree Gulch (5850') to find only a cairn. She wrote, "There's no doubt in my mind that what the 1961 party climbed is indeed Arkose." The trouble is Arkose Peak is at an elevation just above 5300'. She still had the story wrong.

The account of July 1961 describes a peak with a double summit at about 6000 feet. True, Grace climbed the same one, at least by comparing the descriptions, but it's not Arkose. An article written in December 1968 took the liberty of naming many peaks between the roadhouse and the Mint Glacier. Some of those names faded away, some were not peaks at all, but they did give our peak in question the name of Souvenir Peak, which they claimed was 5715' high. This name cropped up again in a Dec. 1970 article.

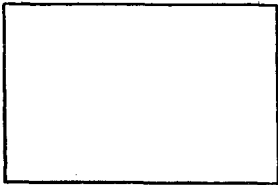
It appears to me that Arkose was first climbed in 1960 by an MCA party, with an account by Helga Bading entitled "Little Montana Peak" (Aug. 1960, pg. 2), where she gives the elevation as about 6200'. The only two members on both first ascents were Helga and John Dillman. John confirms the fact that in 1961 he and Helga and Gwynn Wilson climbed the 5850' peak above Lone Tree Gulch, now known as Souvenir Peak; the other climb in 1960 is less certain.

Based on all the descriptions found in the old SCREES, the record should reflect: Arkose Peak (5300') F.A.: 1960 (Bading, Erickson, Dillman, Putschler, Dahlke, Gessel) and Souvenir Peak (5850') F.A.: 1961 (Bading, Dillman, Wilson). Gee, I'll bet you were wondering about that one, right? Right!

Willy Hersman

APPROVED MAY 13 1969  
 Promulgation authorized  
 Executive Secretary  
 Domestic Geographic Names  
*J. K. Linn*

UNITED STATES  
 BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
 Case Brief (Domestic)



Recommended Name: Arkose Peak

Source

State: Alaska Civil Division: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

\_\_\_\_\_ sec. \_\_\_\_\_ T. \_\_\_\_\_ R. \_\_\_\_\_ meridian ( )

Lat. 61° 47' 20" N., Long. 149° 03' 00" W. \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ " N., Long. \_\_\_\_\_ " W. \_\_\_\_\_

Description: mountain, highest elevation over 5,800 ft. ( ) ( ) ( )  
at the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. SE of Idaho Peak  
and 13 mi. N of Palmer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Verification of Names in Descrip.	Check	
	Dec.	WkCd
<u>Arkose Ridge</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Idaho Peak</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Palmer</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
_____		
_____		

Not: - Archois Peak

Summary, indicating submitting person, or agency, source for locating the feature; reason for submittal of the name and pertinent facts of the case, for presentation to DNC.

Alaska Board, Anchorage (D-6); approved by the Alaska Board; "Arkose Peak" was proposed originally, because feature "is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge" and because of the "type of granitic rock... present"; however, the Alaska Board changed the name to "Archois Peak" but gives no reason for doing so; not in a USNF

Submitted by: Alaska Board  
 Prepared by: Lyle  
 Reviewed by: Berringer

Date: Nov. 13, 1968 Docket List No. 124  
 Date: Jan. 28, 1969 Date Approved by Sec.  
 Date: 2/19/69 of Int.  
 Promulgation Date:

Alaska Bd. on 5-6-69 said the spelling should be "Arkose"

(1a) Archois Peak 1968 Nov. 13, letter  memo

USC&GS  USFS  DGN  USGS

(1b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Alaska State Geogr. Bd.

Other:

Field names report Dec. 18 1967

Annotated maps ( ) ( )

(2a) Shown but not named 1950(68) USGS Anchorage (D-6) 1:63  
(2b) Shown but not named 1962(66) USGS Anchorage 1:250  
(2c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2d) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2e) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2f) not shown 1954(64) USGS Alaska State Base

(3a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(3b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(4a) NOT IN NATIONAL FOREST 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(4b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(5a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USC&GS \_\_\_\_\_

(5b) not shown 1968 Aero Ch. Anchorage 1:500

(5c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Coast Pilot \_\_\_\_\_

(6) not shown 1964 Off. State Road Map  Not Shown

(7a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(7b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Rand, McNally Com. Atlas, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 U.S. Postal Guide, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_ 1960 U.S. Census, Table 7, Pop., Vol. 1

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ BGN Decision

(12) not listed 1967 Dictionary of Alaska Place Names



3/1/68

*app*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**PROPOSAL OF NAME  
FOR AN UNNAMED DOMESTIC FEATURE**

Proposed name

~~Arkose Peak~~ *Archaic Peak*

State Alaska County \_\_\_\_\_

Pronunciation, if not obvious (use Webster's Dictionary symbols)

Location of Feature

Latitude 61° 47' 19" N.

Longitude 149° 03' 20" W.

Section(s) 26.35, T. 20 N., R. 2 E., Seward Meridian

Description and extent of feature: Mountain peak 5850 plus or minus 50, including also peak 5750 plus or minus 50,  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile south of it and all slopes rising to these summits.

Distance and direction from prominent features or towns: 13 miles north of Palmer, 3 miles SE of Idaho Peak at the northern end of Arkose Ridge.

Basis of knowledge that the feature is unnamed: Anchorage D-6 quad, local knowledge

- Reason for Choice of Name:
- descriptive
  - other (state reason): Provides a definite terminus for Arkose Ridge, the only other place-name usage of arkose in Alaska.
  - for a nearby feature
  - for a person

If the name is descriptive, state why it is appropriate: This type of granitic rock is present

If named for another feature, state for that other feature:

1. Name Arkose Ridge Lat. 61° 44-46' \_\_\_\_\_ " N. -- Long. 149° 03-13' \_\_\_\_\_ " W.

Section(s) 3,4,7,8,9,12 T. 19 N., R. 2 E., Seward Meridian

2. Any known variant spellings or other names:

3. Number of years known by present name: on 1951 AMS map, so at least 16

4. Relation of the two features: Arkose Peak is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge.

If the name commemorates a person, state:

1. Full name of the person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(do not propose name of a living person)
2. Date of the person's death: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Last residence: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Association, if any, of the person with the feature to be named: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Brief biography: \_\_\_\_\_

List any  
Attached  
Identification  
Aids

Marked map: easily located on Anchorage D-6 (have C-6 available)  
Marked photographs:  
Other:

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Individual or private organization

Name J. Vin Hoeman, Chairman, Committee on Geog. Names  
Address Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
2500 Glehwood, Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Date 18 December 1967

Government agency (State or Federal)

Check appropriate box

Field officer of a mapping agency

Agency \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and title \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

November 13, 1968

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

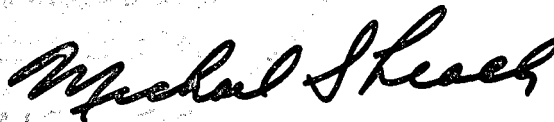
The Alaska State Geographic Board has considered and approved the following name proposals at recent meetings:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ✓McHugh Peak          | ✓Mount Alpenglów     |
| ✓Aniakchak Peak       | ✓Matanuska Peak      |
| ✓Sharkstooth Mountain | ✓Cul-de-sac Glacier  |
| ✓One Shot Gap         | ✓Shelf Glacier       |
| ✓Institute Peak       | ✓Spyglass Hill       |
| ✓Archois Peak         | ✓Tranquillity Pass X |
| ✓Artillery Hill       | ✓Byron Peak          |
| ✓Crystalline Hills    | ✓Resurrection Peaks  |
| ✓Dogsled Pass         |                      |

A completed Form 9-1344 "Proposal of Name for an Unnamed Domestic Feature" is enclosed for each name proposal.

Would you please forward copies of any decision lists indicating approval to this Board.

Very truly yours,



Michael S. Leach  
Acting Chairman, Alaska  
State Geographic Board

MSL:ss  
Enclosures (17)  
cc. J. Vin Hoeman, Chairman  
Mountaineering Club of Alaska



# STATE OF ALASKA

KEITH H. MILLER, Governor

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY / POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

April 25, 1969

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

At the recent April 22, 1969, Alaska State Geographic Board meeting, the Board approved the U. S. Geographic Board's decision, the spelling Meyers Chuck. Done

The following disapproved names were deferred pending further research: \* Banks Lake, \* Cascade Creek, \* Mary Lake, \* Milk Creek, and \* Snipe Lake. These names have been disapproved due to duplication of names. Action was also deferred on the name Antler Lake until further information can be obtained.

Action was referred to Docket 124. All were approved by the Board.

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes from the April 22, 1969 meeting.

Very truly yours,

Alfred E. Widmark  
Chairman, Alaska State  
Geographic Board

by: Phyllis Ann Kunz  
Phyllis Ann Kunz, Secretary

Enclosure

A - Kose Peak

Withdrawn - 5-13-69

ALASKA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

May 6, 1969

The Alaska State Geographic Board Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Present were: Jean Jeffers, Department of Highways; Phyllis Nottingham, State Library; Mr. Hagmeier, Department of Education, and Al Widmark, Local Affairs Agency.

The minutes of the previous meeting, April 22, were read and stand approved as read.

A letter of March 20, 1969 from Mrs. Barbara D. Kalen to Mike Leach was read regarding the naming of two mountain peaks, Nimrod and Jeffrey. It has been assigned to Mike Leach to answer this letter.

Action was referred to Docket 122. The board approved the name Antler Lake.

Action was referred to Docket 124. Arkose Peak was approved by the Board. It was originally submitted as Archois Peak. Phyllis Nottingham moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error. Jean Jeffers seconded it and it was unanimously carried.

Crystalline Hill, Docket 124, was approved by the Board. It is the name originally submitted and was approved as such.

A letter from Mr. Kilmartin was read. The following names from Docket 121 were approved by the Board:

Aiken Creek	Kugel Creek
Aiken Lake	Kugel Lake
Anmer Creek	Myrtle Creek
Conclusion Creek	Niblack Lake
Four Falls Lake	Spruce Creek
Harley Creek	

From Docket 122, the following names were approved by the Board:

Gossan Ridge	Olive Lake
Lake Luella	Weather Ridge
Mount Ascension	

Mr. Widmark also read another letter from Mr. Kilmartin regarding the acceptance of the following Alaskan names for Federal use: from Docket 121, Lake Paul; Docket 122, Little Nugget Creek; Docket 123, Eulachon River; and Docket 124, Aniakchak Peak, Artillery Hill, Cul-de-sac Glacier, Dogsled Pass, Institute Peak, Matanuska Peak, One Shot Gap and Shelf Glacier.

Action on the remaining names on Docket 121, 122, 123, and 124 was deferred.

Mr. Widmark adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. until the next

# **Shem Pete's Alaska**

*The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina*

2016 Edition

by **James Kari** and **James A. Fall**

*Principal contributor*

**Shem Pete**

*Additional place names and commentary by*

Daniel Alex	Alec Peter
Mike Alex	Henry Peters
Nickafor Alexan	Annie Ronning
Emma Alexie	Fedosia Sacaloff
Alexandra Allowan	Dick Secondchief
Tommy Allowan	Morrie Secondchief
Harry Balluta	Jim Sinyon
Pete Bobby	Johnny Shaginoff
Sergei Californsky	Mary Shaginoff
Maxim Chickalusion	Alberta Stephan
Nellie Chickalusion	John Stephan
Ella Chuitt	Leo Stephan
Fedora Constantine	Pete Stephan
Peter Constantine	Sava Stephan
Miska Deaphon	Terry Stephan
Bobby Esai	Frank Stickwan
Hester Evan	John Stump
Fred Ewan	Jake Tansy
Betty Gilcrist	Arthur Theodore
Charlie Hubbard	Bailey Theodore
Peter Kalifornsky	Lillian Theodore
Ben Neely	Mike Theodore
Dick Mishakoff	Andy Tyone
Jim McKinley	Jack Tyone
Katherine Nicolie	Jim Tyone
Billy Pete	Katie Wade

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*Translations from Dena'ina Athabascan*

Shem Pete  
Billy Pete  
Katherine Nicolie  
Sava Stephan  
James Kari

*Maps*  
Matt Ganley, Map Alaska: [www.map-alaska.com](http://www.map-alaska.com)

*Music transcriptions*  
Thomas F. Johnston, University of Alaska Fairbanks

*Design*  
Dixon J. Jones, UAF Rasmuson Library Graphics

*Front cover*  
Lynx Lake and lakes west of Willow, photo by Fred  
Hirschmann AK-6838. See Plate 5 and Fig. 61.  
Inset photos: top, see page 394; bottom left to right, see Plate  
24, Fig. 3, Plate 9 and Map 17.

*Back cover*  
See Fig. 5.

*Vignette backgrounds*  
Close-up of dentalia shell necklace worn by Shem Pete at  
the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. potlatch on October 17, 1985.  
Dentalia shells are called *k'enq'ena* and the necklace is called  
*t'uiedi*. Photo by Kathy Kiefer.

Detail of a large birchbark basket, the elegant utility vessel  
of the Dena'ina, called *Ich'ehi* or *q'ey Ich'eha*. This basket was  
made by Emma Alexie of Lime Village. Digital image by Kim  
Armstrong, UAF Rasmuson Library Photographic Unit.

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Kind of a hot spring through the timber in there, and it's kind of a village meeting place."

- 14.11 **Kisidlentnu** • 'Point Current Creek'  
*Wolverine Creek*

- 14.12 **Kisidlen Bena** • 'Point Current Lake'  
*Wolverine Lake*

- 14.13 **C'ek'aali Cene** (Ahtna) • 'Whetstone Flat'  
*bluff on north side of Matanuska River between Palmer and Moose Creek*

Jim Tyone: "It is like it has been filed by the wind."

Johnny Shaginoff reported that a village site was located on this bluff near the mouth of Moose Creek. "It was a well-known place for Natives. All big high bluffs have names."

- 14.14 **Chidaq'atnu** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'etna** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Creek'  
*Moose Creek, formerly called Tsadaka Creek*

This name is distinctively Dena'ina in origin, based upon the word **chida** 'old lady, grandma.' Note however that Orth (1971:987) stated, "Tanaina Indian name meaning 'moose,' reported in 1898 by Capt Glenn." Mendenhall (1898, Map 58) wrote this as "Tsadaka."

Castner (1899:199): "Above Moose Creek on our [north] side of the Matanuska was an old camping place of the Matanuskas used in their journeys up and down the river."

According to Johnny Shaginoff and Katie Wade, there are burials on both sides of the mouth of Moose Creek. Some graves have washed out. Several people died here during the 1918 flu epidemic.

There is a modest king salmon run in Moose Creek. The fish were harvested with spears, according to Katie Wade.

- §14.78 **Chidaq'a Denyi** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'e Dyii** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Canyon'  
*Tsadaka Canyon on Moose Creek*

Cole et al. (1985:75): "As early as 1894, trappers and prospectors heard about the rich coal veins in the Matanuska Valley from local Indians."

In the 1940s the Wade and Larson families lived near the Premier Mine and hunted and harvested berries throughout this area.

- 14.15 **Chidaq'ashla Bena** • 'Lake of Grandmother's Little Place'  
*Wishbone Lake*

A trail leads up from the Moose Creek homestead of the Shaginoffs and Wades up to Wishbone Lake, a popular fishing spot.

- 14.16 **Chidaq'ashla** • 'Grandmother's Little Place'  
*Wishbone Hill*

Katie Wade said that this is thought of as a dangerous area. Many hunters have gotten lost here. A giant with feet that are turned backwards is said to have lived in the area.

- §14.79 **Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Mountain'  
*Arkose Peak and ridge*

The name of this ridge at the head of Moose Creek is implied from the suffix **-shla**, 'small, little' for 14.16, Wishbone Hill. Typically a hill or mountain noted as 'small' is paired with a nearby larger named feature.

According to Johnny Shaginoff, a trail led up Moose Creek and over the mountains to the upper Kashwitna River. The Larsons from Talkeetna used to travel this trail. "I know some people went through. Jack Larson went up Moose Creek, came down Kashwitna. He used to trap beaver someplace on Kashwitna." See 8.44.

- §14.80 **Tanilent** • 'Where Current Flows to Water'  
*rapids probably above Moose Creek*  
Name provided by John Stump.

- §14.81 †**U'el Naak** **Dghiltaazi** (Ahtna) • 'Bar That Is Turning With It'  
*bar on Matanuska River at Sutton*  
Name from the text by Jim Tyone. See p. 226.

- 14.17 **Ts'es Tuk'ilaght** (Dena'ina); **Ts'es Tac'ilaexde** (Ahtna) • 'Where Fish Run Among Rocks'  
*Eska Creek; Sutton*

A name written by Mendenhall in 1898 as "Chistookalat," or "Spring Creek," is clearly the Dena'ina name for Eska Creek.

The salmon fishery on the Matanuska River was on a much smaller scale than it was for the Dena'ina peoples on Knik Arm or for the Ahtna on the Copper River (for which see Simeone and Kari 2002.). The Chickaloon Ahtna did not spend much time salmon fishing. Some salmon were harvested here and at a small stream now called Mile Seventeen Creek (ponds near Eska Creek mouth) and at Little Granite Creek. Mary Shaginoff noted that she did little fishing following her family's move to Chickaloon in 1915. Johnny Shaginoff said that the salmon are good only the first two or three days of the run. In the past, salmon from the Eska area were mainly used as dog feed. The people in this area obtained dried salmon through trade with the people downstream at **Niteh**. See also Fall (1981:178, 203–205, and 1987:31, 36).

Katie Wade notes that the main traditional method of harvesting the salmon in the sidestreams and ponds along the Matanuska River was the fish spear. She also notes that the Ahtna-style **ciisi** or dipnet did not seem to have been used for any salmon fishing on the Matanuska River. Katie has noted that along the Matanuska River **ba'** or spread and scored dry fish was made only when there were enough good quality fish, and that they did not make **dzenax** or **nelk'oli**, the two styles of fermented fish that are made by the Ahtna on the Copper River.

- 14.18 **Neltsii Ce'e** (Ahtna) • 'Big One That Is Made Like a Face'  
*"Mount Sutton," mountain elev. 4415', "Crag"*

# Department of Natural Resources

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
: 907.269.8721  
dnr.oha@alaska.gov

## ALASKA'S GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

a program of the

## ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Alaska Historical Commission serves as the geographic names board for the State of Alaska (AS 41.35.350). The citizen board, chaired by the Lt. Governor, reviews names proposed for lakes, streams, mountains, and other physical features in the state. The commission coordinates its program with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The commission has established a process to consider proposals, as has the federal board. It takes at least a year to name a geographic feature.

In 1982 the State of Alaska enacted a law urging the state geographic names board to consider Alaska Native place names for geographic features in the state that have not previously been named, using Native language writing systems accepted by the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names has a policy to identify a single official name and spelling for each geographic feature. One or more **variant** names can be identified if needed for clarity or reference. A variant is any current or historic name or spelling for a geographic feature other than the official name. It might appear on maps in parentheses following the official name.

To propose an official name for a geographic feature, an application is made to the Alaska Historical Commission. The form is available at:

[http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname\\_app.pdf](http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname_app.pdf) or from the Office of History & Archaeology, 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501, 907.269.8721. The complete application and supporting material should be mailed, delivered to the office, or sent by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

All proposals must be accompanied by a **map** showing U.S. Geological Survey information and identifying clearly the feature to be named. Additional maps are encouraged that show the immediate area around the feature to be named, or show the feature in relation to major geographic features, communities, and roads as appropriate. Photographs and other identifying aids are useful but are not required.

**Evidence of local support** is encouraged. These might be letters, petitions, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor, showing public awareness and endorsement of the proposed name. The proposer must establish that property owners of the feature or close to it have been made aware of the name proposal and given a chance to comment.

## GUIDELINES

In the review of a proposed name, the Alaska Historical Commission uses the following guidelines and the policies of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (*Principles, Policies, and Procedures for Domestic Geographic Names*, <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/policies.htm>). A proposal must identify the type of proposed name from the categories below, address the special conditions, and establish why the feature needs an official name.

### Local usage

Active local use is the single, best reason to name a geographic feature. Local usage refers to a name for a geographic feature that has evolved over a period of years, is called that name by the community or area as a whole, and is supported by local petitions, oral histories, documents, or other publications. A feature named by the applicant is not considered local usage, even when the applicant has called the feature by that name for a number of years.

The Alaska Historical Commission encourages the proposer to:

- include evidence of common verbal or written usage of the proposed name, such as petitions signed by local residents, resolutions, or letters of support for the proposed name from local government entities and community groups

### Descriptive names (includes features named by applicant)

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is relevant and descriptive of the feature
- the name is not in use elsewhere in the region (unless for a related feature)
- the name is in good taste and not frivolous
- the name has been used for a minimum of five years and evidence is provided of the use
- the property owners of the feature and those living adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it

### Alaska Native names

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is or was in common local use and that use is documented
- the name is linguistically appropriate to the area in which it is to be applied
- the land owner has been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it
- there has been consultation on the spelling and use of diacritical marks (special marks not normally used in the English alphabet) with all Native groups in the area and with the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks

### **Commemorative names** (*please read the special section*)

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the individual has been deceased for five (5) years and evidence of this (such as an obituary and biography) is provided
- . the individual made a significant, acknowledged contribution over time to the community or state
- . the individual had a direct association with the feature for a period of years
- . there is local support by residents and local authorities as evidenced by including letters, petitions, and resolutions

### **Historical names**

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the proposed name was in common local use and that use is documented
- . the name is clearly associated with the area

### **Name changes**

The Alaska Historical Commission is reluctant to change existing names, but will consider doing so if the proposer demonstrates a compelling reason and if there is local support for the change. It has been shown that changing long-standing names can cause confusion and unforeseen costs.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish, as appropriate, that:

- . the current official name is derogatory to a racial, ethnic, gender, or religious group
- . the current official name is duplicative and causing confusion
- . the current official name is not spelled correctly
- . there is extensive local support by local authorities and residents for the name proposed and the name change as evidenced by letters, local petitions, and resolutions from local government entities and organizations
- . the property owners of the feature and adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment

### **Names in wilderness areas** (including wilderness study areas)

The Alaska Historical Commission does not approve names for natural features in federally designated wilderness areas or study areas unless the proposer demonstrates that an exception is warranted.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:



- there is an overriding need to name the feature (such as for purposes of safety, education, or area administration)

the land manager has been consulted and provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed name

### **Associative names**

The Alaska Historical Commission accepts, in fact encourages, using the same name for features related to each other, such as forks of a river or a creek that comes from a glacier.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks to proposer to establish:

- the relationship between the two features using maps
- the property owners of the features and those adjacent to them have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment
- the provisions for descriptive, commemorative, Alaska Native, wilderness and other categories are addressed as well

## **COMMEMORATIVE NAMES**

A commemorative name of a geographic feature is to honor and recognize an individual who has made an outstanding or noteworthy contribution to an area or the state, or is a national or international figure. A commemorative name might be for an event. A commemorative place name is not intended to memorialize a family member, friend, pet or animal.

Proposals containing a given name (first or last) or nickname of an individual are considered commemorative. The full name of a person as part of a geographic name normally is not approved unless surname use alone would be ambiguous.

The person must have been deceased *for at least five (5) years* before the Alaska Historical Commission will consider a commemorative name proposal. An obituary or biography of the individual must be part of the proposal. The information should establish the individual's *direct association* with the feature, and that the individual made a *significant contribution* to the area in which the feature is located.

*Direct association.* To commemorate an event, it should have occurred at or near the feature or have had an impact on the region or state. To commemorate a person, the individual should have been physically present at or near the feature for a number of years, or engaged in some activity that affected the feature. A person's death on or at a feature, such as a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the ownership of land adjacent to or of the feature, and recreational use or visits to a feature do not normally meet this criterion.

*Significance.* The proposer must establish why the event or individual is particularly worthy of recognition. The importance of an event can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution of an individual must be notable, of consequence, and have had an impact on the community,

region or state. A significant contribution is an extraordinary effort, achievement, or impact. It may come from the individual's work, professional or civic activities, and can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution should have benefitted Alaskans beyond the individual's immediate circle of family and friends. Generally, these individuals will have been recognized through a letter of thanks from the Governor or Legislature, certificates of appreciation from an agency or group, awards, newspaper articles featuring the contribution made, dedication of local man-made features (park, street, garden, building), and the like. The individual might be a historical figure.

Features in Alaska can be named for events of significance nationally or internationally. Features also can be named for persons who made a significant contribution nationally or internationally, especially if the contribution was exceptional and unique. In such instances, the requirement of direct association does not need to be met, but the other requirements for commemorative names must be met.

Commemorative name proposals must demonstrate local residents have been advised of the proposal. Proposals should include evidence of local support by local authorities and residents attesting to the individual's association with the feature and significant contribution locally, to the state or nation, or internationally.

## **GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PROCESS**

Upon receipt, a name proposal is reviewed for completeness. If necessary, the applicant is asked for additional information. Of particular concern is that adjacent land owners have been advised of the proposed name and had a chance to comment on it.

A Domestic Geographic Name Report (a U.S. Board on Geographic Names form) is prepared and sent with a map and supporting information to relevant Native groups, public land managers, local governments, and other interested parties and local media for comment on the proposed name. For proposed Native names, the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is consulted. Interested parties might include local civic groups, historical organizations, pilot associations, and outdoor groups.

The Alaska Historical Commission members receive the report, map, and all public input before discussing and acting to approve or not approve a proposed name. The nine-member commission meets at least two times a year. Commission members reference these guidelines in their formal action. The applicant is notified of the meeting at which the commission will consider their proposed name and provided with copies of comments received from reviewers. Every meeting has a public comment period when an applicant and others interested in the proposed name can address commission members. Place names approved by the Alaska Historical Commission are official for the State of Alaska.

Following the meeting, applicants are notified in writing of the Alaska Historical Commission's action on their proposal. Unless tabled, the Domestic Geographic Name Report, all comments received, and record of the commission's action are sent to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Staff there also have a review process before the board considers and votes on a proposed name. The USBGN is the final word on choice, spelling, and official use of the place names in the U.S. Its approval makes a name official nationally. The name is entered in the Geographic Name Information System (GNIS), <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/>. When a

federal map is revised and updated an effort is made to add the name, but approval does not guarantee a name will appear on USGS and other federal maps.

The Alaska Office of History & Archaeology has a program manager for geographic names who can answer questions or provide additional information.

[AHC adopted 12.8.2015]

[Link updates 04.05.2017]



THE STATE  
of ALASKA

GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF PARKS & OUTDOOR RECREATION  
Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565  
907.269.8721  
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha>

June 3, 2024

Re: 3050-3 Mount Carola

Matanuska-Susitna Borough  
350 E Dahlia Ave  
Palmer, Alaska 99645  
[mike.brown@matsugov.us](mailto:mike.brown@matsugov.us)  
cc: [Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us](mailto:Peggy.Horton@matsugov.us)

Dear Borough Manager,

The Alaska Historical Commission has received a geographic name proposal to name an unnamed mountain peak found in Denali National Park and Preserve between Ruth Glacier and Tokasitna Glacier north of Petersville. The proposed name is "Mount Carola" and is a commemorative name for Carola "Carol" J. Young of Petersville and Talkeetna. A copy of the proposal is enclosed for review, as well as a map showing the feature's location, and the guidelines for geographic names that the Alaska Historical Commission members have established.

The commission would appreciate your comments on the proposed name. To object or to endorse the proposed name, you must respond in writing. Your comments need to be received by August 15, 2024. You can respond with a letter or by writing your comments in the box below. Please send your comments by mail to the address above or by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

If you have any questions about the state geographic names program, please contact Katie Ringsmuth at email [katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov](mailto:katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov) or by phone at (907) 269-8714.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ringsmuth  
Geographic Names Coordinator and State Historian  
KJR: mms

Enclosures

<p>I _____ object / _____ endorse the proposed name because: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p>
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This proposal is to name a mountain peak found north of Petersville, between Ruth Glacier and Tokasitna Glacier, after a miner and pioneer woman of Alaska, Carola "Carol" J. Young, who lived from 1936-2018. The proposed name is "Mt Carola" and is commemorative. As a commemorative name proposal, the proposer must demonstrate that the individual in question has been deceased for five years before the proposal; that the individual made a significant, acknowledged contribution to the community and/or state over time; the individual had a direct association with the feature in question for a period of years, and that there is local support for the proposed name.

According to the proposer, Carola Young's daughter, Carola, lived and worked in the Petersville and Talkeetna areas for a long time. She previously mined near Cache Creek on Falls Creek and owned and operated the Fairview Inn in Talkeetna from 1971 to 1978. She helped establish the VAFW Post 3836 in Talkeetna in the 1970s and worked in mining and with mining organizations for decades. She served as the president of the Yentna Mining District for 23 years, was a member of the Alaska Miners Association for 40 years and was appointed to serve on the South Denali Development Steering Committee to represent Yentna miners by then Governor Tony Knowles. Through the committee, she helped implement the SNOWtrac program for groomed winter trails throughout the state.

The proposer has also collected several letters and emails demonstrating local support for the proposed new name "Mt. Carola," with many citing her contributions to the mining community in Yentna and Alaska overall.

**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes  No  If Yes, approximately how many years? \_\_\_\_\_

**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?** None Reported.

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:** No recorded name for the feature on GNIS.

**Additional information:**

The peak is found within the boundaries of Denali National Park & Preserve in "Eligible Wilderness."

**Organizations for Consultation:**

- Chickaloon Native Village
- Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Doyon, Limited
- Denali National Park & Preserve
- Board of Geographic Names National Park Service Representative
- Knik Tribal Council
- Matanuska-Susitna Borough
- Mountaineering Club of Alaska
- Native Village of Cantwell
- Native Village of Eklutna
- Tanana Chiefs Conference

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
<b>Michele Stevens</b>			

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)
	<b>Anchorage, AK</b>

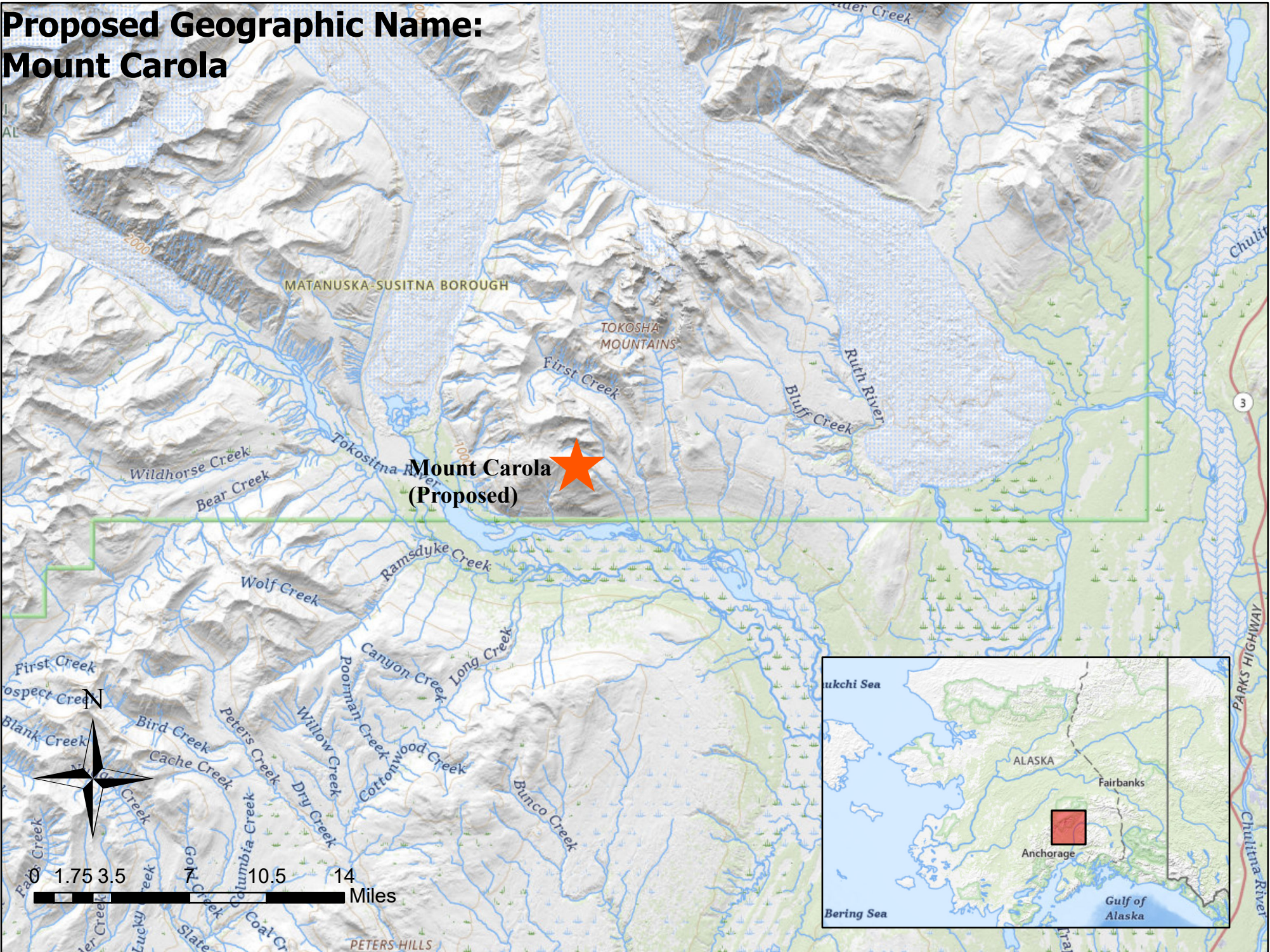
Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
<b>Judith E. Bittner</b>	<b>SHPO</b>	<b>(907) 269-8721</b>	

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology	<b>550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565</b>

Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area
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# Proposed Geographic Name: Mount Carola



USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State HII; NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information



# In Remeberance of Carola "Carol" June Young



Carola "Carol" June Young, born on December 15, 1936 in Scotia, California, passed away at age 81 on April 30, 2018 at St. Elias Hospital in Anchorage, Alaska. Carol was a warrior against her battle with cancer and heart failure. I have never seen anyone so brave and strong.

Carol came to Alaska in 1956 married to James H Stevens Sr.; Jim was an Air traffic Controller with the Tactical Air Command in the Air Force. It was their dream to live the adventures of Alaska. While living in Anchorage Carol worked at Providence Hospital as a Medical Records Technician. In 1967 Jim and Carol, along with their three children moved to Talkeetna and built a log home. They enjoyed dog mushing, fishing and hunting. Their Alaska dream was cut short when Jim passed away March 3, 1970 while serving in active duty. He was a young age of 38. After Jim passed Carol helped with establishing the VFW Post 3836 in Talkeetna, Alaska.

In 1971 Carol and her mother Babe Barnes bought The Fairview Inn in Talkeetna. They remolded The Fairview Inn after the Inn caught fire and destroyed the floor. They always had hot soup or chili in a pot for whomever was hungry. They made sure everyone was welcome. They hired an artist to paint pictures of all of the pioneers or "Old Timers" of Talkeetna. The paintings are still on the walls to this day. Carol built a small downstairs apartment in the Inn for Babe. They felt the need to have 24-hour presence in case anyone needed a room.

In 1972 Carol and a friend ventured in a canoe down the Yukon River from Eagle, Alaska to the Norton Sound area of the Bering Sea. This trek took 5 weeks and covered some 2,100 miles. The canoe was special made just for this trek.

In 1978 Carol sold the Fairview Inn and married Robert Young a gold miner. She continued to live the adventures of Alaska. Living in the wilderness without electricity or water, yet somehow Carol made mining camp a luxury by plumbing the water to camp via gravity fed; building a shower house and extra accommodations for family and friends. There was always homemade bread and good food at camp. Later in life a generator made camp even more luxurious.

Carol was a "Jack of All Trades Master of None" she could be a Carpenter, a Plumber, an Electrician and Attorney at law, without the diploma and she was a Miner. She was computer literate and I often admired how she kept up with technology. She could build a house from the ground up. She loved refurbishing old trailers, 28 to be exact through out her lifetime. Her favorites were "Vintage" Airstreams. She refurbished five Airstreams total and all had their own special color theme.

For 23 years Carol was the President of Yentna Mining District (Petersville, Alaska). Governor Tony Knowles appointed her to serve on the South Denali Development Plan Committee. She spent many hours and days for 15 years representing the miners, and working with the State of Alaska, The National Park Service, and others, trying to stop the construction of a Visitor Center under the South Denali Development Plan for the Petersville Area. She along with others were successful in stopping the Visitor Center. Carol was also instrumental in implementing the SNOWtrac program. A program that is for groomed winter trail use throughout the State of Alaska.

Carol loved her Chevy Turbo Duramax diesel truck with duel stacks. She loved riding Snow Machines and ATV's, she loved reading books, she loved birds and she had many animal friends, both domestic and wild.

Carol is survived by her spouse: Robert Young, her sons, James H Stevens II and Jerald W Stevens; and her daughter, Michele Stevens, her grandsons: James Stevens III and Jason Stevens, and brother Gene Gosnell. Carol was preceded in death by her spouse James H Stevens Sr., and her mother Babe Barnes.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Petersville Search and Rescue P. O. Box 13392 Trapper Creek, Alaska 99683 or [petersvillecommunitynpc.org](http://petersvillecommunitynpc.org) Condolences to the family may be sent to Michele Stevens P.O. Box 20 Talkeetna, Alaska 99676. Friends and family can pay their respects at a celebration of life for Carola and her Mother Babe Barns to be announced soon in Talkeetna, Alaska.



Carola J Young was a miner and a pioneer women of Alaska. She was fluent in mining law, was computer literate, and was a "jack of all trades and master of none." She lived her mining adventures near Cache Creek on Falls Creek. Living in the wilderness without running water and electricity, yet somehow she made mining camp a luxury, she plumbed the camp via gravity fed water; built a shower house and extra accommodations for family and friends. We called it Youngsville. Carola could build a house from the ground up. She loved refurbishing old trailers, 28 to be exact throughout her lifetime most units where for mining camp. Her favorites were "vintage" Airstreams, she refurbished 5 Airstreams total and all had their own special color theme.

There was always homemade bread and good food at camp. Later in life a generator made camp more luxurious. The State workers and geologist working in the area always stopped in for fresh coffee and cinnamon rolls.

Governor Tony Knowles appointed her to serve on the South Denali Development Steering Committee representing the Yenta miners. She served as President of the Yenta Mining District for 23 years. Carola spent 15 years representing the miners, working with the state of Alaska, the national parks service, and others, in efforts to stop the construction of the South Denali visitor center in the Petersville area. She, along with others were successful in stopping the visitor center which is now at Kesugi Ken area near Beyers Lake. Carola was a member of Alaska Miners Assoc. for 40 years.

Carola and her mother Babe Barnes owned the Fairview Inn in Talkeetna. They remodeled the Fairview Inn after the Inn caught fire and destroyed the floor. They always had hot soup or chili in a pot for whomever was hungry, Miners, Mountain climbers, people who lived in the bush and locals. They made sure everyone was welcome. To honor the "old timers" Carola hired an artist to paint the "old timers" of Talkeetna. The paintings are still on the wall to this day. Carola built a small apartment in the Inn for her mom Babe. They felt the need to have a 24 hour presence in case anyone needed a room or food.

Carola helped establish the VFAW post 3836 in Talkeetna. She was instrumental in establishing the SnowTRAC program. A program for winter groomed trails and safety throughout the State of Alaska.



# Talkeetna Historical Society and Museum

PO Box 76 Talkeetna Alaska 99676  
907-733-2487

To whom it may concern,

My name is Autumn Merritt, and I am the Executive Director of the Talkeetna Historical Society. I am writing to you today in support of Michele Stevens and her request to have a mountain named after her beloved and influential mother, Carola June Young.

Carol's impact on the town of Talkeetna cannot be understated, and she is remembered well by her contemporaries. She was one of the many owners of the Fairview Inn, widely considered to be the heart of the town. She and her mother, Babe Barnes, remodeled it after it had been badly damaged in a fire and ran it for nearly a decade. It was they who commissioned the famous pastels of the "old-timers" that still grace the walls to this day. Carol helped establish the VFW Post 3836, which is an extremely important asset to Talkeetna. And for 23 years, she served as the President of the Yentna Mining District in Petersville, an area that shares a long and storied history with ours. She was instrumental in preventing the construction of a visitors' center which would have permanently altered the rural character of that part of the country. Talkeetna would not exist as it is today without the mining operations of Petersville, and we have an abiding interest in the preservation of the region and the continuation of the natural and cultural resources that enhance it.

I appeal to the committee to consider Ms. Stevens' petition to immortalize her mother and her accomplishments forever. The honor of having a mountain bearing her name – one that overlooks the place where Carol spent so much time and which she fought so hard to protect - is a fitting memorial to the life of a true Alaskan woman.

Respectfully,

Autumn Merritt

Executive Director  
Talkeetna Historical Society and Museum



121 W. FIREWEED SUITE 120 | ANCHORAGE, ALASKA | 99503 | 907.563.9229 | ALASKAMINERS.ORG

February 9, 2024

Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Office of History and Archaeology  
500 W 7th Ave Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Naming mountain after Carola Young

To whom it may concern:

The Alaska Miners Association (AMA) writes to provide its support for naming a mountain in our state after Carola J. Young, an incredibly deserving recipient.

AMA is a professional membership trade organization established in 1939 to represent the mining industry in Alaska. We are composed of more than 1,400 members that come from eight statewide branches: Anchorage, Denali, Fairbanks, Haines, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan/Prince of Wales, and Nome. Our members include individual prospectors, geologists, engineers, suction dredge miners, small family mines, junior mining companies, and major mining companies, Alaska Native Corporations, and the contracting sector that supports Alaska's mining industry.

Carola came to Alaska in 1956 with her husband in the United States Air Force and they immediately fell in love with our great state. It only took them two years to move to Talkeetna, build a log home, and begin dog mushing, fishing and hunting. Tragically, Carola's husband passed while serving in active duty, but Carola channeled her heartbreak into establishing the VFW Post 3836 in Talkeetna and becoming involved in assisting our armed forces members.

She then purchased the Fairview Inn in Talkeetna, remodeling it and establishing it as a place where anyone could come in day or night for a hot meal and a comfortable place to sleep. Miners, mountain climbers, rural Alaskans and locals would gather at the Fairview and eventually Carola hired an artist to commission the iconic "old timers" paintings on the walls of the Fairview Inn to this day.

In 1978, Carola sold the Fairview Inn when she married Bob Young, a gold miner, and moved to the Petersville area to help with their placer mining operation. There, she continued her spirit of hospitality and living the adventures of Alaska in a mining camp without electricity or water. Somehow Carol made it a luxury by plumbing the water to camp via a gravity fed system and building a shower house and extra accommodations for family and friends. The kitchen always had homemade bread and good food, and it got even better when a generator made camp more luxurious. State agency personnel and geologists working in the area always stopped in for fresh coffee and cinnamon rolls.

Carola became very active in the area, serving as the President of the Yentna Mining District for 23 years. Governor Tony Knowles appointed her to serve on the South Denali Development Steering Committee representing the Yentna miners, working with the State of Alaska, the National Park Service, and others, in



efforts to relocate the South Denali visitor center away from the Petersville area to Kesugi Ken near Beyers Lake. Her service ensured that miners in the District were able to continue their livelihoods and the visitors to our state had top-notch facilities elsewhere in the Denali area. This is the balance and spirit Alaskans are known for and proud of.

Her public service did not stop there – she was instrumental in establishing SnowTRAC, a program for winter groomed trails and safety for mushers, snowmachiners, and other trail users. She was also active in the Petersville Search and Rescue program. Last, and certainly not least in our eyes, she was a member of the Alaska Miners Association for over 40 years, until she passed in 2018.

Carola Young embodies the Alaska spirit and is the kind of legend we can all be proud of, and AMA could not be more proud to endorse naming a mountain after her.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information for you to consider and honor this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deantha Skibinski".

Deantha Skibinski  
Executive Director



**From:** [Ringsmuth, Katie J \(DNR\)](#)  
**To:** [Sine, Mary M \(DNR\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Naming a Mountain for Carol Young  
**Date:** Monday, March 4, 2024 8:24:26 AM

---

Hi Mary,

Do we have a file open for Carol Young?

If so, would you mind adding the following comments?

If we don't have a file open, we may need to contact the commenter and suggest they submit a proposal.

Thanks!

katie

**Katie Ringsmuth**

State Historian  
Alaska State Historic Preservation Office  
Office of History & Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3561  
Direct: 907-269-8714  
katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov  
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/oha>

---

**From:** Gease, Ricky John (DNR) <[ricky.gease@alaska.gov](mailto:ricky.gease@alaska.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 3, 2024 11:42 AM  
**To:** Ringsmuth, Katie J (DNR) <[katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov](mailto:katie.ringsmuth@alaska.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bittner, Judith E (DNR) <[judy.bittner@alaska.gov](mailto:judy.bittner@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Naming a Mountain for Carol Young

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bob Loeffler <[bobl@jadenorth.com](mailto:bobl@jadenorth.com)>  
Date: March 3, 2024 at 11:07:12 AM AKST  
To: "Gease, Ricky John (DNR)" <[ricky.gease@alaska.gov](mailto:ricky.gease@alaska.gov)>  
Cc: [aksnowgirl@icloud.com](mailto:aksnowgirl@icloud.com)  
Subject: Naming a Mountain for Carol Young

[You don't often get email from [bobl@jadenorth.com](mailto:bobl@jadenorth.com). Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Gease:

I understand there is a movement to name a mountain in the Yentna Mining District overlooking the Tokositna River for Carol Young, who died in 2018. Please add my name to that movement, and please forward this e-mail to whomever is considering such changes. Thank you.

Ms. Young was for many years the heart of the Yentna Mining District. She was the policy guide, spokesperson, and someone people came to for information and advice. When I was Director of the division of Mining, Land and Water, I was the beneficiary of her advice for many years and I valued it. Naming the mountain after her would be a fitting memorial

Sincerely,

- Bob Loeffler

Bob Loeffler  
907-250-4621  
[bobl@jadenorth.com](mailto:bobl@jadenorth.com)

# Department of Natural Resources

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
: 907.269.8721  
dnr.oha@alaska.gov

## ALASKA'S GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

a program of the

## ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Alaska Historical Commission serves as the geographic names board for the State of Alaska (AS 41.35.350). The citizen board, chaired by the Lt. Governor, reviews names proposed for lakes, streams, mountains, and other physical features in the state. The commission coordinates its program with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The commission has established a process to consider proposals, as has the federal board. It takes at least a year to name a geographic feature.

In 1982 the State of Alaska enacted a law urging the state geographic names board to consider Alaska Native place names for geographic features in the state that have not previously been named, using Native language writing systems accepted by the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names has a policy to identify a single official name and spelling for each geographic feature. One or more **variant** names can be identified if needed for clarity or reference. A variant is any current or historic name or spelling for a geographic feature other than the official name. It might appear on maps in parentheses following the official name.

To propose an official name for a geographic feature, an application is made to the Alaska Historical Commission. The form is available at:

[http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname\\_app.pdf](http://www.dnr.alaska.gov/Assets/uploads/DNRPublic/parks/oha/designations/AKgeographicname_app.pdf) or from the Office of History & Archaeology, 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501, 907.269.8721. The complete application and supporting material should be mailed, delivered to the office, or sent by email to [dnr.oha@alaska.gov](mailto:dnr.oha@alaska.gov).

All proposals must be accompanied by a **map** showing U.S. Geological Survey information and identifying clearly the feature to be named. Additional maps are encouraged that show the immediate area around the feature to be named, or show the feature in relation to major geographic features, communities, and roads as appropriate. Photographs and other identifying aids are useful but are not required.

**Evidence of local support** is encouraged. These might be letters, petitions, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor, showing public awareness and endorsement of the proposed name. The proposer must establish that property owners of the feature or close to it have been made aware of the name proposal and given a chance to comment.

## GUIDELINES

In the review of a proposed name, the Alaska Historical Commission uses the following guidelines and the policies of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (*Principles, Policies, and Procedures for Domestic Geographic Names*, <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/policies.htm>). A proposal must identify the type of proposed name from the categories below, address the special conditions, and establish why the feature needs an official name.

### Local usage

Active local use is the single, best reason to name a geographic feature. Local usage refers to a name for a geographic feature that has evolved over a period of years, is called that name by the community or area as a whole, and is supported by local petitions, oral histories, documents, or other publications. A feature named by the applicant is not considered local usage, even when the applicant has called the feature by that name for a number of years.

The Alaska Historical Commission encourages the proposer to:

- include evidence of common verbal or written usage of the proposed name, such as petitions signed by local residents, resolutions, or letters of support for the proposed name from local government entities and community groups

### Descriptive names (includes features named by applicant)

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is relevant and descriptive of the feature
- the name is not in use elsewhere in the region (unless for a related feature)
- the name is in good taste and not frivolous
- the name has been used for a minimum of five years and evidence is provided of the use
- the property owners of the feature and those living adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it

### Alaska Native names

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- the name is or was in common local use and that use is documented
- the name is linguistically appropriate to the area in which it is to be applied
- the land owner has been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment on it
- there has been consultation on the spelling and use of diacritical marks (special marks not normally used in the English alphabet) with all Native groups in the area and with the Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks



### **Commemorative names** *(please read the special section)*

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the individual has been deceased for five (5) years and evidence of this (such as an obituary and biography) is provided
- . the individual made a significant, acknowledged contribution over time to the community or state
- . the individual had a direct association with the feature for a period of years
- . there is local support by residents and local authorities as evidenced by including letters, petitions, and resolutions

### **Historical names**

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- . the proposed name was in common local use and that use is documented
- . the name is clearly associated with the area

### **Name changes**

The Alaska Historical Commission is reluctant to change existing names, but will consider doing so if the proposer demonstrates a compelling reason and if there is local support for the change. It has been shown that changing long-standing names can cause confusion and unforeseen costs.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish, as appropriate, that:

- . the current official name is derogatory to a racial, ethnic, gender, or religious group
- . the current official name is duplicative and causing confusion
- . the current official name is not spelled correctly
- . there is extensive local support by local authorities and residents for the name proposed and the name change as evidenced by letters, local petitions, and resolutions from local government entities and organizations
- . the property owners of the feature and adjacent to it have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment

### **Names in wilderness areas** (including wilderness study areas)

The Alaska Historical Commission does not approve names for natural features in federally designated wilderness areas or study areas unless the proposer demonstrates that an exception is warranted.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks the proposer to establish that:

- there is an overriding need to name the feature (such as for purposes of safety, education, or area administration)

the land manager has been consulted and provided the opportunity to comment on the proposed name

### **Associative names**

The Alaska Historical Commission accepts, in fact encourages, using the same name for features related to each other, such as forks of a river or a creek that comes from a glacier.

The Alaska Historical Commission asks to proposer to establish:

- the relationship between the two features using maps
- the property owners of the features and those adjacent to them have been notified of the proposed name and given a chance to comment
- the provisions for descriptive, commemorative, Alaska Native, wilderness and other categories are addressed as well

## **COMMEMORATIVE NAMES**

A commemorative name of a geographic feature is to honor and recognize an individual who has made an outstanding or noteworthy contribution to an area or the state, or is a national or international figure. A commemorative name might be for an event. A commemorative place name is not intended to memorialize a family member, friend, pet or animal.

Proposals containing a given name (first or last) or nickname of an individual are considered commemorative. The full name of a person as part of a geographic name normally is not approved unless surname use alone would be ambiguous.

The person must have been deceased *for at least five (5) years* before the Alaska Historical Commission will consider a commemorative name proposal. An obituary or biography of the individual must be part of the proposal. The information should establish the individual's *direct association* with the feature, and that the individual made a *significant contribution* to the area in which the feature is located.

*Direct association.* To commemorate an event, it should have occurred at or near the feature or have had an impact on the region or state. To commemorate a person, the individual should have been physically present at or near the feature for a number of years, or engaged in some activity that affected the feature. A person's death on or at a feature, such as a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the ownership of land adjacent to or of the feature, and recreational use or visits to a feature do not normally meet this criterion.

*Significance.* The proposer must establish why the event or individual is particularly worthy of recognition. The importance of an event can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution of an individual must be notable, of consequence, and have had an impact on the community,

region or state. A significant contribution is an extraordinary effort, achievement, or impact. It may come from the individual's work, professional or civic activities, and can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The contribution should have benefitted Alaskans beyond the individual's immediate circle of family and friends. Generally, these individuals will have been recognized through a letter of thanks from the Governor or Legislature, certificates of appreciation from an agency or group, awards, newspaper articles featuring the contribution made, dedication of local man-made features (park, street, garden, building), and the like. The individual might be a historical figure.

Features in Alaska can be named for events of significance nationally or internationally. Features also can be named for persons who made a significant contribution nationally or internationally, especially if the contribution was exceptional and unique. In such instances, the requirement of direct association does not need to be met, but the other requirements for commemorative names must be met.

Commemorative name proposals must demonstrate local residents have been advised of the proposal. Proposals should include evidence of local support by local authorities and residents attesting to the individual's association with the feature and significant contribution locally, to the state or nation, or internationally.

## **GEOGRAPHIC NAMING PROCESS**

Upon receipt, a name proposal is reviewed for completeness. If necessary, the applicant is asked for additional information. Of particular concern is that adjacent land owners have been advised of the proposed name and had a chance to comment on it.

A Domestic Geographic Name Report (a U.S. Board on Geographic Names form) is prepared and sent with a map and supporting information to relevant Native groups, public land managers, local governments, and other interested parties and local media for comment on the proposed name. For proposed Native names, the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks is consulted. Interested parties might include local civic groups, historical organizations, pilot associations, and outdoor groups.

The Alaska Historical Commission members receive the report, map, and all public input before discussing and acting to approve or not approve a proposed name. The nine-member commission meets at least two times a year. Commission members reference these guidelines in their formal action. The applicant is notified of the meeting at which the commission will consider their proposed name and provided with copies of comments received from reviewers. Every meeting has a public comment period when an applicant and others interested in the proposed name can address commission members. Place names approved by the Alaska Historical Commission are official for the State of Alaska.

Following the meeting, applicants are notified in writing of the Alaska Historical Commission's action on their proposal. Unless tabled, the Domestic Geographic Name Report, all comments received, and record of the commission's action are sent to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Staff there also have a review process before the board considers and votes on a proposed name. The USBGN is the final word on choice, spelling, and official use of the place names in the U.S. Its approval makes a name official nationally. The name is entered in the Geographic Name Information System (GNIS), <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/>. When a

federal map is revised and updated an effort is made to add the name, but approval does not guarantee a name will appear on USGS and other federal maps.

The Alaska Office of History & Archaeology has a program manager for geographic names who can answer questions or provide additional information.

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