

Tape 2, Side B

Try to get Dwayne out here in the wintertime to take photos of the race and of the trail system. A picture could be taken this summer, unfortunately the trail's major use was in the winter. Additionally, the Nook Spit out of Nome because of sand, covers from the trail many of the previous trails quite easily, especially when it's been flooded such as in '74. No evidence of other trails along the spit as per John, fledge time or the tug boat captain. The trail range from the beach to the estuary Taylor Lagoon behind.

Dickson site, remains of what appears to be some old barges, perhaps river-boats, along what I believe is a trail or the old railroad bed from Dickson north. Recent cabin at the mouth of Pine Creek on the spit, downtown Dickson. Cabin marked ruined on USGS down from Dickson before Taylor Lagoon. Looks like the roof of the structure fell in on one side with a, like a corral or foundation logs exposed on the other.

Cabin #1 by Taylor Lagoon, existing structure with roof starting to fall in. Not in location designated by Goodwin.

Topkok Cabin, a structure we assume to be the roadhouse after site inspection. Quite certain it is not. Looks like a fish camp. Structure never built for any permanent year-round use. It has been added to many times. North and east, north wall has been, is a double wall with sod insulation or fill in between. So perhaps is built upon an older prehistoric site. Soils are just definitely sand, spit sand from porch, galvanized roof so to be openized, in ruin shape. Walls are log in some areas, planking in other areas, drop siding in other areas. Insulated roof on main part of structure covered with tar paper. Small structure. Other evidence ruins of other structures around site quite evident. Small cabin, Jim Foster Topkok Roadhouse site. Small cabin by larger residence. Five-inch logs, round hand-_____ blades. On the inside saddle-notched corner, port and bat roofing with later building paper, heavy 98-pound approximately.

OPTIONAL R.H

Ruins across the spit from the other roadhouse, large structure approximately 12 feet by 30 feet. Looks light board and bat plank roof, ruins down to one

possibly two rows of logs, completely collapsed. Ruined structure. No outside _____. State survey marker at top of first point away from Topkok head to south. Trail between Topkok and Bluff is evident approximately 100-500 yards from the beach above Peck bank. At Bluff, state aerial survey marker at the top of a hill to east of mouth river at Bluff. Building #1, Bluff Creek shed type structure. Frame construction, 2 x 4 wall, outside drop siding 5-inch. Roughs on lumber. Balloon-frame diagonal shape bracing. Seems to be on original location; inside plumbing fittings half-inch galvanized piping. Low, approximate 7'6" ceiling. Simple purlin raftered roof. Bats with wood shingles, appear to be cedar. Structure listing to the west. _____ stove located inside. Late May 1911. Lang. Terracotta drain pipe or chimney pipe; doesn't seem to have been used. Woven agricultural wire, 3 ft. tall galvanized. Terracotta chimney pipe, galvanized around the outside with a baffle; appears to have been used for chimney. Upstairs. Stair system to what appears to be the attic system. No evidence of a floor on second floor. Possibly has been removed. Floor system, second floor has been removed, nothing remains on second floor, uninsulated, no interior sheeting or siding. Only one end upstairs, doorway north end, second floor. First it would have been a shed, possibly a horse barn. Horse harness inside. Horse yoke located outside. Two bays in structure north bay, large diesel engine located, appears to have been used as a generator. Water pump for house, hand pump. Structural condition, ruin. Outside north side, remains of all around pot belly stove.

Building #2 appears to be in ruin. Possibly the old original roadhouse. Log the north half and frame structure the front half, possibly two buildings joined together. Plus or minus 8-inch log, saddle notch corner construction, rough. Logs have been sawn. Not chopped. Large horseshoe inside, metal drum, roof unknown appears to have been perhaps salvaged for some other structure, no _____, all remains. Looks like a wood floor. Window east and west side. North elevation plain. Inside face has been broad-axed certain places. Not a flat dress. Entry to south, addition to structure wood framed. Two foot on center studs. Rough sawn circular studs. Roof is five-inch drop siding or lip siding. For roof appears to have been tar-papered. Late placed horizontally, running with the roof. Gable roof construction. Appears to be a wood floor, 2 x unsure of width. Does not appear to have been insulated. Gable roof, drop siding to roof. Insulators on front ridge. Peak, apparently

the structure had been wired or telephone line some period. Log structure appears to have been gable east to west or north to south ridge. Building size east/west 20 foot 10 northend of the log structure to end of log structure 41 foot 6 entire length of structure. North and south elevation 17'2" long.

Building #3 appears to have been a residence perhaps the Ladder Roadhouse, bunkhouse, what have you. Several rooms, front room from the south entry appears to be kitchen. Remains of an old wood-burning stove, wash basin, cupboards, with china, serving counter. Going directly to the back room, appears to be sleeping bunk room. Several cots, Yukon burning stove, rear entry. Remains of a large commercial freezer, two commercial freezers, an upright refrigerator and a horizontal freezer Frigidaire, late model 1950 probably. Room off the kitchen towards the rear appears to be perhaps cook's room. Some kind of residential room. Coat hangers, Army cot. Remains. Final room off the front entry appears to be store room, pantry. Remains of tin plates, some of the cafeteria, military plates or trays I guess you call them. Structural system frame throughout. No insulation on outer walls, exception of front kitchen, interior drop siding, lip siding. Inside and out walls have been whitewashed, ceiling whitewashed. No interior covering. Floor system similar. Five-inch drop siding, or lip siding. Another floor covering. No evidence of linoleum or anything. Ceiling covering in kitchen, cardboard. Smoke vent in kitchen appears to have been built or maintained only as a bunk house, seasonal use structure. Outside wall covering, drop siding similar with a double bevel on each edge. Roof, building paper with batten laid vertically, eaved to ridge. Drop siding outside is sometimes covered with the same building material with vertical bats. Buildings 3, 4, and 5 appear to have been moved in. Do not seem to be on original location.

Building #4 appears to be a Wanigan on skids. Large size horizontal planking, one by approximately 12 siding with horizontal bats. Covered, doesn't appear to have been covered with building paper. An arched roof, galvanized, or heavy felt paper on the roof. One window north side. May have served as a power shed and was moved up and down the creek here. Settling bottle on the east side. Door, south side, large shed door on the west side. Perhaps served as a garage or such for mining equipment. Door evident on the west

side. Has been filled with time. On large wooden skids. Large cat or case generator power plant inside, shelving for various plumbing fittings. Work benches. Remains outside the west structure, ruins of an old telephone.

_____ of the Iditarod. Oak board, small generator box with remote detached speaker piece. Building 4 and Building 5 seem to have been connected with a breeze-way. The roof is presently fallen in. Farm implement items around site seem to be spring or cultivator shoes, perhaps for breaking up the soil or rocks.

Building #6, similar in construction to building #4. Outside siding is typical drop, not a double bevelled. Edge as in building #4. Frame structure. No appearance of having ever been insulated or any interior siding. Shed only. No insulated roof. Typical frame construction. Large 2 x 12, or 1 x 12 planking used in roof. Rough sawn, circular. Framing, building paper and then outside siding, appears to have worked as a plumbing and repair shed as the other various ruins. The remains of pumps and engines, washing machines, hot water heater, settling bottles, chicken wire, range wire. It has been wired, it is wired for electricity. Floor similar to other structures, 1 x 5. Drop siding. Floor. No windows north side. Six light windows, half windows on north end of east and west walls. Six over six windows on the south half of east/west and two six over six windows south side. Remains outside include a smelting oven, or kill, crucible lifter inside front doorway. _____ may be a good place to gather implements for the Nome Museum as the mayor was talking about. Correction tape--building I just labeled as building #6 is actually building #5. #6 is a small Wanigan behind.

Building #6, Wanigan, appears to be approximately 8 ft x 6 ft wide. It is on skids, log skids. Has been sitting in place for awhile. Gravity flow, fuel tank or water tank on north side. Entry way on southeast corner, one window, south, small window north side. Black and white linoleum inside. A piece out of some other structure. Appears that there was a small stove in the north-west corner. Masonite inside, frame structure, plywood outside, one shelf east side as you enter. Single pane windows, rough framing. Six foot ceiling with one outlet and one light socket attached west wall. Arched roof. Ninety pound building paper with asphalt or haggard-cut chipped. Horizontal side, horizontal plywood on sides. South entry is actually the front entry directly behind cat.

Building #7, another small frame structure. Canvas on the outside with battens, plank siding, random width. Approximately 1 x 10, 12. Evidence inside of some interior siding, however most of it seems to have been torn off. Structure appears to have been the wash-up or the clean-up for the gold concentrate. Old wash basins are still here. _____ sample bags on the floor. Frame structure, no insulation, rough sawn roof, 1 x 5 drop siding again. Flush face no bevelled edges. Planking door, vertical, same material, vertical plank. Random width. Door north side, six pane window north side, double split window west side, same south, same six pane window east side. Planked flooring. One by approximately eight. Appears to have been skidded to site. Tar roof, evidence of fire damage, east side. Again canvas on the outside with battens attaching to structure. East side has one by fifteen inch board planked siding.

Building #8 appears to be an old ore separator. Might be worthwhile to show all of these old pictures to some old-time miner and just what's here and what different type of mining activities took place, mining techniques took place at Bluff.

Building #9 appears to be another old shed, perhaps oil shed inside. Roof frame, drop siding similar to others. 2 x 4 construction, 4 ft. on center, same with tress roof. Work shed or work bench inside. Appears to have been dirt floor with two 2 x 6 bottom plate directly on ground. Doorways east and west side. Wood stamped or painted, obviously imported, it says Bluff. And it looks like Frank K. or Fran K. of Pland K. whatever. Inside rooms of outboard motors, pumps, plumbing fittings, gate valves, Blazo cans, tires, 4-inch pipe. Outside of structure with plank, drop siding west elevation, possibly two structures joined, no. Horizontal planked siding, outside north side has vertical planking over old horizontal. Roofing planking front to east to west with one by well typical tongue and groove siding running ridge to gable or facial to gable. Building paper between two layers outside siding. One by five siding referred to actually three-quarters of an inch by five and three-eighths of an inch with a three-eighths inch lapped lip. With a southeast corner of the structure is the foundation or the evidence, seems to be evidence of a prior existing structure now removed, seems to have been a basement of some sorts in that area. Perhaps a pit house. Sign on west wall say

AURIC, Offshore Mining Company, no trespassing. Consider getting somebody onsite that worked at Bluff and lived here. Somebody from the Alaska Miner's Association, perhaps a good chance to do oral history on site as we talk about the mining processes.

Building #10, similar cupola to the type found in Nome and at, I believe, Council. WWII shed, top or cupola system has been used here for a banya or stream bath. Recently modified to accept it. However, painted in green and white, so are the other two cupolas found at Council and Nome. Tar roof painted silver. Six sided structure on a square 1 x 3 or five-eighths by three T and G, planked flooring. Small door, three feet tall. Inside has small barrel stove with rocks, 55-gallon barrel stove with rocks stacked from floor up and over a bench and mattress.

Building #11, sign over the door on the west side, post office. Part of another sign that says, Cheechako and what maybe M. F. Deo. Tar paper roof, vertical siding outside with the, it's the one-half by five with the center bead siding. Inside structure, two parts, two bay, the east end appears to be the original end which was log, log structure with cloth stretched over the wall, inside log walls have been broad-axed off, cleaned up and then the fabric stretched to give clean ceiling. One by ten roof sawn, probably fur planking for the roof, _____ eave. Main purlin to intermediate purlin roof construction. Log gable to ridge. Floor system is one-half by two and approximately two and five-eighths inch tongue and groove. Flooring running east and west. Original entry probably east side, small Wanigan or addition on east side. Probably wood storage. Cold weather entrance. Rough construction. Rough frame basically vertical planking. Planking the same for the roof. Floor 1 x 5 lip siding. Cabin corners squared, dove-tailed construction. Round outside, chink, probably chinking of moss and pitch. Logs have been peeled. Purlin extents, porch is probably, was built the same time as the main structure. Evidence that fabric was stretched between the two intermediate purlins and a fourth purlin below the main purlin to give a flat ceiling at approximately 7' height. Portions of ceiling remain were painted white. Some later date. No window north side, window south side, split pane, sweat double pane large window, secondary entrance on west side into what is presumed to be the old post office. Post office is built, appears to be frame. Horizontal five-eighths by five inch siding with beaded edges and

center bead, horizontally on north wall. Log, whitewashed wall on east wall, similar siding on south wall as north wall and west wall 1 x 12 fourteen inch planking horizontally to frame construction. Floor system same as other. Contents table, cabinet, no indication of how the post office was set up as far as boxes. Flat roofed in front similar to stetched canvas roof in main structure. Foundation on ground, presume wood on soil. Inside is trim of structure, trim in doorway, screen door green, double entry into the west entry to post office is approximately 1½ ft. deep. Outer door gone, perhaps only screen door. Roof is planking, facet of ridge with a horizontal layer laid perpendicular, no negative, with tar paper applied directly to the top of the planking and batten, paper running ridge to facet.

Deck connecting building #11 post office to other structure. Presume possible roadhouse. Deck made of 1 x 12 planking. May have had roof at some date, no indication, however. Outside log existing has vertical planking, 1 x 5 roof siding.

Construction #12, sharing deck with post office. Entering from east side, small Wanigan addition. Boxes on wall. Possibly old mail boxes of some sort. Shelving on the left-hand side. Rough frame, no interior siding. Drop siding outside. Same ceiling. Double bevelled drop siding, textural wall of main unit of structure. Entering second room from Wanigan, room appears to be part of main original cabin. Kitchen area, porcelain china in here, says semi-vitreous porcelain, H. F. and K. Company. Two plates. Old pulley shelving kitchen cabinets. Obviously this end was used as a kitchen area. Small bed spring, fold-a-bed type, one table southeast corner, southwest corner of structure. Shelving around walls. An old prescription, it says 52 something Street, Pharmacy, William Pr__ett R., Ph., San Diego, California. Said chiefs Morgan and Novak, Box 565, Bluff, Alaska 99762. Five-panel door east entry of structure. Building appears to be frame structure with the five-eights by four one-half inch double beaded end, bead down the center siding. Building paper over exterior wall. Exterior walls over framing finish with planking. Various wallpapers, oil cloths and such, several layers. Various states of decay, flat ceiling as same with others. Ceiling tied across to intermediate purlins. Entering room southwest or center bay section of the structure, central bay actually has two rooms. One on the south and one on the north.

The south section appears to have been a pantry or a living room of some sort. Perhaps a bedroom. Various items remaining, procelain black trim with an inset trim says U.S.A. on face. Medicine cabinet center interior partition wall running east to west. Flooring, tongue and groove. Three-quarters by 2½.