

1DT-010

SITE Shermeier's Halfway Roadhouse AHRS NO: 1DT-010 INHT NO: 270A  
~~1DT-015~~

OTHER SITE NAMES:

TRAIL SECTION:

~~Murrey's Halfway Roadhouse - 1910~~ Seward-Rainy Pass  
Halfway Roadhouse - 1910 Rainy Pass-Kaltag X  
Shermeier's Halfway Roadhouse - 1917 Kaltag-Nome  
Julien Desade - Last Proprietor (1920s)

Charge on original

LAND STATUS: 2/12/81

PLO 5179, D2 Fish and Wildlife  
Service

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Approximate        Actual X  
Quad. Iditarod C-4  
Township 31 N.  
Range 46 W.  
Section 30  
Subsection NW

Latitude: 62 45' 00"  
Longitude: 157 59' 30"

UTM REFERENCE:

A 06 501099 3196520  
Zone Easting Northing

LOCATION AND USE:

Abandoned. Located at the junction of the Iditarod to Dikeman Trail  
and Hunter Trail.

INSPECTED BY: Lynch DATE: 1978 Aerial        Onsite X  
Peterson 1980

STRUCTURAL TYPE: Shelter Structure X River Community         
Native Settlement Mining Community        Other       

WALLS:	IN	OUT	FLOOR	ROOF	CORNER NOTCH
Log-Rough	<u>      </u>	<u>X</u>	Dirt <u>      </u>	Sod <u>X</u>	Unknown <u>X</u>
Log-Hewn	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Wood <u>X</u>	Metal <u>      </u>	
Frame	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Other <u>      </u>	Wd. Plank <u>      </u>	
Drop Siding	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	Unknown <u>      </u>	Wd. Shingle <u>      </u>	
Wall Covering	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>		Tar Paper <u>      </u>	
Unknown	<u>X</u>	<u>      </u>		Unknown <u>      </u>	

TREATMENT RECOMMENDED:

ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:

X Site Protection  
       Preservation/Stabilization  
       Restoration  
       Reconstruction  
       Adaptive Reuse

       National  
X Regional  
       Local

Estimated Treatment Costs         
Estimated Planning/Research Costs       

IDITAROD TRAIL INVENTORY

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MANAGEMENT RATING CRITERIA

ACCESS ----- 40 POINTS

- 5 ☒ Difficult  
(Dog Sled, Snow Mach., Heli.)  
20 ☐ Medium  
(1 Day Hike, Boat, Fixed-Wing)  
40 ☐ High  
(Auto/Road, Short Hike)

CONDITION ----- 40 POINTS

- ☐ Not Located  
1 ☐ No Remains  
3 ☒ Ruin  
8 ☐ Poor (Roof In)  
15 ☐ Medium (Roof Intact)  
25 ☐ Good (Maintained)  
40 ☐ Restored

PRESENT VISITOR USE

- ☐ Frequent  
☐ Infrequent  
☒ None

POTENTIAL VISITOR USE--20 POINTS

- 20 ☐ High  
10 ☐ Medium  
5 ☒ Low

Total Points 13

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Shermeier's Roadhouse operated from ca. October 1910 to the late 1920s when it was abandoned. The site consists of (in ruin) a roadhouse cabin (a large trail dog house), an ice house, and an unidentified structure. In 1922, Shermeier and a Miss Nellie Duffy (the black bear) were involved in a \$30,000 U.S. mail robbery. They were caught and Shermeier was sentenced to prison. Prior to the robbery, the roadhouse was known to be a very successful operation.

REFERENCE:

Lynch, Alice J., 1979. A Preliminary Inventory of Cultural Resources of the Iditarod Trail Between Rainy Pass and Unalakleet. Bureau of Land Management.  
IDITAROD ROADHOUSE, 1910-11. -> BUILT AUG 1910, SHERMEIER TOOK OVER IN 1914

SITE RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Include as part of any archeological testing on the trail.  
significance.