

Thinking Man's Guide To Historic Rehab

"This is a book about how to *think* about historic structure rehabilitation before you start *doing* it."

Dr. T. Allan Comp, Chief of Cultural Resources for the NPS Pacific Northwest Region, thus described the 71-page booklet *Historic Structures Maintenance Guide*, prepared for Mount Rainier NP by Architect Alfred Staehli of Portland, Oregon.

Contents include tips on preserving the rustic style, definitions, site and grounds, landscaping, treatment of the various parts of structures such as roofs, foundations, and walls, flashing, hardware, paints and other finishes, insulation, doors, sashes and hardware, lighting fixtures, energy conservation, handicapped access, and many more related topics.

The Guide is a general introduction to rehabilitation, and as such is applicable System-wide. It is available either from Mount Rainier NP or from PNRO, Cultural Resources Division, Westin Building, Room 1920, 2001 Sixth Avenue, Seattle WA 98121.

Following production of the Guide, Dr. Comp's Division put together a 1300-page publication, entitled *Historic Structure Preservation Guide*, covering more than 100 actual buildings in Mount Rainier—complete with maps, diagrams and detailed instructions to resource management personnel as to how to proceed in rehabilitation work.

Pack-Rat Middens Hold Keys To Past

At Lava Beds National Monument in northeastern California, pack-rat middens are shedding light on historic vegetation patterns. Two middens, which have been analyzed and carbon-dated by Dr. Peter Mehringer, Jr., of Washington State University at Pullman, have returned dates of 2600 years B.P. and 5300 years B.P.

The information contained in the plant remains preserved in the middens reveals historic vegetation in the headquarters area to be nearly identical to that present today. Another midden indicates the former dominance of associations whose current abundance here and elsewhere has been partially attributed to historic fire suppression and livestock grazing. Five additional middens currently are being analyzed and dated.

The information generated by this project will be useful in reconstructing historic vegetation patterns and may influence fire management decisions on utilizing prescribed fire to return an area to "historic conditions." The carbon-dates are helping to establish minimum ages of lava tubes where the middens are found. Only small portions of each midden are collected, leaving most of the middens intact for future study and visitor interest.

Dennis Schramm
Resource Management Specialist, Lava Beds NM

A Century of Discovery Observed at Glacier Bay

By Maria Gladyszewski

The first Glacier Bay Science Symposium attracted scientists from 20 states. Some traveled 4,000 miles to talk with one another, to revisit a place where most had spent many hours. They came as scientists to discuss research at Glacier Bay; they came as observers to learn about Glacier Bay; they came with enthusiasm, hopes, and concerns for Glacier Bay; they came to be part of "The Scientific Adventure—A Century After Muir."

Originally slated as a 50-participant event, Glacier Bay's first Science Symposium became a meeting of more than 130 minds. Many among them had been hoping for a gathering of Glacier Bay scientists since the idea was discussed in the mid-1970s. The meeting was to gather scientists to summarize past research, and encourage future research in Glacier Bay.

The idea lingered in the minds of certain individuals until the fall of 1982, when it resurfaced at a meeting of the Friends of Glacier Bay. The scientific community, the National Park Service, and the Friends of Glacier Bay now seemed ready for the event. FGB and NPS agreed on co-sponsorship, individuals and organizations volunteered time and dollars.

Glacier Bay Lodge in Bartlett Cove served as the center for the Sept. 23-26, 1983 weekend activities. Participants arrived in time to begin informal discussions at a pot luck dinner. Four panels, with 8 to 10 members each, covered four main areas: Geology, glacial activity and climatology; Terrestrial ecosystems; Maine and aquatic ecosystems; and Topics in resource management.

Discussion among panel members and with the audience followed panel presentations.

Actually, the discussions, both formal and informal throughout the weekend, were as wide-ranging as the Glacier Bay setting and the human minds meeting. Glacial history, climate reconstruction, collection of meteorological and climatological data, studies of refugia, terrestrial ecosystem development, biogeography, interdisciplinary studies of the marine development, humpback whales, determination of carrying capacities, how to decide on research priorities, human resources of Glacier Bay—the subject matter was endless. Participants summarized past research findings, dissected research methods, examined unanswered questions from new perspectives, and planned future projects together.

Funds from the Alaska Humanities Forum provided two evening programs which broadened the Symposium scope to include aspects of the human relationship to Glacier Bay and introduced discussion of philosophy and values. Participants in this area included three members of the Tlingit community of Hoonah, Alaska—a poet, and archeologist, and a photographer/author. The humanities sessions presented Glacier Bay as more than just a research laboratory and offered a perspective within which to pursue science.

Three of the Bay's most distinguished scientists were honored. Former Superintendent Robert Howe presented NPS awards for extended scientific contribution to Glacier Bay to W.O. Field, glaciologist with



Scientists view Glacier Bay from the decks of the tour boat, Thunder Bay. (Tom Bean photo)

the American Geographical Society monitoring changes in the Bay's glaciers since 1926; R.P. Goldthwait, geologist from the University of Ohio and leader of the Institute for Polar Studies multidisciplinary research program begun in the early 1950s in Glacier Bay; and D.B. Lawrence, botanist from the University of Minnesota, observing vegetation changes in Glacier Bay since 1941.

Formal presentations were followed by a tour boat trip in rare Southeast Alaska sunshine. The tour boat *Thunder Bay* was donated by Glacier Bay Lodge. The 8-hour trip allows scientists to revisit Muir Inlet, famous for its catastrophic glacial retreat and plant succession studies. The hum of discussion did not end until the vessel returned to Bartlett Cove dock.

Something different happened here. Participants were drawn—not pushed—to the gathering. The meeting moved from event to event with intensity, energy, and a rich spirit of sharing. Many described it as one of the best meetings they had ever attended.

Extending beyond the formal sessions as perhaps the heartbeat of the gathering was the grappling with questions such as "What is the appropriate relationship of science to the fundamental values associated with Glacier Bay the Place and Glacier Bay the National Park and Preserve? What is so special about Glacier Bay the Place? What should be the character of the Park and Preserve? What role does science have there?"

No final answers were achieved, but the dialogue was serious and pervasive. Participants brought diverse perspectives, and all sought the knowledge that Glacier Bay offered. All spoke of "carefully treading on the landscape," and throughout there was a spirit of caring.

Proceedings will be available from Gary Vequist, Resource Manager, Glacier Bay NP, Gustavus, AK 99825.

Gladyszewski, a seasonal interpreter at Glacier Bay NP, is editor of the Symposium Proceedings.