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HISTORIC & PREHISTORIC THEMES
for the Management of Cultural Resources within
YUKON-CHARLEY RIVERS NATIONAL PRESERVE

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Introduction

In late 1999, Patty Rost, Chief of Natural and Cultural Resources at Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve requested that cultural resource staff identify significant themes associated with the varied cultural resources of the preserve. This effort was necessitated by the fact that several key park planning documents were looming on the horizon (such as a park Interpretive Plan, Cabin Management Plan, and Backcountry Management Plan, among others). Each of these plans would require input from resources staff.

The development of cultural themes were seen as a first step towards identifying priorities and needs for cultural resources program development. The themes are intended to guide staff in determining priorities for research, identification, documentation, preservation, interpretation and education.

Themes were based upon those outlined in a National Park Service publication entitled "History in the National Park Service, Themes & Concepts" (see also www.cr.nps.gov/history/hisnps/NPSThinking/revthem.htm). Park cultural resource staff identified eight notable sub-themes for the preserve: Architecture, Exploration, Mining, Politics & Government, Transportation, Prehistory, Economics, and Subsistence. A briefing statement for each theme is included in this document. In addition, threats (both potential and actual) are described for each sub-theme, and recommendations for the further study and action are provided.

An existing cultural site database¹ (developed in-house for other purposes) was employed in assigning themes to physical cultural resources (such as structures, archeological sites, trails, etc.). The subsistence theme was not addressed in this process, although it may be possible to do so at a later date. Relevant attribute lists were developed for each theme. Sites were evaluated for their relationship to each theme, and, within that theme, relevant key attributes were identified. This was accomplished by using "drop down" lists to ensure that determinations remained within the established framework.

¹ Database is called "Sitelist2" and is in MSAccess97 format. CD containing the database is included with the original of this document.

Architecture

There are currently over 245 known structures and structural remains located within Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. The vast majority of structures are situated at the confluences of sidestreams and major waterways, such as the Yukon and Charley Rivers. Many were permanent or seasonal dwelling sites for single persons or families, although a significant portion of those located along smaller ore-bearing drainages were built in support of mining operations.

Buildings and structural remains serve as tangible reminders of man's long history of habitation and resource use in the upper Yukon region. Variations in styles, methods and materials used in construction provide insight into the unique ways in which man has adapted to his environment. The diversity of materials may include the use of spruce, birch, birch bark, press plates, tin cans, recycled crates, and rock. Among the ingenious architectural modifications and features were semi-subterranean construction, multi-level and multi-room dwellings, building into hillsides, additions of root cellars, dumb waiters, and multi use areas.

In piecing together the history of a given locale it is possible to examine remaining architectural features to begin to tell the story of how inhabitants made a living off of the land. For example, many trapper cabins in Yukon-Charley tend to be similar in size, construction and surroundings. As a result of these similarities, such structures are often readily identifiable as being associated with the trapping lifestyle.

Unique architectural features found in many structures and complexes are often indicative of the regional, ethnic, and national styles of their builders and thus provide valuable insight into the social make up of the region's former population.

Through thorough research and documentation of architectural remains it is possible to identify regional and local styles which represent the character of past communities, and even individuals, who have left their mark upon the landscape.

Erosion, decay, human impacts, and fire will continue to contribute to the deterioration and loss of sites, some of which have yet to be identified and surveyed. There is a need to inventory and document cabin sites to a level that is satisfactory for architectural significance determinations. Without this baseline data, potentially valuable information regarding the history of resource use and habitation in the region will be lost.

Threats

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures and structural components
- Lack of adequate site documentation and resulting lack of knowledge to make sound management decisions
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)
- Loss of knowledge regarding historic and non-historic use of sites within the preserve boundary

Recommendations

- Systematic and comprehensive field documentation of all cabin sites in conjunction with Fire Program to thoroughly record all site features for archeological, historical, architectural and cultural landscape discipline needs
- Draft DOE²s for all cabin sites
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate
- Revise List of Classified Structures in consultation with Alaska Region NPS Cultural Resources Staff
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for interpretive purposes
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for public use (such as public use cabins, etc)
- Establish a maintenance plan for historic and non-historic cabins and other significant cultural features/equipment

² Determination of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

- Identify and interview persons possessing unrecorded knowledge of the history and use of cabin and other historic and non-historic sites within the preserve

Sites of Architectural Interest

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
37	KARI-STR-003	construction style and function	c1973, log cabin, sawhorse, drying racks
CHR-00030	YURI-STR-040	construction style and function	c1917 roadhouse, log cabin, garage, outhouse, smokehouse, greenhouse, cache, roads, built by Frank Slaven, Sandy Johnson and others.
17	COCR-STR-015	construction style and function	historic large log cabin ruin, second cabin, shed, outhouse, platform, communications wire
CHR-00006	YURI-STR-026	construction style and function	c1895 log cabin roadhouse ruin, second smaller cabin, dogbarn, built by David Koontz
CHR-00031	YURI-STR-014	construction style and function	dumps, depressions, c1924, doghouses, foundations, root cellar
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	construction style and function	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
45	KARI-STR-009	construction style and function	c1981, log cabin, plywood outhouse, platform cache, drying racks near Yukon River
CHR-00096	SACR-STR-001	construction style and function	log cabin, log cache on short stilts, trash scatter, dog sled, drift pit, household items, c1898
73	BEER-STR-002	construction style and function	c1940, frame cabin covered in press plates, jeep, tractor, flatbed truck, on airstrip
CHR-00021		construction style and function	subterranean bark lined structure, 50 meter pole fence (corral), historic
60	YURI-STR-011	construction style and function	two complexes: 1) c1970s cabin, older small cabin, platform cache, drying racks, skin frames, garden box, bike generator, household items 2) newer cabin, dovetailed cache on poles, outhouse, doghouses, shed/shelter, trail
CHR-00005	YURI-STR-044	construction style and function	c1910 log roadhouse, two story, two cabin ruins, two dogbarns, trail/road, built by Valentine Smith, associate with
CHR-00102	COCR-STR-022	construction style and function	historic coal creek camp, machinery, trails, roads, tailings, trapline runs through area, airstrip nearby
CHR-00094	COCR-STR-023	construction style and function	3 frame structures covered in corrugated metal, blacksmith shop, warehouse/garage, shed, boiler, handmade forge, tools, machinery, tailings
36	KARI-STR-010	construction style and function	c1974-80, log cabin, pits, 55gal drums, household items

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
47	KARI-STR-002	construction style and function	c1930-40, log cabin ruin, collapsed cache, dog sled, greenhouse, garden, stoves, household items, inhabited by 1970s era river people (Ricketts/Trainor)
CHR-00079	WOCR-STR-015	construction style and function	cabin (semi-subterranean, log), cache, dog kennel, 2 unidentified collapsed structures, trapping gear, household items
CHR-00089		construction style and function	coal creek mining district
29	YURI-STR-057	construction style and function	rock shelter/cabin built into top of mountain, mirror, stove, household items, shovel, enamelware, barrel hoops, possibly a trapper's cabin
13	CHRI-STR-005	function	c1974, cabin, cache (collapsed), household items, associated with Charley Kidd (home base cabin)
12	CHRI-STR-003	function	c1975, cabin removed 1999; meat rack, pit of unknown use
11	CHRI-STR-002	function	Built by Al Ames, c1940, log cabin, sauna/outhouse structure (collapsed), cache (collapsed), traps, associated with Charley Kidd
15	CHRI-STR-017	function	built 1943 by Elmer Nelson, log cabin ruin, for trapping activities, household items, sled
14	CHRI-STR-019	function	historic tentframe platform (log), dog shelter,
16	COCR-STR-024	function	c1935, log cabin ruin, airstrip nearby, household items
19	COCR-STR-010	function	historic log cabin, cat trail, reportedly undercut by erosion in 1983
02	CHRI-STR-021	function	c1963, log cabin (complete), airstrip (Gelvin's), associated with Gelvin's guiding activities, ANILCA provisions regarding the airstrip per Bill Brown
20	COCR-STR-011	function	historic log cabin ruin, tentframes, tailings, cat trail
21	COCR-STR-012	function	historic log cabin ruin, cat trail
22	COCR-STR-014	function	historic log cabin ruin, (same site at COCR-STR-009)
23	COCR-STR-020	function	historic log cabin ruin
24	COCR-STR-021	function	historic log cabin ruin

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
25	CHRI-STR-013	function	c1937, built by CA Bryant, log cabin ruin, corral, horse singletree, doghouse, meat cache, metal shod dogsleds (2), partial bellows, tailings from copper mine in nearby hillside
26	SERI-STR-003	function	wood frame covered in plastic, built 1975-76
27	FOJU-STR-001	function	log cabin, c1937-1945, outhouse, doghouses, swing, built by Charlie Loapkey (aka Yukon Charlie)
18	COCR-STR-005	function	log cabin ruin, drift mine hole(s), cat trail
CHR-00058		function	historic log cabin ruin and debris
CHR-00075A	CHRI-STR-009	function	Bonanza townsite (unlocated)
CHR-00080	FOJU-STR-002	function	c1900, Yukon Placers, cabin, cache, blacksmith shop, outhouse, boiler, tailings, airstrip
CHR-00034		function	(cabin gone), hydraulic pipe, household items, modern trapline
CHR-00090	NARI-STR-003	function	c1897, log cabin ruin, collapsed outbuilding, Alaska Commercial Co.
CHR-00091		function	two log and pole features, cabin remains, possible deadfall feature
CHR-00065		function	complex - four mile long ditch complex and associated features, including cabin
CHR-00069		function	historic drift mining complex, five tent platforms, historic debris, steam boiler, household items, doghouse, mine shafts
CHR-00063		function	historic log cabin, furnishings, can dump, drift pit
CHR-00059		function	log cabin, two room doghouse, small log structure, historic debris
CHR-00084		function	associate with George McGregor, two cabin ruins, historic debris
04	CHRI-STR-004	function	c1900?, cabin ruin (2), pits, household artifacts, mining items, depressions
CHR-00057		function	rectangular depression, historic debris (poss tent frame depression)
10	CHRI-STR-016	function	log cabin ruin, historic, modern cache nearby

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
CHR-00085		function	collapsed milled lumber structure, historic debris
CHR-00066		function	two log structures, collapsed cabin, shed/doghouse, historic debris
CHR-00088	YURI-STR-041	function	c1939 log cabin(collapsing), collapsed cache, second cabin ruin, built by George McGregor, used for trapping,
CHR-00101		function	Charley River roadhouse, vague locational data
EAG-00221	YURI-STR-052	function	historic cabin ruin, hole, on mail trail
01	CHRI-STR-020	function	c1890-1910, log cabin ruin, stove remains, possible outbuilding remains behind cabin
03	CHRI-STR-018	function	historic log cabin ruin, stove, rather barren site according to file
28	CHRI-STR-012	function	Sept. 1934, built by CA Bryant?, log cabin ruin, doghouses, cache ruins, household items, tools,
05	CHRI-STR-022	function	Burned over in 1999, log cabin ruin (charred), shovel, pickax, cans, depression
07	CHRI-STR-008	function	historic cabin ruin(2), collapsed cache, depressions
09	CHRI-STR-011	function	c1930-40, log cabin ruin, ladder, stove, traps, tools, gold pan, cache ruins, doghouses, marten cubby, possibly associated with CA Bryant
CHR-00064		function	two log structures, drift mining pit, historic debris
CHR-00056		function	two log ruins, drift mine, 15 small mining pits, headbox, ditch features, misc historic debris
33	EUCR-STR-001	function	c1969-70 log cabin, tent frame, dump
62	YURI-STR-029	function	nonhistoric fish camp, greenhouse, visquine shack, canoe rack
63	YURI-STR-020	function	c1977 log cabin, sawhorse, built by Dave Evans
64	YURI-STR-060	function	nonhistoric fish camp, teepee frame, barrels, tables, drying racks
66	WACR-STR-001	function	cabin, doghouse
67	YURI-STR-058	function	c1977 log cabin, possibly burned over in 1999, built by Charlie Edwards

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
68	YURI-STR-010	function	nonhistoric log cabin, marten pole set,
69	YURI-STR-050	function	c1976 log cabin, cache, shed, trail, built by Errol Wilson
70	YURI-STR-017	function	c1980-84 log tentframe (possibly burned 1999), cache remains, next to rock creek cabin, (see also YURI-STR-018
CHR-00002	CHRI-STR-001	function	c1941, Ames cabin:log trapping cabin; fish drying rack, sluice box?, associated with Charley Kidd, gravesite of Ames
59	YURI-STR-059	function	c1975 log cabin, sauna, storage bldg, trails, dump
CHR-00029	SACR-STR-004	function	log cabin ruin, c1898
57	YURI-STR-027	function	historic log cabin ruin, built by Ingess Solomon, frame for making dogsled runners, depression
CHR-00081	SACR-STR-003	function	log cabin ruin, household items, pre1940
CHR-00052		function	historic log cabin ruin, footbridge, cribbing, trails, can scatter
CHR-00054		function	partial remains of log structure and cribbed mine shaft
CHR-00083	COCR-STR-003	function	c1938 log cabin, new cabin, shed, drill rig, mining equipment, unpatented claim
CHR-00078		function	log cabin ruin, historic debris
CHR-00095		function	frame cabin remains, two tent platforms, historic debris scatter
CHR-00098	COCR-STR-004	function	historic log cabin ruin, household items
CHR-00073	COCR-STR-008	function	historic log cabin ruin, doghouse, cache?, historical debris
CHR-00075	COCR-STR-009	function	historic log cabin ruin, second cabin,doghouse, cache, wood frame, cat trail, (same site as COCR-STR-014)
EAG-00136	CHRI-STR-015	function	log cabin ruin, historic, possible mining and/or trapping
CHR-00082	BECR-STR-004	function	log cabin, frame shed, collapsed log cache, sauna, root cellar, cold storage pit, mining equipment, tractor, c1898-1917
44	YURI-STR-045	function	old cabin, c1977 cabin, cache, doghouses, fishracks

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
30	YURI-STR-046	function	nonhistoric cabin ruin, dump, tools, skin stretching boards, household items
32	THCR-STR-001	function	winter tent frame, cache, depression, nerby cat trail
71	CHRI-STR-006	function	historic cabin ruin, depressions
34	KARI-STR-012	function	log cabin ruin, doghouses?
76	YURI-STR-021	function	c1978 log cabin, cache, built by Charlie Edwards
38	KARI-STR-004	function	log cabin, platform cache, small cabin, doghouses, c1981-82
72	KARI-STR-015	function	log cabin ruin, depressions, household items, stove
39	MICR-STR-001	function	log cabin, sawhorse, built 1980
40	NARI-STR-002	function	log cabin, cache, doghouse, c1974
41	NARI-STR-006	function	c1974, log cabin, two caches
61	YURI-STR-053	function	nonhistoric fish camp, tent frames, drying racks, fish wheel axle, dump, trail
43	YURI-STR-043	function	c1977 log cabin, built by George Moore, household items
CHR-00075B	CHRI-STR-014	function	c1935-40, built by CA Bryant?, log cabin ruin, cache ruins, doglseds, dogyard, household items
46	YURI-STR-036	function	c1925-29 log cabin ruin, depressions, dump, mail trail
48	YURI-STR-051	function	c1976 log cabin, built by George Moore, sauna, two pole caches
49	YURI-STR-037	function	REMOVED?? C1962 A-frame cabin, built by Ed Gelvin
50	YURI-STR-023	function	c1950 log cabin, shed, modern outhouse, bike in tree, was a base for hunting, built by Dr. LeFevre
51	YURI-STR-055	function	historic log cabin ruin
52	YURI-STR-018	function	c1930 log cabin supposedly built by James Taylor, (see also YURI-STR-017 and 019),

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>architectural interest</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
53	YURI-STR-019	function	c1925 log cabin and cache ruin, possibly built by Pete Summerville, historic and modern trapping in area (see also YURI-STR-017 and 018)
54	YURI-STR-028	function	historic log cabin ruin, cache remains
55	YURI-STR-025	function	c1947-48 log cabin, doghouses, cache remains, built by George Beck
56	YURI-STR-009	function	c1930 log cabin ruin, built by Bane Beechman, woodchpper site, middens, trail
42	YURI-STR-056	function	c1895-1900 log cabin ruin, built by "Johnson", roadhouse, doghouses

Economics

The natural resources present in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve played a vital role in the economic development of the entire upper Yukon region as well as small local communities. From prehistoric times to the present day, we find a continuum of resource use and dependence.

In earlier times, Native peoples utilized the Yukon River as a trading corridor between coastal and inland populations. Small groups of people made a living off the land by following migrating animals and establishing temporary camps. A few Native villages dotted the landscape towards the end of the 1800s.

With the discovery of gold in the region, there came massive numbers of explorers, entrepreneurs and miners, forever altering the socio-economic character of the upper Yukon. Mining activities continue into the present day in some sectors of the preserve, albeit on a very small scale. Roadhouses, woodchopper cabins, and other structures are visible reminders of economic enterprises that arose in support of mining and other intensive activities in the region. There existed intricate inter-relationships within the complex economic systems of the latter 19th and early 20th centuries. As mining subsided and resource use shifted, businesses and activities which supported them were adversely affected.

Mail runs and mail trails were also notable aspects of the economic activities within the region, particularly at the height of the gold rush era along the Yukon River.

Like mining, trapping is an integral part of the rich history of resource usage in Yukon-Charley. Although trapping activities are much reduced from previous levels, several individuals continue to run lines within the preserve in support of their subsistence lifestyles. Numerous trapper cabins, cabin ruins, and traplines can be found throughout the preserve.

Modern economic ties to Yukon-Charley have shifted away from industry, favoring activities such as guiding and outfitting the public for recreational use of area resources.

Threats

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures and structural components
- Lack of adequate site documentation and resulting lack of knowledge to make sound management decisions
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)
- Loss of knowledge regarding historic and non-historic use of sites within the preserve boundary

Recommendations

- Draft DOEs for all cabin sites
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for interpretive purposes
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for public use (such as public use cabins, etc)
- Identify and interview persons possessing unrecorded knowledge of the history and use of cabin and other historic and non-historic sites within the preserve (miners, trappers, river people, etc)

Sites Associated with Development of the US Economy

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
CHR-00075A	CHRI-STR-009		Bonanza townsite (unlocated)
CHR-00101			Charley River roadhouse, vague locational data
66	WACR-STR-001		cabin, doghouse
07	CHRI-STR-008		historic cabin ruin(2), collapsed cache, depressions
04	CHRI-STR-004		c1900?, cabin ruin (2), pits, household artifacts, minng items, depressions
01	CHRI-STR-020		c1890-1910, log cabin ruin, stove remains, possible outbuilding remains behind cabin
CHR-00079	WOCR-STR-015		cabin (semi-subterranean, log), cache, dog kennel, 2 unidentified collapsed structures, trapping gear, household items
42	YURI-STR-056		c1895-1900 log cabin ruin, built by "Johnson", roadhouse, doghouses
28	CHRI-STR-012	mining features	Sept. 1934, built by CA Bryant?, log cabin ruin, doghouses, cache ruins, household items, tools,
CHR-00050		mining features	wooden headbox on pond
CHR-00075B	CHRI-STR-014	mining features	c1935-40, built by CA Bryant?, log cabin ruin, cache ruins, dogsleds, dogyard, household items
25	CHRI-STR-013	mining features	c1937, built by CA Bryant, log cabin ruin, corral, horse singletree, doghouse, meat cache, metal shod dogsleds (2), partial bellows, tailings from copper mine in nearby hillside
71	CHRI-STR-006	mining features	historic cabin ruin, depressions

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
75	YURI-NO#-ST	roads	steam tractor used to haul supplies to washington creek coal mine
CHR-00030	YURI-STR-040	roads/gardens and greenhouses	c1917 roadhouse, log cabin, garage, outhouse, smokehouse, greenhouse, cache, roads, built by Frank Slaven, Sandy Johnson and others.
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	trail/road/garden/mining feature/steamboat	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
CHR-00090	NARI-STR-003	trail/road/garden/mining feature/steamboat	c1897, log cabin ruin, collapsed outbuilding, Alaska Commercial Co.
CHR-00004		trails	Noyes Roadhouse (reported location)
CHR-00057		trails	rectangular depression, historic debris (poss tent frame depression)
46	YURI-STR-036	trails	c1925-29 log cabin ruin, depressions, dump, mail trail
CHR-00006	YURI-STR-026	trails	c1895 log cabin roadhouse ruin, second smaller cabin, dogbarn, built by David Koontz
CHR-00059		trails	log cabin, two room doghouse, small log structure, historic debris
CHR-00073	COCR-STR-008	trails	historic log cabin ruin, doghouse, cache?, historical debris
74	COCR-STR-006	trails	sluice boxes, pipe, (NO STRUCTURAL REMAINS FOUND)
CHR-00058		trails	historic log cabin ruin and debris
CHR-00098	COCR-STR-004	trails	historic log cabin ruin, household items

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
CHR-00034		trails/mining features	(cabin gone), hydraulic pipe, household items, modern trapline
CHR-00032		trails/mining features	pits (mining tests)
CHR-00065		trails/mining features	complex - four mile long ditch complex and associated features, including cabin
CHR-00085		trails/mining features	collapsed milled lumber structure, historic debris
CHR-00063		trails/mining features	historic log cabin, furnishings, can dump, drift pit
CHR-00066		trails/mining features	two log structures, collapsed cabin, shed/doghouse, historic debris
CHR-00084		trails/mining features	associate with George McGregor, two cabin ruins, historic debris
CHR-00064		trails/mining features	two log structures, drift mining pit, historic debris
CHR-00068		trails/mining features	log dam, mining complex, drift mining pit, historical debris
20	COCR-STR-011	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin, tentframes, tailings, cat trail
CHR-00097		trails/mining features	drift mining equipment
19	COCR-STR-010	trails/mining features	historic log cabin, cat trail, reportedly undercut by erosion in 1983
CHR-00069		trails/mining features	historic drift mining complex, five tent platforms, historic debris, steam boiler, household items, doghouse, mine shafts
CHR-00056		trails/mining features	two log ruins, drift mine, 15 small mining pits, headbox, ditch features, misc historic debris

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
CHR-00048		trails/mining features	depressions and mining paraphernalia
CHR-00095		trails/mining features	frame cabin remains, two tent platforms, historic debris scatter
18	COCR-STR-005	trails/mining features	log cabin ruin, drift mine hole(s), cat trail
CHR-00067		trails/mining features	drift mining shaft (cribbed), historic debris and equipment, trails
CHR-00052		trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin, footbridge, cribbing, trails, can scatter
CHR-00051		trails/mining features	dam
CHR-00055		trails/mining features	two pit depressions assoc with mining activity
CHR-00053		trails/mining features	doghouse bype steam boiler, cribbed drift mine
CHR-00054		trails/mining features	partial remains of log structure and cribbed mine shaft
22	COCR-STR-014	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin, (same site at COCR-STR-009)
21	COCR-STR-012	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin, cat trail
CHR-00075	COCR-STR-009	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin, second cabin, doghouse, cache, wood frame, cat trail, (same site as COCR-STR-014)
CHR-00099		trails/mining features	mining equipment, boiler
23	COCR-STR-020	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin
24	COCR-STR-021	trails/mining features	historic log cabin ruin
CHR-00049		trails/mining features	dam and water diversion system

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
CHR-00046		trails/roads/mining features	diversion tunnel and ditch system
CHR-00042		trails/roads/mining features	ditch system
CHR-00080	FOJU-STR-002	trails/roads/mining features	c1900, Yukon Placers, cabin, cache, blacksmith shop, outhouse, boiler, tailings, airstrip
CHR-00044		trails/roads/mining features	c1930s mining equipment, earth moving equip, domestic items
CHR-00040		trails/roads/mining features	steampoint boiler, winch, drift mine shaft, drift mining equipment,
CHR-00089		trails/roads/mining features	coal creek mining district
CHR-00041		trails/roads/mining features	ditch/dam feature (dam gate)
CHR-00043		trails/roads/mining features	steamboiler, parts
CHR-00045		trails/roads/mining features	pipe, tailings, sluice or dam
CHR-00078		trails/roads/mining features	log cabin ruin, historic debris
CHR-00047		trails/roads/mining features	ditches, steam boiler and other hydraulic mining equip, road
CHR-00083	COCR-STR-003	trails/roads/mining features	c1938 log cabin, new cabin, shed, drill rig, mining equipment, unpatented claim
CHR-00094	COCR-STR-023	trails/roads/mining features	3 frame structures covered in corrugated metal, blacksmith shop, warehouse/garage, shed, boiler, handmade forge, tools, machinery, tailings
CHR-00100		trails/roads/mining features	ben creek airstrip
CHR-00081	SACR-STR-003	trails/roads/mining features	log cabin ruin, household items, pre1940

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
73	BEER-STR-002	trails/roads/mining features	c1940, frame cabin covered in press plates, jeep, tractor, flatbed truck, on airstrip
16	COCR-STR-024	trails/roads/mining features	c1935, log cabin ruin, airstrip nearby, household items
17	COCR-STR-015	trails/roads/mining features	historic large log cabin ruin, second cabin, shed, outhouse, platform, communications wire
CHR-00029	SACR-STR-004	trails/roads/mining features/trapline	log cabin ruin, c1898
CHR-00082	BEER-STR-004	trails/roads/mining features/trapline	log cabin, frame shed, collapsed log cache, sauna, root cellar, cold storage pit, mining equipment, tractor, c1898-1917
CHR-00102	COCR-STR-022	trails/roads/mining features/trapline	historic coal creek camp, machinery, trails, roads, tailings, trapline runs through area, airstrip nearby
CHR-00005	YURI-STR-044	trails/steamboats	c1910 log roadhouse, two story, two cabin ruins, two dogbarns, trail/road, built by Valentine Smith, associate with Jack Welch
08	CHRI-STR-007	traplines	c1930-40cabin ruin, cache ruin, stove, snowshoes, household items, depressions, associated with Charley Kidd

Prehistory

The lack of glaciation in the upper Yukon region during the Wisconsin glacial age increases the potential for locating early man sites within preserve boundaries. As yet, very little research has been done in Yukon-Charley to survey and identify prehistoric sites. A 1983 report noted that “results of the four limited prehistoric site surveys conducted in the past 20 years indicated the strong possibility of locating sites of all ages, from “Early Man” to Historic Athapaskan within the boundaries of the Preserve. Further, the potential of locating a deeply buried or stratified site, rarities in many areas of Alaska, was high due to the dynamics of the Yukon River and its tributaries...In sum, the area encompassed by the Preserve is predicted to contain many prehistoric sites vital to the understanding and interpretation of many research problems in North American prehistory” (Reynolds and Jordan, 1-2).

Much of the cultural resource work conducted thus far within the preserve has focused on the historic period. Three research projects devoted to the identification and recordation of prehistoric archeological sites were conducted prior to the establishment of the preserve. These include work done by Frederick Hadleigh-West in 1963-64, by Hall and Stern in 1974, and by Bowers and Hoch in 1976. Following the establishment of the preserve, a few projects of varying length and focus were undertaken: Craig Davis in 1981 (three day reconnaissance), Andrews’ prehistoric site data gleaned during 1977 BLM research, Reynolds and Jordan surveys of 1982, and work completed by Worthington in 1992.

Threats

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Lack of comprehensive archeological survey
- Erosion (particularly along the Yukon River corridor)

Recommendations

- Draft 5 year Archeological Inventory Plan
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate

- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of prehistoric cultural sites of interest for interpretive purposes
- Identify and interview persons possessing unrecorded knowledge of the locations and characteristics of prehistoric cultural features within the preserve (such as Bill Goebel)

Sites of Prehistoric Interest

<i>AHRS(state site #)</i>	<i>Prehistory Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
CHR-00016	athapaskan	shallow, subsurface cultural component, trade beads, fire cracked rock, mammal bone, scrapers, hammerstone, iron axe head (Hudson Bay type)
CHR-00001	athapaskan	subsurface component, eroding from cutbank, village, no architectural elements on surface
EAG-00232	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00222	indeterminate	isolated subsurface find
EAG-00224	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00226	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00227	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00228	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00229	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00132	indeterminate	two waste flakes
EAG-00231	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00233	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00234	indeterminate	"historic site"
EAG-00235	indeterminate	surface and subsurface lithics
EAG-00244	indeterminate	surface and subsurface lithics in a rock shelter
EAG-00225	indeterminate	lithic concentration
CHR-00028	indeterminate	subsurface lithics - microblade, tool, flakes
CHR-00076	indeterminate	lithic scatter
EAG-00236	indeterminate	lithics and fire hardened sediments, surface and subsurface
EAG-00230	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00264	indeterminate	flake and tool (esp scraper) scatter
EAG-00133	indeterminate	two waste flakes
EAG-00135	indeterminate	flake scatter
EAG-00167	indeterminate	microblade core, flakes
EAG-00134	indeterminate	retouched flake
EAG-00049	indeterminate	Archeological district (site locality A), lithic scatters, hunting lookouts, tool manufacturing sites

AHRS***Prehistory Category******Site Attributes***

EAG-00271	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes and microblade
EAG-00267	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00272	indeterminate	flakes
EAG-00270	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes and microblade
EAG-00263	indeterminate	single flake
EAG-00204	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00265	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00266	indeterminate	single flake
EAG-00268	indeterminate	biface fragment
EAG-00273	indeterminate	point fragment
EAG-00274	indeterminate	flakes, core fragments
EAG-00269	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00203	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes, biface
EAG-00238	indeterminate	"historic site"
EAG-00262	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00280	indeterminate	flake
EAG-00243	indeterminate	surface and subsurface lithics
EAG-00276	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes, tools, flake clusters
EAG-00283	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes, projectile point
EAG-00281	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes, scraper, fire cracked rock, charcoal and ash
EAG-00282	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
EAG-00275	indeterminate	lithic scatter, microblade-like flake, scraper
EAG-00277	indeterminate	single flake
EAG-00223	indeterminate	lithic concentration
EAG-00279	indeterminate	flakes
EAG-00214	indeterminate	subsurface lithic deposit
EAG-00284	indeterminate	2 flakes

AHRS***Prehistory Category******Site Attributes***

EAG-00285	indeterminate	flakes and chunk of shale-like rock
EAG-00137	indeterminate	waste flakes, retouched chert cobble, burinated flake
EAG-00126	indeterminate	lithic scatter, microblade, burin, flakes
EAG-00127	indeterminate	13 waste flakes
EAG-00128	indeterminate	three waste flakes
EAG-00129	indeterminate	six waste flakes
EAG-00130	indeterminate	microblade
EAG-00278	indeterminate	lithic scatter, flakes
CHR-00061	indeterminate	eroded hearth feature, bone fragments, fire cracked rock, waste flakes
EAG-00131	indeterminate	two waste flakes
EAG-00241	indeterminate	microblade, surface and subsurface lithics
EAG-00242	indeterminate	surface and subsurface lithics
EAG-00245	indeterminate	surface lithic concentration, core
EAG-00240	indeterminate	surface lithic concentration
CHR-00014	indeterminate	uab surface flake scatter, multicomponent
EAG-00213	indeterminate	subsurface lithic scatter, bone fragments
CHR-00062	indeterminate	chert waste flakes (subsurface)
EAG-00237	indeterminate	surface lithic concentration
CHR-00019	indeterminate	fire cracked rock, charcoal, burned bone (subsurface deposit)
CHR-00013	indeterminate	eroding hearth, lithics, bone, fire cracked rock
CHR-00022	indeterminate	subsurface deposit of lithic debris and a tool
CHR-00038	indeterminate	chert flake
CHR-00035	indeterminate	quarry site (chert), flakes, microblades, lanceolate projectile points
CHR-00036	indeterminate	chert flakes
CHR-00012	indeterminate	lithic scatter
CHR-00020	indeterminate	isolated surface lithic

AHRS

CHR-00039

CHR-00077

Prehistory Category

indeterminate

paleoarctic/northern archaic

Site Attributes

two chert flakes (subsurface)

Foster-Keith site, extensive lithic scatter, diagnostic tools, flakes

Subsistence

The subsistence practices and associated lifeways of people living in and around Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve are classic examples of the almost mythical 'Alaskan' way of life. This lifeway, albeit stereotypical in many respects, embodies qualities of independence, self-reliance, innovation, courage, knowledge of land and resources, and perseverance in the face of hardship.

Activities such as fishing, hunting, gathering, building and living in log cabins, dog mushing, and trapping are integral to the American conception of the frontier. The people who participate in subsistence activities in Yukon-Charley National Preserve are some of the very few Americans who live that frontier ideal. This enduring subsistence lifeway has national significance as a contemporary embodiment of some of America's deepest held visions of its history and cultural identity.

Although the number of individuals and families engaging in subsistence activities within the preserve boundaries may be at a level lower than in previous decades, there are those who continue to hunt, trap, fish and otherwise live off of the land. These activities are reflected in fish wheels, fishnets, traplines, and other physical manifestations present on the landscape. Particular areas of land and rivers may also hold special meaning for communities, families and individuals who have used them for years. Most subsistence users live outside of the boundaries of the preserve.

Threats (to subsistence lifeways)

- Increased visitor use and impacts
- Decreased salmon runs
- Competition with sport hunters and fishermen
- Changes in lifestyle
- Land management policies
- Falling fur prices

Recommendations

- Systematic and comprehensive field documentation of all cabin sites in conjunction with Fire Program to thoroughly record all site features for archeological, historical, architectural and cultural landscape discipline needs
- Draft DOEs for all cabin sites
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate
- Revise List of Classified Structures in consultation with Alaska Region NPS Cultural Resources Staff
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for interpretive purposes
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for public use (such as public use cabins, etc)
- Establish a maintenance plan for historic and non-historic cabins and other significant cultural features/equipment
- Identify and interview persons with yet unrecorded knowledge of the history and use of cabins and other historic and non-historic sites within the preserve

A listing of YUCH sites associated with this theme is not attached, as the database used to produce the listings currently has no capability for associating sites with subsistence activities. This may be rectified at a future date.

Transportation

In traditional times, transportation in the Yukon-Charley Rivers region largely centered on river systems. In this remote and rugged region, rivers offered relatively easy routes of travel, in both summer and winter. During the ice-free seasons travel by boat was common to both indigenous residents and later immigrants. Han and other Gwitch'in traveled the rivers in spruce framed canoes covered with birchbark. Europeans introduced flat-bottomed riverboats and eventually the steamboats that conveyed passengers and goods up and down the Yukon during and after the gold rush.

Since the steamboats were fueled by wood taken from the forests along the river and native people were employed in woodcutting, the steamboat era impacted both the natural environment and the economics of the Han people. Roadhouses and small cabins used by woodcutters remain as evidence of the steamboat era. During the winter season in pre-contact times, the Han traversed the frozen rivers and snow covered landscape on snowshoes and (human drawn) sleds. Europeans introduced dog traction for toboggans and sleds. More recent years have seen the advent of airplane, automobile, and snowmobile transportation in the region. Since there are still few roads, most contemporary transportation is by boat, air and snowmobile. Small, undeveloped airstrips dot the preserve and both motorized and non-motorized boats ply the rivers while snowmachines and some dog teams provide winter transportation.

Threats

- Increased visitor use and impacts to trails and cabins, such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures, structural components, and trails
- Lack of adequate site documentation and resulting lack of knowledge to make sound management decisions
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)
- Loss of knowledge regarding historic and non-historic use of sites within the preserve boundary

Recommendations

- Systematic and comprehensive field documentation of all cabin sites in conjunction with Fire Program to thoroughly record all site features for archeological, historical, architectural and cultural landscape discipline needs
- Research the historic Mail Trail
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate
- Conduct research to identify major sites related to transportation within the preserve
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for interpretive purposes
- In consultation with Park Operations, Interpretation, and Management, develop a listing of historic and non-historic cultural sites of interest for public use (such as public use cabins, etc)
- Establish a maintenance plan for historic and non-historic cabins and other significant cultural features/equipment
- Identify and interview persons with yet unrecorded knowledge of the history and use of cabins and other historic and non-historic sites and features within the preserve

Sites of Transportation Interest

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
75	YURI-NO#-ST	roads	steam tractor used to haul supplies to washington creek coal mine
CHR-00090	NARI-STR-003	trail/road/garden/mining feature/steamboat	c1897, log cabin ruin, collapsed outbuilding, Alaska Commercial Co.
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	trail/road/garden/mining feature/steamboat	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
52	YURI-STR-018	trails	c1930 log cabin supposedly built by James Taylor, (see also YURI-STR-017 and 019),
CHR-00004		trails	Noyes Roadhouse (reported location)
CHR-00073	COCR-STR-008	trails	historic log cabin ruin, doghouse, cache?, historical debris
33	EUCR-STR-001	trails	c1969-70 log cabin, tent frame, dump
EAG-00221	YURI-STR-052	trails	historic cabin ruin, hole, on mail trail
CHR-00058		trails	historic log cabin ruin and debris
46	YURI-STR-036	trails	c1925-29 log cabin ruin, depressions, dump, mail trail
CHR-00006	YURI-STR-026	trails	c1895 log cabin roadhouse ruin, second smaller cabin, dogbarn, built by David Koontz
32	THCR-STR-001	trails	winter tent frame, cache, depression, nerby cat trail
53	YURI-STR-019	trails	c1925 log cabin and cache ruin, possibly built by Pete Summerville, historic and modern trapping in area (see also YURI-STR-017 and
CHR-00059		trails	log cabin, two room doghouse, small log structure, historic debris

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
58	YURI-STR-031	trails	REMOVED BY NPS 1999
59	YURI-STR-059	trails	c1975 log cabin, sauna, storage bldg, trails, dump
60	YURI-STR-011	trails	two complexes: 1) c1970s cabin, older small cabin, platform cache, drying racks, skin frames, garden box, bike generator, household items 2) newer cabin, dovetailed cache on poles, outhouse, doghouses, shed/shelter, trail
74	COCR-STR-006	trails	sluice boxes, pipe, (NO STRUCTURAL REMAINS FOUND)
CHR-00098	COCR-STR-004	trails	historic log cabin ruin, household items
CHR-00057		trails	rectangular depression, historic debris (poss tent frame depression)
27	FOJU-STR-001	trails/roads	log cabin, c1937-1945, outhouse, doghouses, swing, built by Charlie Loapkey (aka Yukon Charlie)
CHR-00005	YURI-STR-044	trails/steamboats	c1910 log roadhouse, two story, two cabin ruins, two dogbarns, trail/road, built by Valentine Smith, associate with Jack Welch
56	YURI-STR-009	trails/steamboats	c1930 log cabin ruin, built by Bane Beechman, woodchopper site, middens, trail
36	KARI-STR-010	traplines	c1974-80, log cabin, pits, 55gal drums, household items
67	YURI-STR-058	traplines	c1977 log cabin, possibly burned over in 1999, built by Charlie Edwards
48	YURI-STR-051	traplines	c1976 log cabin, built by George Moore, sauna, two pole caches
40	NARI-STR-002	traplines	log cabin, cache, doghouse, c1974
26	SERI-STR-003	traplines	wood frame covered in plastic, built 1975-76
39	MICR-STR-001	traplines	log cabin, sawhorse, built 1980

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>cultural landscapes</i>	<i>site attributes</i>
15	CHRI-STR-017	traplines	built 1943 by Elmer Nelson, log cabin ruin, for trapping activities, household items, sled
08	CHRI-STR-007	traplines	c1930-40cabin ruin, cache ruin, stove, snowshoes, household items, depressions, associated with Charley Kidd
09	CHRI-STR-011	traplines	c1930-40, log cabin ruin, ladder, stove, traps, tools, gold pan, cache ruins, doghouses, marten cubby, possibly associated with CA Bryant
11	CHRI-STR-002	traplines	Built by Al Ames, c1940, log cabin, sauna/outhouse structure (collapsed), cache (collapsed), traps, associated with Charley
12	CHRI-STR-003	traplines	c1975, cabin removed 1999; meat rack, pit of unknown use
13	CHRI-STR-005	traplines	c1974, cabin, cache (collapsed), household items, associated with Charley Kidd (home base cabin)
CHR-00088	YURI-STR-041	traplines	c1939 log cabin(collapsing), collapsed cache, second cabin ruin, built by George McGregor, used for trapping,

Exploration

Many early explorers figure prominently in the history of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve and the surrounding region, among them Robert Kennicott, Ivan Petrov, Frederick Schwatka, George Mercer Dawson, William Ogilvie and Richard George McConnell.

Beginning in the early twentieth century, government explorers, including scientists from the United States Geological Survey, began systematically exploring the region now encompassed by Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. These explorers provided excellent descriptions of the geologic resources in the region. In addition, their notes and publications provide information on the early mining activities that took place along various creeks within the preserve.

The early military expeditions into the area sought to identify and describe what was seen as a vast hinterland purchased from Russia by the United States. Their work provides insights into the native populations as well as the Anglo-European activities taking place prior to the great influxes of people associated with the various gold rushes.

Threats (to physical manifestations of exploration of the region)

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures and structural components
- Lack of adequate site documentation and resulting lack of knowledge to make sound management decisions
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)
- Loss of knowledge regarding historic and non-historic use of sites within the preserve boundary

Recommendations

- Research early military exploration in the region and attempt to tie described activities to areas within the preserve boundary
- Research USGS field notes

Sites of Exploration Theme Interest

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Theme Type</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
06	CHRI-STR-010	military	Said to be the cabin Leon Crane used after bomber crash; cabin ruin, A frame doghouses, household items, built by Al Ames, c1940?
01	CHRI-STR-020	prospecting	c1890-1910, log cabin ruin, stove remains, possible outbuilding remains behind cabin
EAG-00136	CHRI-STR-015	prospecting	log cabin ruin, historic, possible mining and/or trapping
07	CHRI-STR-008	prospecting	historic cabin ruin(2), collapsed cache, depressions
CHR-00096	SACR-STR-001	prospecting	log cabin, log cache on short stilts, trash scatter, dog sled, drift pit, household items, c1898
71	CHRI-STR-006	prospecting	historic cabin ruin, depressions
04	CHRI-STR-004	prospecting	c1900?, cabin ruin (2), pits, household artifacts, minng items, depressions
25	CHRI-STR-013	prospecting	c1937, built by CA Bryant, log cabin ruin, corral, horse singletree, doghouse, meat cache, metal shod dogsleds (2), partial bellows, tailngs from copper mine in nearby hillside
CHR-00032		prospecting	pits (mining tests)
CHR-00033		prospecting	pits (mining tests), hearth
CHR-00006	YURI-STR-026	trading	c1895 log cabin roadhouse ruin, second smaller cabin, dogbarn, built by David Koontz
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	trapping	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
CHR-00031	YURI-STR-014	trapping	dumps, depressions, c1924, doghouses, foundations, root cellar
CHR-00088	YURI-STR-041	trapping	c1939 log cabin(collapsing), collapsed cache, second cabin ruin, built by George McGregor, used for trapping,
CHR-00079	WOCR-STR-015	trapping	cabin (semi-subterranean, log), cache, dog kennel, 2 unidentified collapsed structures, trapping gear, household items
08	CHRI-STR-007	trapping	c1930-40cabin ruin, cache ruin, stove, snowshoes, household items, depressions, associated with Charley Kidd

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Theme Type</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
09	CHRI-STR-011	trapping	c1930-40, log cabin ruin, ladder, stove, traps, tools, gold pan, cache ruins, doghouses, marten cubby, possibly associated with CA Bryant
27 swing,	FOJU-STR-001	trapping	log cabin, c1937-1945, outhouse, doghouses, built by Charlie Loapkey (aka Yukon Charlie)
36	KARI-STR-010	trapping	c1974-80, log cabin, pits, 55gal drums, household items
39	MICR-STR-001	trapping	log cabin, sawhorse, built 1980
52	YURI-STR-018	trapping	c1930 log cabin supposedly built by James Taylor, (see also YURI-STR-017 and 019),
53	YURI-STR-019	trapping	c1925 log cabin and cache ruin, possibly built by Pete Summerville, historic and modern trapping in area (see also YURI-STR-017 and 018)
55	YURI-STR-025	trapping	c1947-48 log cabin, doghouses, cache remains, built by George Beck
57	YURI-STR-027	trapping	historic log cabin ruin, built by Ingess Solomon, frame for making dogsled runners, depression
66	WACR-STR-001	trapping	cabin, doghouse
CHR-00002	CHRI-STR-001	trapping/homesteading	c1941, Ames cabin:log trapping cabin; fish drying rack, sluice box?, associated with Charley Kidd, gravesite of Ames child
11	CHRI-STR-002	trapping/homesteading	Built by Al Ames, c1940, log cabin, sauna/outhouse structure (collapsed), cache (collapsed), traps, associated with Charley Kidd
CHR-00029	SACR-STR-004	trapping/prospecting	log cabin ruin, c1898

Mining

In Alaska and Yukon history, the best known period of mining history is perhaps the great Klondike Gold Rush that took place in 1898. By the time thousands of prospectors landed at Dawson City in the Yukon Territory they found the most valuable ground already staked. Consequently, many of them either returned home empty handed or fanned out into the surrounding areas hoping to find new areas where they could make their fortunes.

Although the strikes in the Klondike are the best known, previous discoveries were made and production began in tributaries along the upper Yukon in the mid-1880s with discoveries along the Fortymile River.

Throughout the 1890s gold mining developed throughout the region between Circle and Dawson. Coal and Woodchopper Creeks lie within the Circle Mining District, approximately 100 miles downstream from Eagle and 50 miles up from Circle. Three main areas within the Circle District account for the vast majority of gold produced here. Among these were Woodchopper and Coal Creeks. The placers found on these creeks saw the entire gamut of mining techniques used; beginning with early pan and sluice work at discovery, followed by hydraulic and open-cut techniques and, eventually, dredge operations. The Coal Creek area includes Ben, Sam and Woodchopper Creeks. Other areas of interest include Washington Creek, Fourth of July Creek, the Charley River, Webber and Thanksgiving Creeks.

Threats

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures and degradation of equipment
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)

Recommendations

- Focus research on the following areas:
 - Fourth of July Creek (along with its tributaries)
 - Sam Creek

- Washington Creek
 - Charley River (particularly upper areas and its tributaries)
 - Webber Creek
 - Thanksgiving Creek
- Draft and submit National Register Nominations where appropriate
 - Evaluate upper Charley River for possibly multi property nomination for its early prospecting history

Sites of Mining Interest

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Mining Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
CHR-00090	NARI-STR-003	coal	c1897, log cabin ruin, collapsed outbuilding, Alaska Commercial Co.
75	YURI-NO#-ST	coal	steam tractor used to haul supplies to washington creek coal mine
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	coal	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
25	CHRI-STR-013	copper	c1937, built by CA Bryant, log cabin ruin, corral, horse singletree, doghouse, meat cache, metal shod dogsleds (2), partial bellows, tailings from copper mine in nearby hillside
CHR-00096	SACR-STR-001	gold-placer/drift	log cabin, log cache on short stilts, trash scatter, dog sled, drift pit, household items, c1898
CHR-00067		gold-placer/drift	drift mining shaft (cribbed), historic debris and equipment, trails
CHR-00097		gold-placer/drift	drift mining equipment
CHR-00068		gold-placer/drift	log dam, mining complex, drift mining pit, historical debris
CHR-00081	SACR-STR-003	gold-placer/drift	log cabin ruin, household items, pre1940
CHR-00069		gold-placer/drift	historic drift mining complex, five tent platforms, historic debris, steam boiler, household items, doghouse, mine shafts
18	COCR-STR-005	gold-placer/drift	log cabin ruin, drift mine hole(s), cat trail
CHR-00046		gold-placer/drift	diversion tunnel and ditch system
CHR-00041		gold-placer/drift	ditch/dam feature (dam gate)
CHR-00040		gold-placer/drift	steampoint boiler, winch, drift mine shaft, drift mining equipment,
CHR-00045		gold-placer/drift	pipe, tailings, sluice or dam
CHR-00099		gold-placer/drift	mining equipment, boiler
CHR-00044		gold-placer/drift	c1930s mining equipment, earth moving equip, domestic items
CHR-00043		gold-placer/drift	steamboiler, parts
CHR-00042		gold-placer/drift	ditch system
CHR-00083	COCR-STR-003	gold-placer/drift	c1938 log cabin, new cabin, shed, drill rig, mining equipment, unpatented claim
16	COCR-STR-024	gold-placer/drift/dredge	c1935, log cabin ruin, airstrip nearby, household items
17	COCR-STR-015	gold-placer/drift/dredge	historic large log cabin ruin, second cabin, shed, outhouse, platform, communications wire

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Mining Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
CHR-00094	COCR-STR-023	gold-placer/drift/dredge	3 frame structures covered in corrugated metal, blacksmith shop, warehouse/garage, shed, boiler, handmade forge, tools, machinery, tailings
CHR-00102	COCR-STR-022	gold-placer/drift/dredge	historic coal creek camp, machinery, trails, roads, tailings, trapline runs through area, airstrip nearby
CHR-00095		gold-placer/drift/dredge/hydraulic	frame cabin remains, two tent platforms, historic debris scatter
CHR-00089		gold-placer/drift/dredge/hydraulic	coal creek mining district
CHR-00078		gold-placer/drift/dredge/hydraulic	log cabin ruin, historic debris
CHR-00082	BECR-STR-004	gold-placer/drift/hydraulic	log cabin, frame shed, collapsed log cache, sauna, root cellar, cold storage pit, mining equipment, tractor, c1898-1917
CHR-00080	FOJU-STR-002	gold-placer/hydraulic	c1900, Yukon Placers, cabin, cache, blacksmith shop, outhouse, boiler, tailings, airstrip
CHR-00034		gold-placer/hydraulic	(cabin gone), hydraulic pipe, household items, modern trapline
CHR-00047		gold-placer/hydraulic	ditches, steam boiler and other hydraulic mining equip, road
CHR-00064		gold-placer/unknown	two log structures, drift mining pit, historic debris
CHR-00084		gold-placer/unknown	associate with George McGregor, two cabin ruins, historic debris
CHR-00059		gold-placer/unknown	log cabin, two room doghouse, small log structure, historic debris
CHR-00063		gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin, furnishings, can dump, drift pit
CHR-00065		gold-placer/unknown	complex - four mile long ditch complex and associated features, including cabin
CHR-00048		gold-placer/unknown	depressions and mining paraphernalia
19	COCR-STR-010	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin, cat trail, reportedly undercut by erosion in 1983
CHR-00049		gold-placer/unknown	dam and water diversion system
CHR-00085		gold-placer/unknown	collapsed milled lumber structure, historic debris
CHR-00098	COCR-STR-004	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, household items
CHR-00073	COCR-STR-008	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, doghouse, cache?, historical debris
CHR-00075	COCR-STR-009	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, second cabin, doghouse, cache, wood frame, cat trail, (same site as COCR-STR-014)
CHR-00033		gold-placer/unknown	pits (mining tests), hearth
74	COCR-STR-006	gold-placer/unknown	sluice boxes, pipe, (NO STRUCTURAL REMAINS FOUND)

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Mining Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
EAG-00136	CHRI-STR-015	gold-placer/unknown	log cabin ruin, historic, possible mining and/or trapping
CHR-00075A	CHRI-STR-009	gold-placer/unknown	Bonanza townsite (unlocated)
CHR-00032		gold-placer/unknown	pits (mining tests)
CHR-00052		gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, footbridge, cribbing, trails, can scatter
CHR-00056		gold-placer/unknown	two log ruins, drift mine, 15 small mining pits, headbox, ditch features, misc historic debris
CHR-00029	SACR-STR-004	gold-placer/unknown	log cabin ruin, c1898
CHR-00055		gold-placer/unknown	two pit depressions assoc with mining activity
73	BEER-STR-002	gold-placer/unknown	c1940, frame cabin covered in press plates, jeep, tractor, flatbed truck, on airstrip
CHR-00075B	CHRI-STR-014	gold-placer/unknown	c1935-40, built by CA Bryant?, log cabin ruin, cache ruins, dogsleds, dogyard, household items
CHR-00051		gold-placer/unknown	dam
24	COCR-STR-021	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin
23	COCR-STR-020	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin
22	COCR-STR-014	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, (same site at COCR-STR-009)
CHR-00057		gold-placer/unknown	rectangular depression, historic debris (poss tent frame depression)
20	COCR-STR-011	gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin, tentframes, tailings, cat trail
CHR-00058		gold-placer/unknown	historic log cabin ruin and debris
CHR-00100		gold-placer/unknown	ben creek airstrip
71	CHRI-STR-006	gold-placer/unknown	historic cabin ruin, depressions
CHR-00050		gold-placer/unknown	wooden headbox on pond
09	CHRI-STR-011	gold-placer/unknown	c1930-40, log cabin ruin, ladder, stove, traps, tools, gold pan, cache ruins, doghouses, marten cubby, possibly associated with CA Bryant
07	CHRI-STR-008	gold-placer/unknown	historic cabin ruin(2), collapsed cache, depressions
01	CHRI-STR-020	gold-placer/unknown	c1890-1910, log cabin ruin, stove remains, possible outbuilding remains behind cabin
CHR-00054		gold-placer/unknown	partial remains of log structure and cribbed mine shaft
CHR-00031	YURI-STR-014	gold-placer/unknown	dumps, depressions, c1924, doghouses, foundations, root cellar
CHR-00066		gold-placer/unknown	two log structures, collapsed cabin, shed/doghouse, historic debris

AHRS

CHR-00053

21

Cabin #

COCR-STR-012

Mining Category

gold-placer/unknown

gold-placer/unknown

Site Attributes

doghouse bype steam boiler, cribbed drift mine

historic log cabin ruin, cat trail

Politics and Government

Politics and political controversy have figured prominently in the history of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. Prior to ANILCA, the region was highlighted as an area of government excesses. Beginning with the d-2 days of the 1970s when the BLM began to notify individuals living along the river that they were occupying land in trespass, and continuing through today with political debates over access and navigable waterways, the area has attracted a great deal of attention.

Examination of the role played by the land and its inhabitants would provide valuable insights into the Alaskan psyche. Among the relevant questions: Why do people tend to view the area as a sensitive one? To what degree do the communities of Circle/Central and Eagle represent either the norm of Alaskan political thought? Or, do these represent a radically divergent "end of the road" attitude toward government and politics not manifested in other areas?

Joe Vogler, founder of the Alaskan Independence Party, is perhaps the most memorable and outspoken figure in the recent history of Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve. Vogler spoke out against government interference and was a focus of attention in the debate over the role of government in managing the land and its resources. Research and documentation of the life of Joe Vogler and his mark on the region are required in order to adequately capture and record that period of the preserve's history.

Throughout the 1970s and into the 1980s a number of individuals and families came into the area to live off the land. These newcomers, who came to be known as "river people," built cabins along rivers, many living a subsistence lifestyle into the middle 1980s. The "river people" formed a loose community and were generally independent minded and interested in escaping the trappings of big government.

Threats (to physical manifestations of politics/government of the region)

- Increased visitor use and impacts such as vandalism and looting
- Deterioration of structures and structural components

- Lack of adequate site documentation and resulting lack of knowledge to make sound management decisions
- Erosion
- Wildfire (losses through)
- Loss of knowledge regarding historic and non-historic use of sites within the preserve boundary

Recommendations

- Research the life of Joe Vogler (and his operations Woodchopper and Mineral Creeks)
- Formulate project to interview individuals associated with the “river people” era of the preserve
- Evaluate the role of various figures in the history of politics in the region and determine which, if any, sites should be preserved for interpretation of the theme.

Sites of Political/Government Interest

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Politics/Gov't Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
EAG-00142		nationalism	B24 bomber
49	YURI-STR-037	river people	REMOVED?? C1962 A-frame cabin, built by Ed Gelvin
CHR-00092	YURI-STR-013	river people	c1933 log cabin and cache, c1980 pole cache, dumps, coal pile, road remnant, gardens, fish rack, modern outhouse, depressions/pits, sled, sawhorse, trapline, doghouses, boats
02	CHRI-STR-021	river people	c1963, log cabin (complete), airstrip (Gelvin's), associated with Gelvin's guiding activities, ANILCA provisions regarding the airstrip per Bill Brown
08	CHRI-STR-007	river people	c1930-40cabin ruin, cache ruin, stove, snowshoes, household items, depressions, associated with Charley Kidd
11	CHRI-STR-002	river people	Built by Al Ames, c1940, log cabin, sauna/outhouse structure (collapsed), cache (collapsed), traps, associated with Charley
12	CHRI-STR-003	river people	c1975, cabin removed 1999; meat rack, pit of unknown use
13	CHRI-STR-005	river people	c1974, cabin, cache (collapsed), household items, associated with Charley Kidd (home base cabin)
31	YURI-STR-062	river people	REMOVED BY NPS 1998
32	THCR-STR-001	river people	winter tent frame, cache, depression, nerby cat trail
33	EUCR-STR-001	river people	c1969-70 log cabin, tent frame, dump
36	KARI-STR-010	river people	c1974-80, log cabin, pits, 55gal drums, household items
38	KARI-STR-004	river people	log cabin, platform cache, small cabin, doghouses, c1981-82
43	YURI-STR-043	river people	c1977 log cabin, built by George Moore, household items
48	YURI-STR-051	river people	c1976 log cabin, built by George Moore, sauna, two pole caches
76	YURI-STR-021	river people	c1978 log cabin, cache, built by Charlie Edwards
52	YURI-STR-018	river people	c1930 log cabin supposedly built by James Taylor, (see also YURI-STR-017 and 019),

<i>AHRS</i>	<i>Cabin #</i>	<i>Politics/Gov't Category</i>	<i>Site Attributes</i>
53	YURI-STR-019	river people	c1925 log cabin and cache ruin, possibly built by Pete Summerville, historic and modern trapping in area (see also YURI-STR-017 and
58	YURI-STR-031	river people	REMOVED BY NPS 1999
59	YURI-STR-059	river people	c1975 log cabin, sauna, storage bldg, trails, dump
60	YURI-STR-011	river people	two complexes: 1) c1970s cabin, older small cabin, platform cache, drying racks, skin frames, garden box, bike generator, household items 2) newer cabin, dovetailed cache on poles, outhouse, doghouses, shed/shelter, trail
62	YURI-STR-029	river people	nonhistoric fish camp, greenhouse, visquine shack, canoe rack
63	YURI-STR-020	river people	c1977 log cabin, sawhorse, built by Dave Evans
64	YURI-STR-060	river people	nonhistoric fish camp, teepee frame, barrels, tables, drying racks
65	YURI-STR-022	river people	REMOVED BY NPS 1998, built by Seymour Abel
67	YURI-STR-058	river people	c1977 log cabin, possibly burned over in 1999, built by Charlie Edwards
69	YURI-STR-050	river people	c1976 log cabin, cache, shed, trail, built by Errol Wilson
70	YURI-STR-017	river people	c1980-84 log tentframe (possibly burned 1999), cache remains, next to rock creek cabin, (see also YURI-STR-018 and 019)
CHR-00002	CHRI-STR-001	river people	c1941, Ames cabin:log trapping cabin; fish drying rack, sluice box?, associated with Charley Kidd, gravesite of Ames child
45	KARI-STR-009	river people	c1981, log cabin, plywood outhouse, platform cache, drying racks near Yukon River