

S B

4 6 7

SB 467

- 3/18 At today's C+RA Committee Mtg
Senators agreed to sponsor this bill.
- 3/24 Placed call back request for Chris
Christianson, Sen Bennett's Office —
Asked Chris to get background data
on this bill re: need for bill — he
will speak w/ Sen Bennett + get back
to me he said.
- 3/26 Chris Christianson came by office and
said he would draft memo for Sen Bennett's
sig which explains reason for bill
- 4/1 Contacted Mayor Jones, Matt Pope and
Elise O'Brien, Clerk, City of Houston re.
330p teleconf, 4/3
- 4/10 Copy of CS for SB467 picked up by DNR.
Made by phone w/ Carol, DNR & requested
position on CS in writing from dept.

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY

POUCH Y - STATE CAP./OL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
907-465-3800

May, 1986

Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the STAIRS date base CM 14. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Jeanie Henry

*Senate Community and Regional Affairs
4/17/86 , 3:37 pm.*

COMMITTEE REPORT
SENATE

FURTHER: RESOURCES

3/20/86

Date 4-17-86

Mr. President

The Committee on C&RA considered SB 467

relating to the establishment or operation of campgrounds within certain municipalities.

and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass
- do pass with attached amendment(s)
- replace 'or adopt CS for SB 467 (C+RA)
- new title Act relating to the operation of campgrounds
- same title and recommends
- and attached a "LETTER OF INTENT" NEW FISCAL NOTE
- reports it back without recommendation
- recommends referral to _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING
DO PASS

Arthur J. ...
...
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...
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...
...

MEMBERS HAVING
OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Edm. De ...
Chairman

Do Pass
Chairman recommendation

Bradley
4/7/86

Original sponsor: Community and Regional
Affairs Committee

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND
REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 467 (C&RA)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the operation of campgrounds."

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 * Section 1. AS 41.21 is amended by adding a new section to article 1
9 to read:

10 Sec. 41.21.050. STATE CAMPGROUNDS. The commissioner may request
11 proposals for the management of a state campground. If the commis-
12 sioner accepts a proposal for the management of a state campground,
13 the concessionaire may collect fees for services provided at the
14 campground.
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4-17-86

CS SB 467 (ART)

Charles Christensen, Aide to
Sen. Bennett explains change
in Committee Substitute

Bill (House) in House (House) -

CS is acceptable to both -

the Senate by amendments that
have tendency to be ambiguous provisions.

the bill fine only 405 which
can be reasonably passed by
Senate action.

CS +
asked what consent - as ordered.

CS will need passage of bill
+ asked what consent - as ordered.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on Community and Regional Affairs

Staff

Senator/Edna DeVries, Chairman

Members:

Senator Ferguson, Vice Chairman

Senator Coghill

Senator Sturgulewski

Senator V Fischer

Pouch V

Juneau, Alaska 99911

COMMITTEE MEETING -- April 17, 1986

CS for Senate Bill 467 (C&RA) -- An Act relating to
the operation of campgrounds

This bill was considered on April 3rd. Neil Johannsen, Director, Division of Parks, as well as other members of the public testified in opposition to the original bill. (The committee received testimony by teleconference from Anchorage, Fairbanks and Wasilla.)

The bill was held for preparation of a committee substitute which would provide for the management of certain State parks by a contractual arrangement.

Material attached:

Letter from Commissioner Wunnicke, DNR, & fiscal note dtd 4-17-86.
Public Opinion Message from Elsie O'Bryan, City of Houston,
dated 4-14-86.

STATE OF ALASKA

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-465-2400

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

APR 17 1986

April 17, 1986

The Honorable Edna DeVries, Chair
Community and Regional Affairs Committee
Alaska State Senate
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator DeVries:

The Department of Natural Resources appreciates the efforts of your committee to modify SB 467, a bill that relates to the operation of state campgrounds, and we support the general intent of the proposed Community and Regional Affairs Committee substitute for this bill.

Since the end of the legislative session is rapidly approaching, we suggest that the language in CSSB 467 (C&RA) be added to HB 267 (fees for state park campsites) to help ensure that a campground bill is enacted this year. The campsite fee bill has been passed from the House and is currently awaiting a hearing by the Senate Finance Committee.

The enactment of these bills, either individually or combined, would help the department continue a high level of service to campground visitors and allow the state to recover a portion of campground operating costs. In addition, the department would be given the flexibility to reduce or eliminate state competition with private campground operations.

Please let me know if you would like additional information about this matter.

Sincerely,

Esther C. Wunnicke, Deputy

Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Community and Regional Affairs Committee

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : 4/17/86

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : CSSB 467 (C&RA)
 Title : Operation of Campgrounds

 Sponsor : Senate C&RA Committee
 Requestor : Senate C&RA Committee
 Date of Request : 4/17/86

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : Natural Resources
 BRU : Parks and Recreation Management

 Components : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES		33.6	33.6	22.4	22.4	22.4
TRAVEL		2.0	2.0	-0-	-0-	-0-
CONTRACTUAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
SUPPLIES		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
EQUIPMENT		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	35.6	35.6	22.4	22.4	22.4

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		35.6	35.6	22.4	22.4	22.4
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	35.6	35.6	22.4	22.4	22.4

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME	-0-	1	1	1	1	1
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

The department would need a Natural Resources Technician to help prepare and administer requests for proposals, contracts, and processing of revenues related to private operation of selected state campgrounds. The position would be full time for the first two years, and become seasonal thereafter. The department will realize an overall savings in contractual and commodities expenditures.

Prepared by : Bob Mcurant Phone : 465-2424
 Division : Division of Management Date : 4/17/86

Approved by Commissioner : Thomas D. Amundson, Jr. Date : 4/17/86
 Agency : Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Continuation of Analysis CSSB 467 (C&RA)

Position Information:

	Annual Gross	Annual Benefits	Annual Total
NRT II (Perm. Full-time)	24.8	8.8	33.6
NRT II (Seasonal)	16.5	5.9	22.4

Additional Information:

Concessionaires would be required to reinvest a percentage of profit into the campground. This program will succeed only with close supervision by staff of tightly written contracts for campground operation. Supervision can be relaxed as concessionaires become established and routinely adhere to contract performance standards and stipulations. The savings realized by this program will grow each year, as additional campgrounds are contracted to the private sector for management. The department could forego the modest revenues available from the concessionaire during the first few years of operations if the money were used to enhance visitor services and the capital value of the campground.

Operational Savings Under This Program:

	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
Contractual	30.0	35.0	40.0	45.0	50.0
Commodities	10.0	15.0	15.0	20.0	20.0
Total	<u>40.0</u>	<u>50.0</u>	<u>55.0</u>	<u>65.0</u>	<u>70.0</u>

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR EDNA B. DE VRIES
FROM: ELSIE OBRYAN, CITY CLERK
P. O. BOX 27
HOUSTON AK
892-6869

99694

BILL NO: SB 467

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF CAMPGROUNDS BY MUNICIPALITIES

MESSAGE:

IT APPEARS THAT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT MEETS THE REQUESTED
CHANGES FOR SB467.

DATE: 04/14/86 TIME: 15:23:19 SENT BY: MATSU LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Offered: 3/15/85
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 267 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the levy and collection of fees
7 for the use of state park facilities; and providing
8 for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 41.21 is amended by adding a new section to read:

11 Sec. 41.21.023. FEES FOR THE USE OF STATE PARK CAMPSITES. (a)

12 The department may establish and collect fees for the overnight use of
13 state park developed campsites. When setting these fees, the
14 department shall consider

15 (1) the cost to the state of operating the facility;

16 (2) the fees charged for the use of a similar facility by a
17 nongovernmental entity;

18 (3) the cost of administering a fee collection program for
19 the facility; and

20 (4) the public interest.

21 (b) In this section

22 (1) "developed campsite" means a campsite having access to
23 the following public facilities: restrooms, a picnic table, an out-
24 door cooking facility, and an approved water source;

25 (2) "state park" has the meaning given in AS 38.04.910.

26 * Sec. 2. AS 28.10.411(e) and AS 41.35.045(b) are repealed.

27 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
28 10.070(c).

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-465-2400

APR 17 1986

April 17, 1986

The Honorable Edna DeVries, Chair
Community and Regional Affairs Committee
Alaska State Senate
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator DeVries:

The Department of Natural Resources appreciates the efforts of your committee to modify SB 467, a bill that relates to the operation of state campgrounds, and we support the general intent of the proposed Community and Regional Affairs Committee substitute for this bill.

Since the end of the legislative session is rapidly approaching, we suggest that the language in CSSB 467 (C&RA) be added to HB 267 (fees for state park campsites) to help ensure that a campground bill is enacted this year. The campsite fee bill has been passed from the House and is currently awaiting a hearing by the Senate Finance Committee.

The enactment of these bills, either individually or combined, would help the department continue a high level of service to campground visitors and allow the state to recover a portion of campground operating costs. In addition, the department would be given the flexibility to reduce or eliminate state competition with private campground operations.

Please let me know if you would like additional information about this matter.

Sincerely,

Esther C. Wunnicke, Deputy

E Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Community and Regional Affairs Committee

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR EDNA B. DE VRIES

FROM: ELSIE OBRYAN, CITY CLERK
P. O. BOX 27
HOUSTON AK
892-6869

99694

BILL NO: SB 467

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF CAMPGROUNDS BY MUNICIPALITIES

MESSAGE:

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CHANGES FOR SB467.

DATE: 04/14/86 TIME: 15:23:19 SENT BY: MATSU LIO

COPIES TO: SENATE COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : 4/17/86

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : CSSB 467 (C&RA)
 Title : Operation of Campgrounds

 Sponsor : Senate CSRA Committee
 Requestor : Senate C&RA Committee
 Date of Request : 4/17/86

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : Natural Resources
 BRU : Parks and Recreation Management

 Components : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES		33.6	33.6	22.4	22.4	22.4
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EQUIPMENT		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	35.6	35.6	22.4	22.4	22.4

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		35.6	35.6	22.4	22.4	22.4
FEDERAL FUNDS						
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FULL-TIME	-0-	1	1	1	1	1
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

The department would need a Natural Resources Technician to help prepare and administer requests for proposals, contracts, and processing of revenues related to private operation of selected state campgrounds. The position would be full time for the first two years, and become seasonal thereafter. The department will realize an overall savings in contractual and commodities expenditures.

Prepared by : Bgd M.urant Phone : 465-2424
 Division : Division of Management Date : 4/17/86

Approved by Commissioner : Mms D Amiel, Dep. Dir. Date : 4/17/86
 Agency : Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Continuation of Analysis CSSB 467 (C&RA)

Position Information:

	Annual Gross	Annual Benefits	Annual Total
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Additional Information:

Concessionaires would be required to reinvest a percentage of profit into the campground. This program will succeed only with close supervision by staff of tightly written contracts for campground operation. Supervision can be relaxed as concessionaires become established and routinely adhere to contract performance standards and stipulations. The savings realized by this program will grow each year, as additional campgrounds are contracted to the private sector for management. The department could forego the modest revenues available from the concessionaire during the first few years of operations if the money were used to enhance visitor services and the capital value of the campground.

Operational Savings Under This Program:

	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
Contractual	30.0	35.0	40.0	45.0	50.0
Commodities	<u>10.0</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>20.0</u>	<u>20.0</u>
Total	40.0	50.0	55.0	65.0	70.0



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on Community and Regional Affairs

Senator Edna DeVries, Chairman

Members:

Senator Ferguson, Vice Chairman

Senator Coghill

Senator Sturgulewski

Senator V. Fischer

Pouch V

Juneau, Alaska 99811

April 9, 1986

Re: SB 467 An Act relating to the establishment or operation
of campgrounds within certain municipalities

I wanted to let you know that a draft Committee Substitute bill for the subject bill has been prepared and will be considered by the C&RA Committee at its 3:30 p.m. meeting on April 17.

The draft Committee Substitute is entitled, "An Act relating to the operation of campgrounds" and provides that the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources may request and accept proposals for the management of a campground and a concessionaire may accept fees for services.

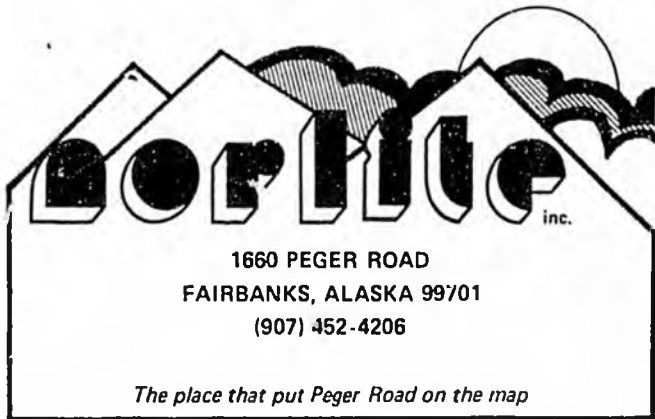
A copy of the draft bill is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Edna DeVries
Senator

Enclosure

THIS LTR SENT AS RESPONSE TO THE ATTACHED LETTERS AS WELL AS TO MAYOR DOROTHY JONES, MAT-SU BOROUGH & ELSIE O'BRYAN, CLERK, CITY OF HOUSTON.



MAR 31 1986

March 26, 1986

Edna DeVries, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Community & Regional Affairs
Senate President's Office
P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Ms. DeVries:

I am writing in regard to Senate Bill No. 467 which is "An act relating to the establishment or operation of campgrounds within certain municipalities."

Let me go on record as being very urgently in favor of this bill, which would amend Section 1. AS 41.21.020 by adding a new subsection to read: (c) The department may not establish or operate a campground within the corporate boundaries of a municipality.

I urge you to support this bill. I strongly believe it is a good piece of legislation. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sara P. Sears

EDI letter dtd 4/19/86 addressed to Dallas Sears who testified by teleconf at 4/13 CTRA Yrly. to



Matanuska-Susitna Borough

BOX B, PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-9689

BOROUGH MANAGER

April 1, 1986

APR 04 1986

The Honorable Edna DeVries
Chairman, Community and Regional
Affairs Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Subject: Senate Bill 467--an Act Relating to Campgrounds within
Municipalities

Dear Edna:

I am puzzled about the reasons for Senate Bill 467 and what it is supposed to accomplish.

In the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the state operates 14 campgrounds, with most visitors being from outside of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and many visitors outside of Alaska. Among the campgrounds that I am most familiar with are the King Mountain campground on the Glenn Highway at Mile 67, the Nancy Lakes campgrounds, the Finger Lake campground, the Byers Lake campground and the two campgrounds on Big Lake.

In the Kenai Peninsula Borough you have the same situation. There are about 14 state campgrounds in the Kenai Peninsula Borough, with most of the users coming from outside of the Borough.

I remember distinctly when the state made its first effort to provide state campgrounds. This goes back to 1961 when the state budget was about 300 million dollars a year, most of which was federal money. At that time, the establishment of campgrounds was considered essential if Alaska was to do a reasonable job in encouraging tourism. In the past 25 years new campgrounds have been established around the state, but not nearly to the extent that the level of tourism would call for.

The closure of 13 campgrounds in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough would be a tremendous step backward. The state would be shooting itself in the foot for God knows what reason.

I am enclosing a copy of "Tourism--A Guide to the Valley" which comments on many of the state campgrounds. You will be pleased to hear that the three Valley chambers of commerce, plus, probably the Big Lake Chamber of Commerce, which is just now being organized, expect to work together in a long-term

program to promote tourism in this part of Alaska. This type of positive approach is what is appropriate at a time of declining state revenues, not Senate Bill 467.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Thurlow".

Gary Thurlow
Borough Manager

er

cc: Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor



THE CITY OF HAINES, ALASKA
P.O. BOX 576
HAINES, ALASKA 99827
(907) 766-2231

In Reply
Refer To:

APR 08 1986

April 3, 1986

Senator Edna DeVries
ALASKA STATE SENATE
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator DeVries:

RE: SB 467:

One of the major reasons our community is popular with visitors is because of the great variety of camping facilities we have here. There are several (3) private campgrounds within the city limits of Haines that offer hook-ups for campers, and four State campgrounds outside the city limits in the Haines Borough. These parks do not have hook ups, and are located several miles from town.

This seems to be a good balance of services. People who want to stay in town do so at a private camper park. Those who prefer the scenery of the State parks stay out of town. I have not heard any complaints from camper park owners in Haines about the competition of the State parks and campgrounds to their own business.

There is an important point to mention here: I believe the State's parks and campgrounds are one of the major drawing cards of our area, and our whole State. People come here to see them, yet they may choose the convenience of staying near a town at a commercial park with full facilities; but they might not come in the first place without the draw of a beautiful state park such as Chilkat Park in Haines, or several others in Alaska.

The State Parks system is doing a good job of running a valuable visitor attraction: our parks and campgrounds. Don't make the mistake of decreasing their value to us by changing the administration of them.

Sincerely,

Chip Waterbury
Chip Waterbury
Tourism Director
CITY OF HAINES

APR 04 1986

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

TO: SENATOR EDNA B. DE VRIES

FROM: THERON MILLER
450 E EAGLE
PALMER
745-8727

99645

BILL NO: SB 467

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF CAMPGROUNDS BY MUNICIPALITIES

MESSAGE:

I AM AGAINST THIS BILL. IT ELIMINATES 94% OF OUR STATE SUPPORTED CAMPGROUNDS. SECOND, ECONOMIC CONFLICT IS MINIMAL BETWEEN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND VERY BASIC STATE CAMPGROUNDS. THIRD, THERE IS NO PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED FOR SUCH A WIDE SWEEPING ACT IN THE HISTORY OF ANY PARK SYSTEM IN ANY STATE. MY RECOMMENDATION IS STATEWIDE RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS ANNUAL USER FEES.

DATE: 04/03/86 TIME: 16:13 54 SENT BY: MATSU LIO

COPIES TO: REPRESENTATIVE: KATIE HURLEY
REPRESENTATIVE: RONALD L. (RON) LARSON
SENATOR: JALMAR M. KERTTULA

CHRA Mtg 4/3/86 (1)

SB 467 Establishment or operation
of campgrounds ~~in~~ within certain
municipalities

Chris Christensen, Aide to
Sen Bennett supported bill and
explained its purpose.

(Auc) Ron _____ Parks + Rec Dept
3 campgrounds would be ~~officially~~ effected
operated within Chugach State

(Mat Sn)

Pat Gibson - don't want to
lose campgrounds. Don't want the
state to go out of operation. Member, Parks +
Rec Advisory Bd.

(Zby) Dallas ~~Spencer~~ ^{Sears} owner of
campground. Chena River Wayside
caused his campground ^{financial} problems.
Do not discourage private enterprise
something must be done. Does not
want to see state campgrounds closed.

Best solution would be to contract
them out. Charges \$10 a site for mg
+ ^{use of} 1 all facilities. In Water/elec hookup
chgs \$15 site.

(Auc) Chuck Kocio - Mat-Su Borough
Don't want to lose state campgrounds.
Believes campgrounds serve ^{important} public
need. That ^{contract} ^a structure
might be an alternative. Commercial
facilities offered greater amenities.
Wondered if state could recruit
concessionaires to run the ^{state} facilities.

(Wasilla) Roger Bliss - Mat-Su
Borough Trail Committee - Nancy
Lake Area used winter + summer.
That campground system should be
left the way it is!

(Wasilla) Elsie O'Byrne, City of Houston
Opposed bill.

(Wasilla) Bryan Birdsell - Mat-Su Borough
Parks Board. People who come into
state expect to see state campgrounds.

(Auc) Gary Seawall Mat-Su Parks
Want to see status quo maintained.

(2/24)

Dallas Sears - In other states state + fed'l campgrounds charge fees.

Neil Johansen, Dir, ^{of State Parks} Div of Parks, DNR - believed intent of bill was to eliminate competition.

Referred ^{to} HB 267 ^{which} authorizing state to have a fee system for its parks. There are about 59 campgrounds in state. Intent of HB 267 is to get out of competition with private campground owners. Urged that best mechanism would be HB 267. That it could be amended to provide that DNR could contract out ^{operation of} certain campgrounds. Urged passage of HB 267. Opposed bill SB 467 as written.

Dick Bradley Little should be changed to

Laid bill would be held for Sen Bennett's Aide + Staff to compare SB 467 with HB 267 to see what proposal Sen Bennett would have

(4)

on perhaps accomplishing purpose
of bill by amending the House
bill

Staff

Senator Edna D. Vries, Chairman
Senator Ferguson, Vice Chairman
Senator Coghill
Senator Sturgulewski
Senator V. Fischer

Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Alaska State Legislature

Senate



Official Business

Committee on Community and Regional Affairs

COMMITTEE MEETING -- April 3, 1986

SB 467 -- An Act relating to the establishment or operation of campgrounds within certain municipalities

SCS for CS for HB 236 (C&RA) -- An Act creating a Quadrennial Olympic Reserve account; efd

SB 467 - Persons interested in this bill requested a teleconference be held and individuals will testify by teleconference from Fairbanks, Wasilla, Anchorage and perhaps Soldotna.

SCS for CS for HB 236 (C&RA) --The Senate version of this bill was previously considered by the Committee last session. The committee substitute bill now before the Committee was prepared at the request of Senator Bennett and Senator Ferguson.

Materials relating to the bills as belowlisted is attached:

- (1) Memorandum dated 4/1/86 from Senator Don Bennett to Senator DeVries on SB 467.
- (2) Letter dated 4/2/86 from Commissioner Wunnicke, DNR on SB 467.
- (3) Fiscal note from DNR on SB 467.
- (4) Letter dated 3/26/86 from Sara P. Sears on SB 467.
- (5) Sectional analysis by LAA, Legal Svcs. on SCS CSHB 236 (C&RA).
- (6) Position paper and Fiscal Note prepared by DC&RA on SCSCS HB 236 (C&RA).
- (7) Position Paper and Fiscal Note prepared by DOA on SCSCS HB 236 (C&RA).
- (8) Position Paper and Fiscal Note prepared by DOC&ED on SCSCS HB 236 (C&RA).

Introduced: 3/20/86
Referred: Community and Regional Affairs
and Resources

BY THE COMMUNITY AND
REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 467

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment or operation of
7 campgrounds within certain municipalities."

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10 read:

11 (c) The department may not establish or operate a campground
12 within the corporate boundaries of a municipality.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-465-2400

April 2, 1986

APR 2 1986

The Honorable Edna DeVries
Chair, Community and Regional
Affairs Committee
Alaska State Senate
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator DeVries:

I have reviewed Senate Bill 467, a bill that would prohibit the Department of Natural Resources from establishing or operating a campground within a municipality. I wish to advise you of this department's opposition to the bill and express my concern about its possible effects on Alaska's residents, local governments and visitors.

As currently worded, this bill would require the department to close the following 42 state campgrounds:

<u>Location</u>	<u>No. of Campsites</u>
<u>Delta Junction (second class city)</u>	
1) Big Delta Campground	22 sites
<u>Fairbanks North Star Borough</u>	
1) Harding Lake State Recreation Area	89 sites
2) Chena River State Recreation Site	59 sites
3) Chena River State Recreation Area	56 sites
4) Upper Chatanika River State Recreation Area	25 sites
<u>Greater Anchorage Area Borough</u>	
1) Eklutna Lake Campground	35 sites
2) Eagle River Campground	36 sites
3) Bird Creek Campground	25 sites
<u>Haines Borough</u>	
1) Chilkoot Lake Campground	32 sites
2) Chilkat Campground	32 sites
3) Portage Cove State Recreation Site	9 sites
4) Mosquito Lake State Recreation Site	13 sites

April 2, 1986

Kenai Peninsula Borough

1) Bing's Landing State Recreation Site	43 sites
2) Izaak Walton State Recreation Site	51 sites
3) Morgan's Landing State Recreation Area	10 sites
4) Bernice Lake State Recreation Site	11 sites
5) Captain Cook State Recreation Area	80 sites
6) Kasilof River State Recreation Site	16 sites
7) Johnson Lake State Recreation Area	43 sites
8) Clam Gulch State Recreation Area	83 parking spaces (approx.)
9) Ninilchik State Recreation Area	30 parking spaces (approx.)
10) Deep Creek State Recreation Area	260 parking spaces (approx.)
11) Stariski State Recreation Site	13 sites
12) Anchor River State Recreation Area	42 sites
13) Scout Lake State Recreation Site	8 sites

Ketchikan Gateway Borough

1) Settlers Cover Campground	10 sites
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Kodiak Island Borough

1) Fort Abercrombie State State Historic Park	14 sites
2) Buskin River State Recreation Site	18 sites

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

1) Byers Lake Campground	66 sites
2) Willow Creek State Recreation Site	7 sites
3) Nancy Lake State Recreation Site	30 sites
4) Nancy Lake State Recreation Area	113 sites
5) Rocky Lake State Recreation Site	10 sites
6) Big Lake South State Recreation Site	13 sites
7) Big Lake East State Recreation Site	6 sites
8) Finger Lake State Recreation Site	41 sites
9) Moose Creek State Recreation Site	12 sites
10) King Mountain State Recreation Site	22 sites
11) Bonnie Lake State Recreation Site	13 sites
12) Long Lake State Recreation Site	9 sites
13) Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Site	12 sites
14) Wolf Lake	4 sites

Closing this number of campgrounds would leave Alaska residents and visitors with very few places to camp. Private campgrounds could not meet the demand for camping space and municipalities would likely be unable to cope with large numbers of travelers in need of places to camp. Statutory changes may be needed before the department could lease existing state campgrounds to interested municipalities or private parties.

The Honorable Edna DeVries

-3-

April 2, 1986

Because this bill could have such far reaching effects, it might be advisable to hold public hearings on SB 467 in communities where state campgrounds are located. While I believe that state operated campgrounds serve the public interest, it may be that others hold a different view. In any case, their comments concerning the closure of state-owned campgrounds should be heard. Please let me know if you would like additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,



Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Committee Members
Neil Johannsen, Director, Division of
Parks and Outdoor Recreation

APR 2 1986

STATE OF ALASKA 1986 LEGISLATIVE SESSION FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date : _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No. : SB 467
 Title : Operation of Campgrounds

Sponsor : Senate C & R A Committee
 Requestor : Senate C & R A Committee
 Date of Request : 4/1/86

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected : Natural Resources
 BRU : Parks & Recreation Management

Components : _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES : (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING : (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS :

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : Attach a separate page if necessary

Prepared by : Carol Wilson
 Division : Commissioner's Office

Phone : 465-2400
 Date : 4/1/86

Approved by Commissioner : Mrs. D. Amund, Deputy
 Agency : Natural Resources

Date : 4/1/86

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal note):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

Alaska State Legislature




SENATOR
DON BENNETT
P.O. BOX 2801
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707

LEGISLATIVE ADDRESS
POUCH V - STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

Senate

APR 03 1986

To: Senator Edna DeVries, Chairman
Community and Regional Affairs Committee

From: Senator Don Bennett 

Date: April 1, 1986

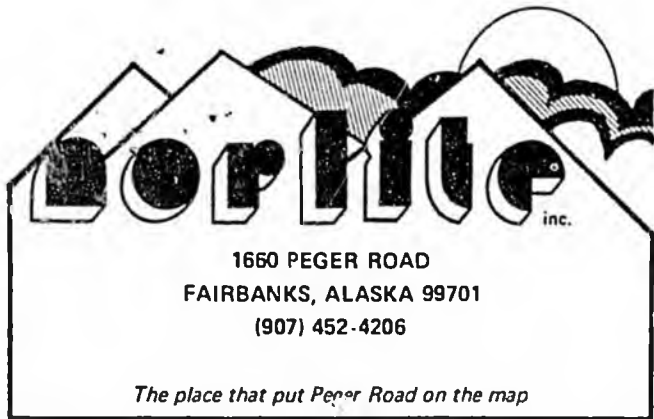
Re: Senate Bill 467 "An Act relating to the establishment or operation of campgrounds within certain municipalities."

Senate Bill 467 would prohibit the Department of Natural Resources from establishing or operating a campground within the boundaries of a municipality. I have been contacted by several constituents requesting legislation of this type. These constituents operate recreational vehicle parks in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and they feel that they lose significant amounts of business each summer to state campgrounds.

The reason for this is obvious. Anytime a small private business tries to compete with a business or facility which is state owned and operated, it suffers. In this case, the state is using its land and financial resources to compete directly with small, family operated private businesses.

The state gets no financial benefit from this competition. In fact, substantial sums of money are spent by the state each year to maintain and operate campgrounds.

I believe that the state's interests, as well as those of private enterprise, would be better served if the state no longer operated its campgrounds which are located within the boundaries of municipalities. Instead, the operation of these campgrounds should be left to concessionaires. This way, the competition between privately owned and state owned camping facilities would be fair, and the state would be relieved of the financial burden of operating and maintaining them.



MAR 31 1986

March 26, 1986

Edna DeVries, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Community & Regional Affairs
Senate President's Office
F.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Ms. DeVries:

I am writing in regard to Senate Bill No. 467 which is "An act relating to the establishment or operation of campgrounds within certain municipalities."

Let me go on record as being very urgently in favor of this bill, which would amend Section 1. AS 41.21.020 by adding a new subsection to read: (c) The department may not establish or operate a campground within the corporate boundaries of a municipality.

I urge you to support this bill. I strongly believe it is a good piece of legislation. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sara P. Sears

Introduced: 3/20/86
Referred: Community and Regional Affairs
and Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND
REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 467

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

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3/18/86 by of
bill approved for
filing

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE COMMUNITY AND
REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 SENATE BILL NO.

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IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO.
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

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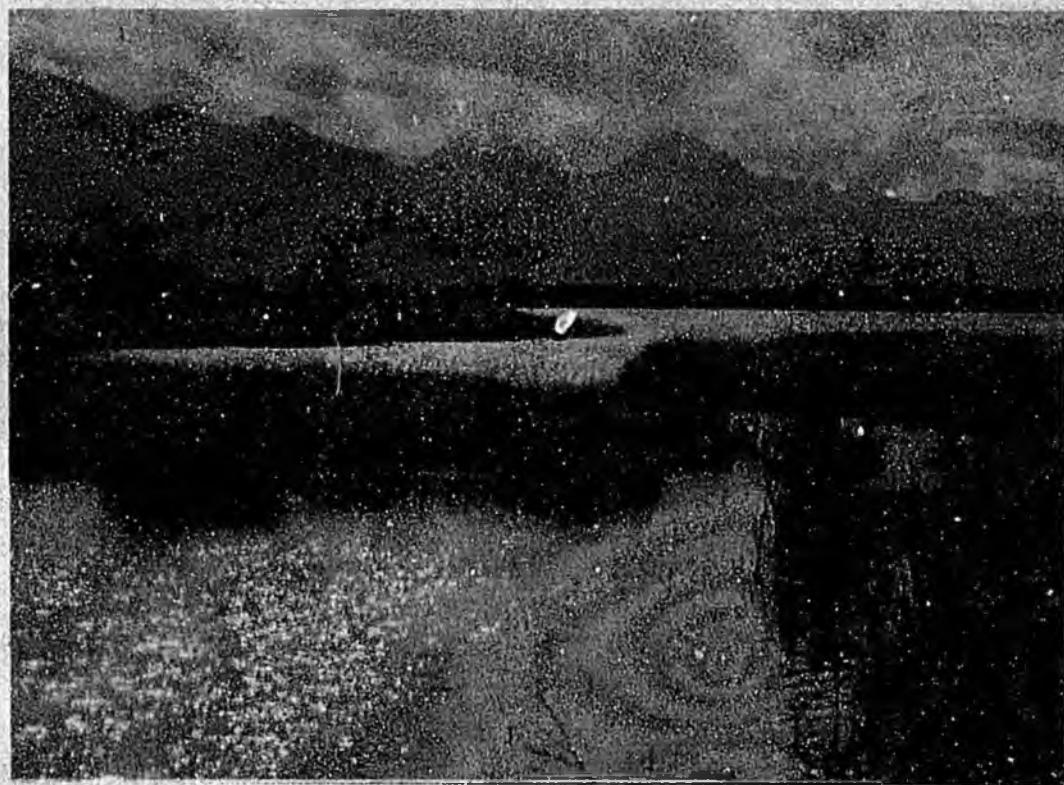
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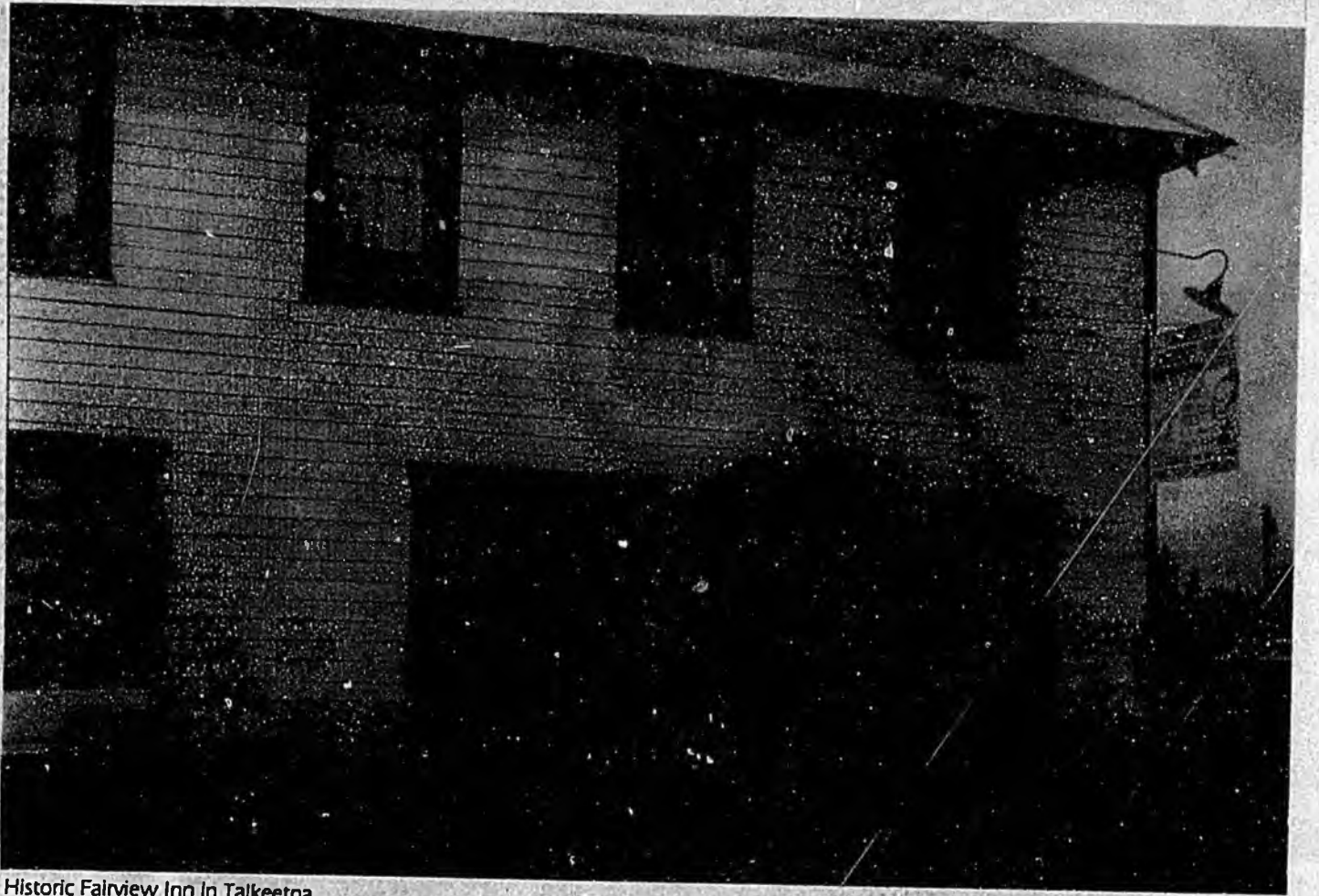
*By
Sen De Vries said she would be pleased to generate this
bill in her Committee. It is more appropriate in that committee.
What is your pleasure?*





MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

A GUIDE FOR THE VISITOR



Historic Fairview Inn in Talkeetna



Lake Lucille



"Church of a Thousand Trees" (United Protestant) in Palmer.



Alaska Cotton on Point MacKenzie Road.



Susitna River jet boat ride.



Fishwheel on the Susitna River helps the Alaska Department of Fish & Game count how many salmon go upstream.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

A GUIDE FOR THE VISITOR

1984

Production:
MAPMAKERS PRESS
PALMER, ALASKA



Matanuska-Susitna Borough

BOX B. PALMER, ALASKA 99645 • PHONE 745-3246

BOROUGH MAYOR

Dear Visitor:

Welcome to the Valley!

There are many things to do in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough winter and summer. We hope that this booklet introduces you to places that you will enjoy and return to.

The Alaska visitor is important to us. We want to make it easy to visit here, to find places and to stop for a while.

Let us know what you think.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edna Armstrong".

Edna Armstrong
Borough Mayor

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Mayor

Assembly Members

Edna Armstrong

Barbara Carr

John Eder

Dorothy Jones

John Musgrove

Rose Palmquist

Al Strawn

Vern Ungerecht

Gary Thurlow

Manager

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INTRODUCTION

This publication was prepared with monies appropriated by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly in 1984 for the purpose of providing visitors with information about our Valley, and places of interest to see and visit.

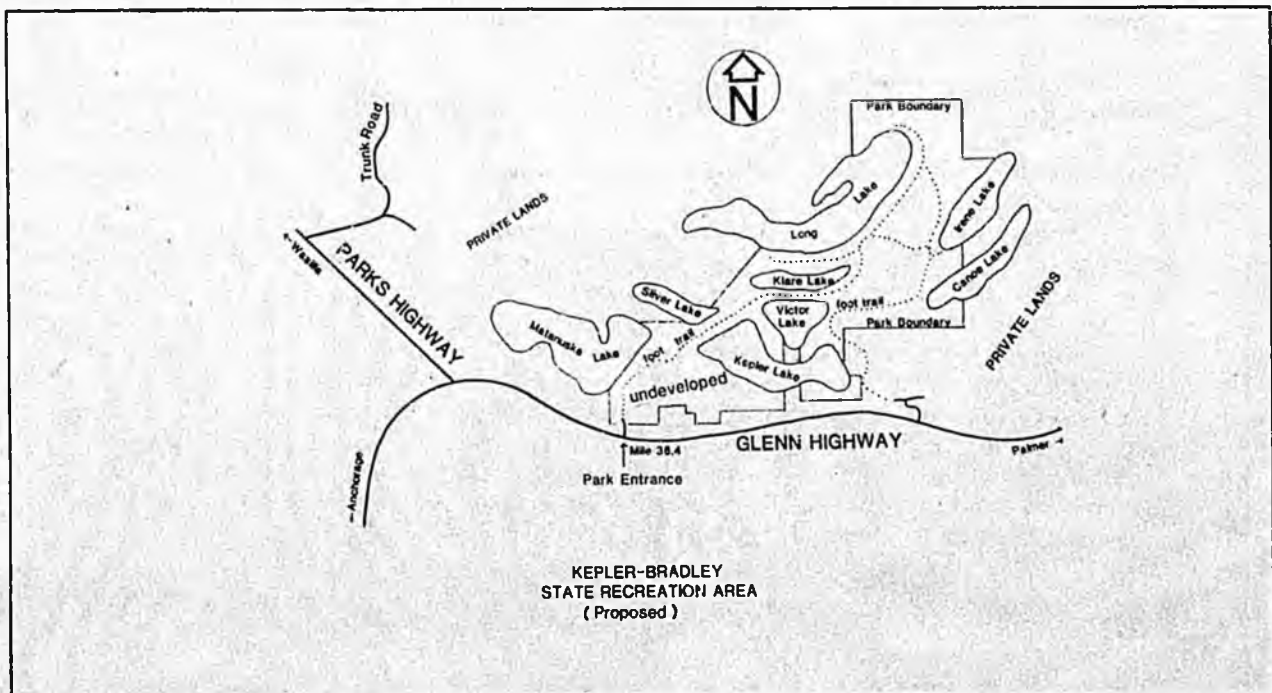
We encourage you to spend some time, learn about rural Alaska, and enjoy the beauty and the many things to do in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.



Pioneer Peak and Bodenburg Butte from Matanuska River Bridge on Old Glenn Highway.
Photography. Pat Owens, Michelle Stearns, Brigitte Lively

NORTH TO PALMER

- 29.9 **KNIK RIVER** Parking and river access.
- 30.1 **KNIK RIVER** Boat launches and river access.
- 32.8 Access to fishing at Rabbit Slough.
- 35.1 Junction of Parks Highway.
- 35.3 **LULU'S NURSERY** Shopping in the Valley for bedding plants, trees and shrubs. Lulu's is the first nursery you come to; there are many others.
- 35.9 **MATANUSKA LAKE** About 4 miles SW of Palmer. Turn north at Mile 35.9 on Glenn Highway and park in small graveled area within highway right-of-way immediately in front of private cabled road. Follow access signs approximately 250 yards to the lake. This 6-foot wide public easement is entirely bordered by private lands. A private camping, parking, launching and boat rental facility. Matanuska Lake Park is situated immediately adjacent to the public trail. The entrance to the fee camping area can be reached by turning NW from the Parks Highway onto Trunk Road at Mile 35.7. Proceed 3/10 of a mile and turn right again into the campground.
- 36.0 **KEPLER-BRADLEY LAKES** A system of lakes stocked by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, most of which are in the Kepler-Bradley Lakes State Recreation Area. If you are not a fisherman, you probably will enjoy a hike along the trails. The lakes accessible from the Glenn Highway are:
- 37.0 **ECHO LAKE** is also located 4 miles SW of Palmer. It is immediately adjacent to the south side of the Glenn Highway at Mile 37.3. A small portion of the north shore of Echo Lake is within the highway right-of-way and therefore provides the only public access to this water body. Parking is available at the nearby (across the highway) Kepler Lake public parking site. A private fee parking and boat launch facility is also present at this lake. the entrance to this site is located at Mile 37 Glenn Highway.
- 37.3 **KEPLER-BRADLEY LAKES** 4 miles SW of Palmer. Turn north at Mile 37.3 on Glenn Highway and go 200 feet to these connected lakes. A public access and parking corridor is present between the highway right-of-way and wooden bridge bisecting the two lakes. A private campground immediately adjacent to this public corridor provides camping, parking, boat launch and boat rental service. From this you can also reach:
- 39.0 **MEIRS LAKE** 3 miles south of Palmer. Turn east off Glenn Highway at Mile 39.2 onto the Outer Springer Loop and proceed 3/10 mile to marked access trail on the left. Meirs Lake lies about 100 yards from the road. Unmaintained site that features trail access only. The site consists of a 200-foot wide strip linking the road to the lake.
- 38.5 **POLE-LOCK FARM BAR & LIQUOR** Stop here for humor and fun. Wet your whistle, Alaskan hospitality, many items of interest. rooms for \$25 per day and package liquor store.
- 38.5 **MATANUSKA FARM MARKET** In the Valley since 1975, garden supplies available. "All locally produced vegetables in the summer", also flowers.
- 40.5 **ALASKA STATE FAIR** Fair time is from about August 26 to September 5. Lots of exhibits, carnival, 4-H displays, horse show and rodeo make this an important and exciting time for residents and visitors. Other scheduled events, besides the Fair, usually includes the Midsummer Festival Rodeo in June, KSKA Bluegrass Festival in July, Mat-Su District 4-H Fair in early August, and fireworks on July 4.
- 40.5 **ALASKA HISTORICAL AND TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM** The north country was conquered by the early pioneers not just on foot, but with the help of implements, vehicles and equipment by land, sea and air. See them at the museum, Mile 40, Glenn Highway, on the parklike grounds, with picnic tables for families and transportation toys for small children. Exhibits are also on display in three railroad cars and the Don Sheldon Building. Open 7 days a week from 8 til 4. 745-4493.
- 40.5 **VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS** have their home at the old Colony church on the Alaska State Fairgrounds, Mile 40, Glenn Highway. VPA offers drama, comedy, dance, concerts and special attractions throughout the year. Inquire at the Visitor Center or at 745-2484 for current offerings.
- 40.5 **MAT-SU MINERS BASEBALL** The State Fairgrounds is home to the semi-professional Mat-Su Miners. Watch them in action throughout the summer. American Legion baseball is played on most evenings when the Miners are out of town.
- 40.6 **CASA TACO** restaurant at Mile 40.6, Mexican and American fast foods.
- 40.7 **WINDBREAK CAFE** Daily specials, prices for complete meals

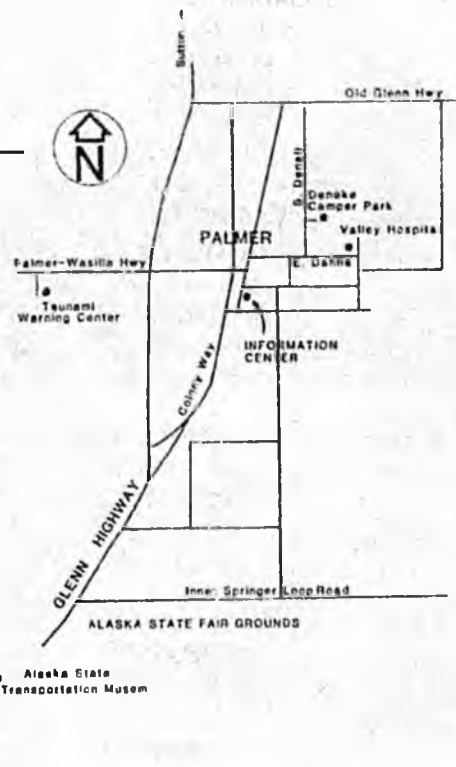


GLENN HIGHWAY

range from \$3 - \$11 for complete meals, open 7 days a week, 6 a.m. to midnight.

41.0 VALLEY FAIR MALL A shopping center just south of Palmer on Glenn Highway including supermarket, pharmacy, hardware, book and gift stores.

PALMER



Alaska's foremost agricultural region, this area was first settled during the early part of the century by farmers while the Alaska Railroad was being built, and then, in 1935, by depression-era farmers from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, who came to the Matanuska Agricultural colony to develop the valley's farming potential. The colony survived despite great obstacles, and some of the original houses and barns are still visible on the outskirts of Palmer.

Today, more than half the state's farms are in the Matanuska Valley. More than 28,000 acres of land are cleared and 15,000 of it are cultivated. The Valley is well known for its production of large vegetables. Although the growing season is short, only 100 to 120 days, long hours of daylight help produce very large vegetables. Record-size cabbages weighing 70 to 80 pounds, and barely fitting in a wheelbarrow, are exhibited at the annual Alaska State Fair.

The rural setting of much of the area allows a variety of outdoor recreation, and is a playground for many Anchorage residents. A large horse population makes use of an abundance of trails, some of which date back to logging roads when lumber was cut for the gold mines at Willow Creek. These trails are also enjoyed by dog mushers, cross-country skiers, hikers and backpackers. Palmer boasts a theatre, community center, rodeo and horse show grounds, tennis courts, ball parks, play grounds, ice hockey rinks, museums, the Mat-Su Miners Baseball team, and the Alaska State Fairgrounds.

Palmer, population close to 3,000, has been the center of this farming community 42 miles northeast of Anchorage on the Glenn Highway. It's a first-class city and is the seat of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The town houses many agricultural support agencies, including the Experiment Station of the University of Alaska. The Pioneer Home is occupied by a special generation of Alaskans — those who helped build our great state.

THINGS TO DO

VISIT THE INFORMATION CENTER in the log building downtown. The friendly staff can point any visitor in the right direction, according to areas of interest. Ask them for a copy of the "Welcome to Palmer Brochure" published by the Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce. It will help familiarize you with the town. A Colony museum is in the basement, as well as the office of the Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce. The information center features slide shows that include pictures of the amazingly large vegetables grown in the area, and during late August, the visitor is invited to watch the cabbages grow that are planted next to the building. Alaskan gifts and souvenirs, most of them created in the Valley, are available.

SEE THE ALASKA HISTORICAL AND TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM at the Alaska State Fairgrounds, Mile 40, Glenn Highway. The north country was conquered by the early pioneers not just on foot, but with the help of implements, vehicles and equipment by land, sea and air. See them at the museum on the parklike grounds, with picnic tables for families and transportation toys for small children. Exhibits are also on display in three railroad cars and the Don Sheldon Building. Open 7 days a week, 8-4.

LOOK AT THE CHURCH OF A THOUSAND LOGS, which is the last of the original three colony churches still in regular use. Visitors are invited to take pictures during the week.

ATTEND HORSE SHOWS, RODEOS, AND THE ALASKA STATE FAIR The Alaska State Fair hosts many events throughout the year. There's a horse show almost every weekend during the summer months. The State Fair runs from the last week in August through Labor Day, and boasts many agricultural exhibits, lots of 4-H events, concession stands and midway carnival. Check with the Fair for other scheduled events, such as the KSKA Bluegrass Festival (745-4827).

GO HORSEBACK RIDING at many of the local stables.

RUN WITH THE BEST The Mat-Su Running Club encourages visitors to test their stamina against the local runners who compete on different trails in the Valley at least once a month.

CLIMB THE BODENBURG BUTTE, LAZY MOUNTAIN, OR RIDE YOUR BIKE AROUND SPRINGER LOOP ROAD. There are many opportunities for outdoor activity. Enjoy them.

GO FISHING OR BOATING in some of the many lakes surrounding Palmer. Ask the Visitor Center for a brochure of favorite spots.

LODGING & DINING

VALLEY HOTEL Located in downtown Palmer on South Alaska Street and is open year round. There are 34 rooms with bathrooms, T.V., telephone, liquor is sold in a separate lounge next to the Round House Cafe. Conveniently located in downtown Palmer for shopping needs.

PIONEER MOTEL On Arctic Way off of Glenn Highway, 20 units.

HYLAND HOTEL (Hotel Palmer) has operated for 48 years and is located at 333 Evergreen in downtown Palmer, room rates are \$20 for single and \$25 for double. We have a small recreation vehicles facility; dump station, electric plug-ins, water, space for six only. Fishing within 5-10 mile radius and some mountain climbing at the Butte, small game hunting in season. Close to shopping needs in Palmer.

THE BOUNTY a complete meal restaurant, located for the past 8 years at Mile 1/4 of the Old Palmer-Wasilla Highway, just west of Glenn Highway and Standard Service Station. Live dinner music. Most everything is made from scratch. A lounge is located off the restaurant. The Bounty is open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

FRONTIER RESTAURANT in downtown Palmer for the past 20 years on Evergreen Street. All food is homemade; homemade pies, sweet rolls, bread, soup, complete meals.

BAILEY STREET PUB in Palmer under the Frontier Cafe, offers a variety of liquors for your convenience. A quiet place to enjoy yourself in a nice setting.

PIZZARIA DELPHI Pizza, ravioli and spaghetti are the main foods here. Located on West Arctic next to Mom & Pop's Grocery. Beer and wine are served, prices range from \$5.95 to \$18.95.

HUNGRY BEAR INN Palmer, 1031 South Bailey Street. Prices on food range from \$1.75 to \$9.95. Homemade bread and pastries, and full meals are served here. A gift shop and pawn shop are on the premises. Rings, scrimshaw ivory, gold nugget jewelry and nuggets right out of the creeks.

HAPPY GREEK Located on Elmwood and Colony in Palmer, open from 11 a.m. til 1 a.m. Homemade Greek and Italian foods are served along with a variety of complete meals.

PIONEER MEAT MARKET AND DELI On Evergreen Street.

ROUNDHOUSE CAFE in the Valley Hotel.

STEVE'S STEAKOUT on Colony Way.

YUKON JACK'S next to Klondike Mikes on Colony Way.

PALMER

SHOPS & SPECIAL SERVICES

PALMER VISITOR & INFORMATION CENTER, MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP The rustic log cabin downtown is open daily 9-5. Items from the Colony era are displayed in the museum downstairs. The staff is of great help with advice and information on day-to-day events in Palmer and the Matanuska Valley.

CAMPER PARK A 100 space camper park in a wooded setting in town. Use the park as a base camp for checking out the town and for exploring the Matanuska Valley.

PALMER TSUNAMI OBSERVATORY About one-half mile from downtown, across the Glenn Highway on the Palmer-Wasilla Highway is the Observatory, which records seismic and tidal information, and is headquarters of the Alaska Regional Tsunami Warning System, and a part of the National Weather Service. Tours for the public are every Friday from 1-3 p.m. If you are part of a large group, call them ahead of time at 745-4212.

CARR'S SHOPPING CENTER A medium sized shopping center now being constructed at the intersection of the Glenn Highway and the Palmer-Wasilla Highway.

KOSLOSKY'S A grocery and meat market, clothing and liquor store, has been operating since 1948 and is located on West Delia Street in downtown Palmer.

MOM & POP'S GROCERY in Palmer on 103 West Arctic, across from the Texaco. A wide variety of grocery needs, for quick food pick ups stop here on your way to Hatcher Pass. Every food you can think of.

DEB'S PHARMACY AND FOUNTAIN in downtown Palmer at 848 South Colony Way.

DEB'S FAMILY STORE Located in downtown Palmer on Delia Street, across from the Co-op. A drugstore, pharmacy, laundromat, lunches are served at Deb's lunch counter. There are magazines, film, gifts, the building used to be the commissary for the 1935 colonists.

PALMER WASH & CLEAN Located in downtown Palmer across from Palmer Arms Apartments, on North Alaska Street. The best in dry cleaning, also a laundromat with over 20 washers and dryers. Showers can be used in the back. Just south of Old Glenn Highway (Arctic).

BIG VALLEY LAUNDRY AND GROCERY Mile 40.5 Old Glenn Highway. Laundromat with 20 washers and dryers, and a variety of grocery needs and conveniences.

CHARLIE BROWN CHEVRON At Evergreen and the Glenn Highway, full maintenance on your vehicle, 3 garages.

PALMER TESORO Intersection of new Glenn Highway and Old Glenn Highway (Arctic), complete auto service, mechanic on duty, camper dump station.

TEXACO Intersection of new Glenn Highway and Old Glenn Highway just east of Pioneer Motel.

LEO'S UNION 6 on South Colony Way.

BENNETT'S HIGHWAY UNION 76 next to Valley Fair Mall, Mile 41, Glenn Highway.

HARRISON AIR TRANSPORT, INC. Palmer airport, sight-seeing trips by air.

VALLEY HOSPITAL at 515 E. Dahlia just east of downtown Palmer, 24 hour emergency care. Follow the arrows. 745-4813.



Cecil Hicks photo

The Old Glenn Highway starts at Arctic Avenue in Palmer, crosses the Matanuska River two miles to the east, and goes through old homesteading country to the Knik River Bridge. Don't pass up a small side trip around the Bodenbug Loop, one of the Valley's most luscious farm areas. It follows the Knik River (and the toe of the Chugach Mountains) to Mile 29.5 of the Glenn Highway. This is an alternate route to Anchorage, about 5 miles longer than the Glenn Highway route.

FROM PALMER SOUTHEAST TO JUNCTION OF GLENN HIGHWAY

- 18.0 A separated path, running on the west side of the Old Glenn Highway all the way from Palmer to the Knik River Bridge. 10 miles of walking, bicycling, jogging, horseback riding, dog sled driving and cross-country skiing trail.
- 17.0 **FIRESIDE RESTAURANT** Authentic Mexican food, bar, with lots of atmosphere, outside deck for summer dining, overlooking the Matanuska River.
- 17.5 **CLARK WOLVERINE ROAD** Eight-mile road on top of bluffs overlooking Matanuska River to the north. Several farms towards the end of the road.
- 16.0 **BUSHES BUNCHES GREENHOUSES** One-half mile up Clark-Wolverine Road. A popular late spring and summer drive for Anchorage residents seeking bedding plants, trees and shrubs.
- 16.0 **LAZY MOUNTAIN TRAIL** A steep hiking trail to the top of Lazy Mountain. Magnificent views of the whole Valley. Turn right 3/4 mile north of the intersection of Old Glenn Highway and Clark-Wolverine Road, then straight up the hill (Huntley Road), turn right into Morgan Horse Equestrian Center parking lot.
- 16.0 **MORGAN HORSE EQUESTRIAN CENTER** An undeveloped horse show area leased to Morgan Horse Association. Parking, cleared grassy areas and picnic benches. This is at the end of Huntley Road and then south to parking area.
- 16.0 **MORGAN HORSE EQUESTRIAN TRAIL** A horseback, hiking and cross country skiing trail leading from the Morgan Horse Equestrian Trail to Rippy Trail (at end of Maud Road) and Burnt Butte Trail (at Plumley Road) six miles to the south. Easy walking in the summer, panoramic views of the Valley.
- 14.5 **RIPPY TRAIL** Five mile horseback riding and hiking trail around southeast shoulder of Lazy Mountain. At east end of Maud Road, follow the old logging road keeping to left at all times. Trail starts at Mile 2 of logging road. Views of Jim Lake, Knik River Valley and Knik Glacier.
- 13.0 **BODENBURG CREEK RED SALMON VIEWING AREA** August 15 - September 15 on east side of Old Glenn Highway. You can see thousands of red salmon just off of the road.
- 11.0 **QUICK STOP, GAS & COFFEE SHOP** Groceries and restaurant at corner of Old Glenn Highway and Plumley Road.
- 11.0 **BURNT BUTTE TRAIL** A long horseback and hiking trail at end of Plumley Road heading north to Burnt Butte with access to numerous other trails leading to Friday Creek (Rippy Trail) and along south slopes of Lazy Mountain to Morgan Horse Equestrian Center on Huntley Road. There is a boggy section on top of Burnt Butte. Do not drive your vehicle up the driveway, walk or ride instead.
- 11.0 **BODENBURG BUTTE TRAIL** One-half mile west on South Bodenbug Loop Road. A short steep trail to the top of a rocky promontory. Interesting rock and plant conditions. Excellent views of Valley.
- 11.0 **JIM CREEK TRAIL SYSTEM** At the end of Plumley Road and then to the south. Provides access to a number of horse, hiking and other trails that lead to the north shore of Knik River and Jim Creek. Heavily wooded dunes and vistas of Knik Glacier and Knik River. Many of the old logging roads are severely rutted by four wheel vehicles, but there is one good horse trail all the way to the dunes and the mouth of Jim Creek.
- 10.0 **DELROI'S BAR** Features ribs and chicken. Open from 11 a.m. till after midnight.
- 9.0 **KNIK RIVER** Boat launching on gravel bars, access to Knik Glacier by water.



HATCHER PASS ROAD

HATCHER PASS This is one of the most popular recreation areas of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. It is accessible to population centers, provides alpine scenery views and a wealth of year-round recreational opportunities, including hiking, cross country skiing, bobsledding and horseback riding.

The Hatcher Pass region of the Talkeetna Mountains was actively mined for gold until the 1940's. The area is dotted with decaying mine buildings.

In 1979 Starkey A. Wilson, a geologist with a long-term interest in Hatcher Pass, donated the lower half of Independence Mine to the State Division of Parks. The 227 acres are now a State Historical Park. The park includes the assay building, several bunkhouses, a tippie and other buildings. The upper portion was retained to be included in a gold operation. Other old mines in the area, including the Fern Mine, are being developed for possible future operations.

Visitors to this veritable ghost town, an hour's drive north of Anchorage, might wonder at the fortitude of men who hauled every scrap of lumber and machinery almost 5,000 feet up the steep mountainside by dog sled in winter or horse-drawn wagon in summer. Presently the only access to the state's newest park is the narrow, winding, unpaved Hatcher Pass Loop Road, impassable part of the winter and during breakup.



HATCHER PASS ROAD

But once at the summit, any explorer to Independence Mine will be rewarded with a breathtaking scenic vista of the rich farming valley below and a sense of majesty only miles of tundra terrain can create, as well as a glimpse of Alaska's old mining past.

Hatcher Pass is a heavy day-use recreation area. Extended stays are also popular. There are several overnight cabins in the area. The Mountaineering Club maintains a cabin in the Mint Glacier area of the Little Susitna drainage. There is also a cabin used by hikers, skiers and snow machiners about one mile north of the Fern Mine. Commercial lodging and restaurants are available at the Independence Lodge and the Little Susitna Roadhouse.

Snow machine use is very high, but is restricted to certain areas to reduce conflict with skiers. Off-road vehicle traffic is at a moderate level.

The Division of Parks has identified Independence Mine as a major statewide historical and recreation resource. Parks is restoring old buildings so that the history of large scale gold mining can be preserved.



HATCHER PASS ROAD

LITTLE SUSITNA ROADHOUSE In the heart of Willow Creek Mining District surrounded by gold mines, the roadhouse serves complete meals along with your favorite wines, beers and liquor. Home style cooking, and Lefsa, a Norwegian specialty. They welcome campers in the parking lot, and there are many pulloffs along the Little Susitna. Four rooms, two cabins with twelve beds at \$17 - \$30 per day. Located in some of the best cross country skiing in the valley. Sledding, hang-gliding, berry picking, hiking trails, gold panning, Rock climbing, alpine flowers, old gold mines, snowmobiling and lots of beautiful scenery.

GOVERNMENT PEAK TRAIL A recently brushed two and a half mile trail starting from the Little Susitna Roadhouse and heading south parallel to and several hundred yards uphill from the road. The trail is not yet well defined for summer use so it is primarily a winter cross country skiing trail.

MINT GLACIER TRAIL (Little Susitna River Trail) The Mint Glacier Trail is a popular eight mile hiking, cross country skiing, horse, dog sled, snow machining and gold panning trail. The last couple of miles are very steep. There is a Mountaineer's Club cabin at the end of the trail, but the steepness deters most from reaching it. The first part of the trail is gentle. The trail begins at the Little Susitna Roadhouse and follows the Little Susitna River for approximately one and one-half miles where it crosses the river to approach the Lonesome Gold Mine. During flooding the river is dangerous to cross. After crossing the river there is one mile to go before reaching the Lonesome Mine. The trail continues up Little Susitna River to its source at the Mint Glacier.

FERN MINE TRAIL This is a four-mile road running from the junction of Hatcher Pass Road and Fern Mine Road to Fern Mine.

In the winter the road is used for cross country skiing and for high school and Nordic Ski Team practice. In the summer it provides access to the Reed Lake-Snowbird Mine trailhead.

REED LAKE-SNOWBIRD MINE TRAIL The Reed Lake-Snowbird Mine Trail turns right 2.5 miles north along the Fern Mine Road. It is just beyond the historic Archangel Creek. This trail is popular among mountaineers but families with children can handle it.

Snowbird Mine is about a half mile down the trail, and Upper Reed Lake is three miles from there. Cross country skiing is good to the mine. There is a side trip to the northwest up the valley of Glacier Creek. Shortly after leaving Snowbird Mine there is a place where the bridge has washed out across the creek, so it is necessary to engage in boulder hopping across large boulders. From there it is a steep climb on a switch back and again there is a boulder field, followed by a grassy meadow with Reed Creek going through the meadow. This is a grassy area with huge boulders and is quite scenic.

Lower Reed Lake at an elevation of 3,750 feet is a heart-shaped turquoise lake with gently sloping meadows on the sides, it is a good place for camping and for children to play. Upstream you can see the waterfalls from Upper Reed Lake falling into the river and entering the Lower Reed Lake. The granite spires around this meadow are as high as 6,536 feet.

HATCHER PASS LODGE Take turn to right at Mile 17 of the Hatcher Pass Road. The lodge can be reached by car in winter or summer, and is open from October to April. Excellent views. Some of the best cross country skiing in Alaska is located here at 3,000 feet. Fifteen kilometers of machine-groomed trails connect historic and scenic points of interest. Miles of wilderness trails and guided tours to historic mining camps. One mile below Independence Mine State Historic Park, restaurant and lounge and a relaxing sauna over the creek. For \$5 a night you can bunk on the floor of the lodge, and tents may be pitched on the tundra landscape anywhere in the alpine valley. Tenters may use restrooms at lodge.



Little Susitna Road House

INDEPENDENCE MINE STATE HISTORIC PARK Again take turn to right at Mile 17. This historic ghost camp is a living museum of Alaska's gold mining past. Sprawled over the 227 acre park are the buildings and machinery of a 300 man camp and hardrock goldmine operation.

Visitors are invited to walk through the area and see and connect historic and scenic points of interest. Miles of Rainbow trout, lets you picnic or launch your boat for your enjoyment. office has been converted into a museum. There are no campsites or picnic areas available in the park. Sanitary facilities are available at the visitor's center. This is an excellent starting point for backpacking trips into the Talkeetna Mountains.

FROM PALMER EAST

- 49.5 **PALMER-FISHHOOK ROAD** An access to the Independence Mine State Park, Hatcher Pass and Willow Creek mining country and Valley farm scenes. (See page 10).
- 53.1 **BUFFALO MINE ROAD** A scenic road through high country to old coal mines, one of which, the Buffalo Mine, still mines coal for home use. Trails take off from the road at various points. Access to fishing in Wishbone Lake for Rainbow trout.
- 54.5 **MOOSE CREEK WAYSIDE** 5 miles north of Palmer, it is a pleasant and convenient camping spot. Fossils and petrified wood can be found upstream in the creek bed. Fishing for Dolly Varden and Rainbow trout.
- 60.5 **HILLTOP TESORO** A gas station and gift shop, candy, pop, chips, Tesoro gas., gold nugget jewelry, a variety of scrimshaw, packaged sandwiches and free coffee. (And a large dumpster for your convenience!)
- 61.0 **ALPINE GENERAL STORE** Since 1955. Everything from groceries, hunting and fishing licenses, laundromat, local arts, gifts, scrimshaw.
- 61.0 **THE EATERY** In the same building as the Alpine General Store. From pizza to doughnuts, all homemade and baked goods, pies, doughnuts. Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week.
- 61.0 **JONESVILLE MINE ROAD-SEVENTEEN MILE LAKE** Old coal mining area. Turn north off Glenn Highway at Mile 60.9 at the community of Sutton near the Alpine General Store onto paved road, and proceed 1.6 miles to where road forks. Take right fork and continue 2.1 miles where road again forks. Take left fork and go 0.2 miles to Seventeen Mile Lake. The road between the sanitary fill and the lake is currently very rough. Summer use only. Undeveloped access to lake within Seventeen Mile Estates.
- 61.5 **DEBBIE'S ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES** Antiques and gifts. Also a lot of information about local area history. Alaska Museum pieces. Open May 1 til September 30.
- 62.5 **GRANITE CREEK** Fishing for Dolly Varden and Rainbow trout.
- 64.1 **GRANITE CREEK RANCH YOUTH HOSTEL** One of the newest hostels, located at Sutton. A good place to stop, sleep, eat and get cleaned up.
- 66.7 **KING'S RIVER** A picnic and hiking area where King's River joins the Matanuska River. This is an entrance to a leg of the historic Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina Trail. Now a four wheel drive road along the north side of King's River. Fishing for Rainbow trout.
- 71.8 **PERMANENTI TRAILHEAD** 15 miles to Castle Mountain. 4 miles of very difficult four wheel drive road to King's River. Castle Mountain is pure limestone. The road was built in the 1960's by Kaiser Gypsum (Permanenti) to obtain access to this limestone area for exploration.
- 76.0 **KING MOUNTAIN WAYSIDE** A convenient overnight stop with an excellent view of King Mountain and the fast moving glacier-fed Matanuska River. Heavily timbered with spruce. Picnicking, and sanitary facilities, as well as firewood are provided. The river is extremely dangerous during high water.



GLENN HIGHWAY



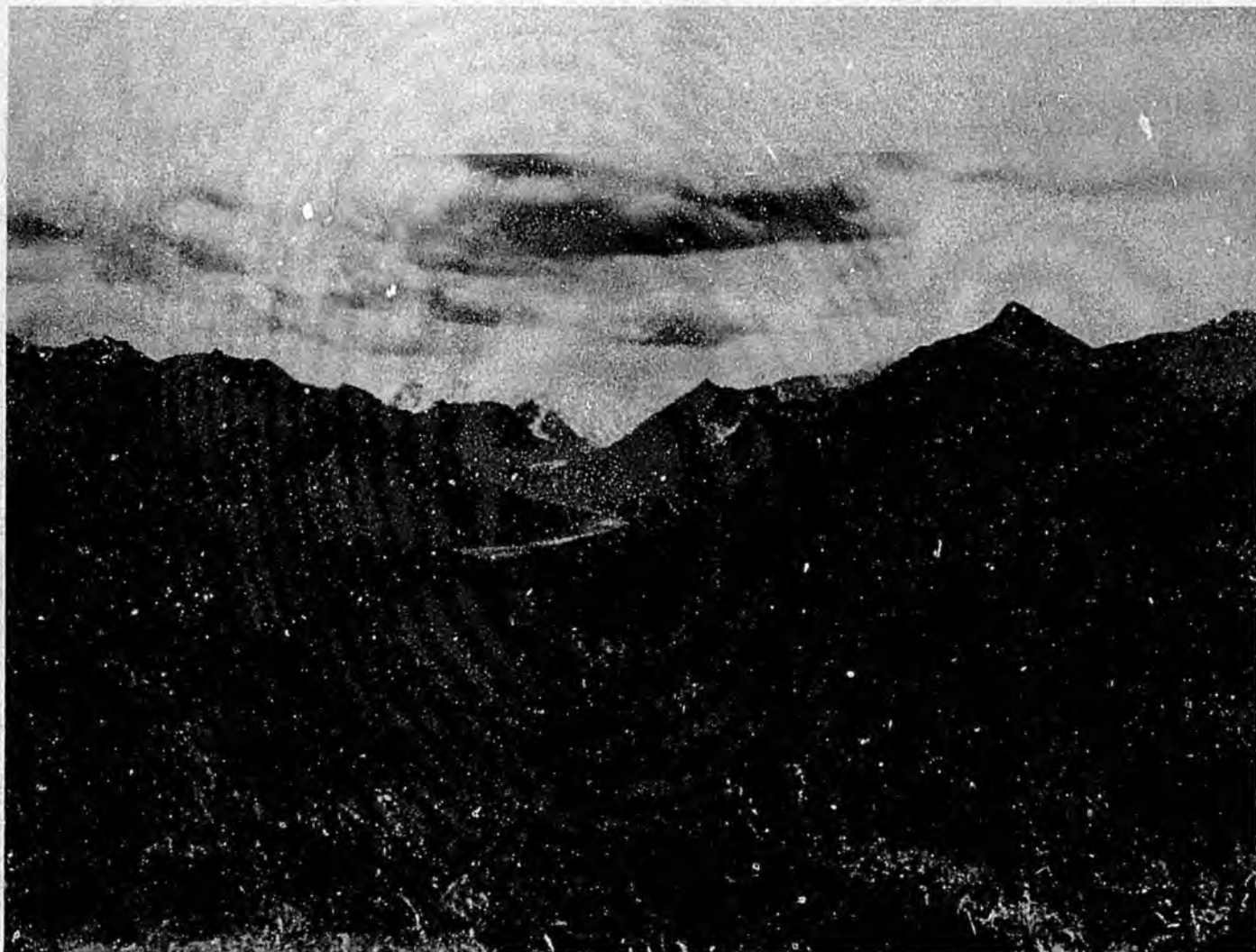
King Mountain Lodge

76.5 KING MOUNTAIN LODGE Since 1952. Within easy walking distance from King Mountain Wayside. Seven cabins, 5 motel rooms, phone, bathrooms, ten camper plug-in spaces along the Matanuska River. River-rafting, hunting, fishing, skiing, rock climbing, horseback riding, fossil hunting. A restaurant specializes in homemade baked goods, open 6 to midnight in summer, and 6 to 10 p.m. in winter. Liquor is sold in a bar off the restaurant.

77.0 CHICKALOON GENERAL STORE & SERVICE STATION Since 1963. Located at Chickaloon, Alaska. Alaskan handmade gifts including woodcrafts, ivory, painted gold pans. All items sold are made in Alaska by Alaskans. Regular, unleaded gas and diesel, propane, fuel oil, bathrooms, water, laundromat, dump station, service station, 24 hour wrecker service. King Mountain Lodge next door, also King Mountain State Wayside campground. Good area for rockhounds, fossil hunters, hikers, good hunting.

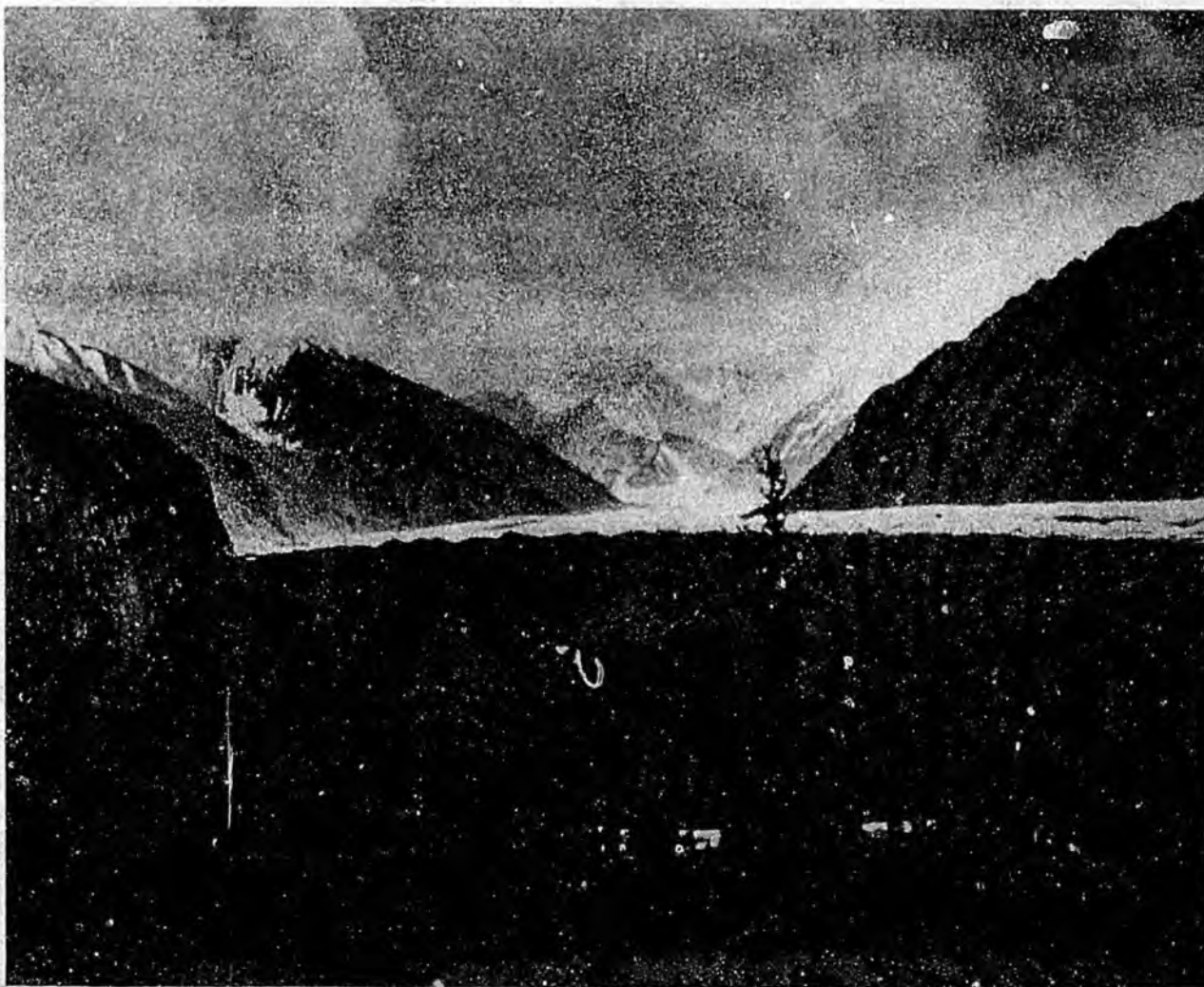
77.6 RIVER RAFTING Several river trips on the Matanuska River from here. Nova River Runners operates a one-day trip suitable for all ages, starting at Chickaloon Station, 30 miles northeast of Palmer. Lionshead Whitewater and Chickaloon Heli-Rafting. Nova operates daily from May 15 to September 15. Call 694-3750 or write Box 440, Eagle River, Alaska 99577.

Wrangell Mountains from Mile 120



- 77.7 **CHICKALOON RIVER ROAD AND TRAIL** Historical entrance to Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina and good fishing for Dolly Varden.
- 78.3 **COAL RIVER CANYON VIEWPOINT** Scenic overlook of Matanuska River and Coal Creek Canyon.
- 82.0 **BONNIE LAKE WAYSIDE** Bonnie Lake is nestled in a valley one-half mile north of the Glenn Highway. The road to this site is unpaved, steep and winding. The lake is stocked annually and offers excellent fishing for Rainbow trout, Silver Salmon and Grayling. Boating and canoeing, but use boat launch with caution.
- 83.3 **RAVINE LAKE** go north of highway for Rainbow trout and Grayling fishing in Ravine and Bonnie Lakes.
- 84.2 **SCENIC VIEW** Pullout on south side of highway. Scenic vista of Chugach Mountains and Matanuska River.
- 84.7 **SCENIC VISTA** Pullout on south side of highway. Scenic vista of Matanuska River framed by Chugach Mountains. Very beautiful.
- 85.3 **LONG LAKE WAYSIDE** 38 miles north of Palmer on Glenn Highway, sits on the eastern edge of the Talkeetna Mountains. The clear blue lake is about a mile long, one-quarter mile wide and very deep. Grayling fishing in early summer. Berry picking, hiking and wildlife viewing. Easy trails for all ages.
- 87.8 **WIENER LAKE PULLOUT** Grayling fishing and picnic spot.
- 88.7 **COAL SEAMS PULLOUT** This is a pullout on south side of highway to provide parking for viewing of coal seams or collecting coal next to highway.
- 89.2 **PURINGTON CREEK ACCESS OF CHICKALOON-KNIK-NELCHINA TRAIL SYSTEM** Pullout on north side of highway next to Purington Creek serves as a trailhead. Used by hikers and hunters throughout the year.
- 91.1 **CONGLOMERATE CREEK TRAIL** Trailhead on south side of highway for Conglomerate Creek Trail. Used by fossil collectors.
- 96.4 **HICKS CREEK TRAIL** Pullout on south side of highway serves as trailhead for Hicks Creek Trail north to Index Lake.
- 99.3 **PINOCLE CREEK TRAILHEAD** Pullout on north side of highway served as a trailhead for Pinocle Creek Trail. The Pinocle Creek Trail leads to Hicks Creek and then to the historic Knik-Chickaloon Trail (Caribou Creek segment.)
- 100.0 **MATANUSKA GLACIER WAYSIDE** This scenic overlook on the Glenn Highway provides a panoramic view of the Matanuska Glacier and surrounding Chugach Mountains. The site is wooded with rolling terrain. As a result of the 1964 earthquake, the cliff overlooking the glacier has become unstable and dangerous. Do not approach the edge, nor attempt to follow the trail along the top of the bluff. Camping and sanitary facilities and firewood are available. There is another overlook at Mile 101.6

Matanuska Glacier





GLENN HIGHWAY

One of the few glaciers you can drive to and explore on foot, it is 27 miles long and averages two miles in width. At the base, it is about four miles wide. The glacier originates in the Chugach Mountains at an elevation of 13,000 feet. Fossils, stones, earth, seeds, and plants which have been preserved for centuries have been left behind as the glacier recedes. It once extended all the way to the Palmer area, probably about 18,000 years ago. Evidence shows that the glacier has remained fairly stable, varying approximately 1,000 feet over the past 4000 years.

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- 101.0 **MATANUSKA GLACIER PARK RESORT** Access to this spectacular, 27-mile glacier is through private ~~Matanuska~~ Glacier Park Resort. Picnic area, campgrounds, a store, service station and restaurant. *LODGE ROOMS 100. 1000 up*
- 102.2 **LONG RIFLE LODGE** Situated in the valley between the Talkeetna and Chugach Range overlooking the Matanuska Glacier. There are three rooms here, \$25 single, \$35 double. Beer and wine is served. Visitors can enjoy berry picking along with hiking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and beautiful wild flowers.
- 106.1 **CARIBOU CREEK HILL SCENIC VISTA** Pullout on south side of highway at top of Caribou Creek Hill for scenic vista and sheep viewing area.
- 107.0 **CARIBOU CREEK TRAIL ACCESS** Vehicle access past highway barriers to Caribou Creek Trail on north side of highway.
- 107.9 **GLACIER-SHEEP VIEWING VISTA** Pullout on south side of highway for sheep viewing area and as scenic overlook of Matanuska Glacier.
- 108.5 **MATANUSKA GLACIER VISTA** Pullout on south side of highway. Many people stop in late summer to pick berries.
- 113.5 **SHEEP MOUNTAIN LODGE** Has operated since the mid-1940's. Great stop for sheep pictures on the mountains behind. Noted for its flowers along the highway. There are 3 motel units and 5 cabins, \$35 per day. There are camper facilities, and an area for tent camping. On some days there is Polka dancing and every other weekend music. Some groceries (snacks) can be obtained along with liquor in a bar or store. A restaurant specializes in sourdough pancakes, homemade chili, rolls and family style meals. A gift shop is included where there is jewelry, ceramics, porcupine quill necklaces, earrings, gold pan paintings, ivory, Sheep Mountain T-shirts. Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, mountain climbing, fossil hunting, sheep observation. Some fossil hunts are guided along with photography trips. This is a very popular cross-country skiing area with 20 km of groomed trails.
- 117.6 **SQUAW CREEK TRAIL** ascends to the north to Gunsight Mountain.

- 120.0 **LAKE LEILA -WRANGELL MOUNTAINS SCENIC VISTA** Overlook of Lake Leila and scenic view of Wrangell Mountains. Good Burbot and Grayling fishing.
- 122.0 **SNOWMACHINERS ACCESS** Access to old road loop. Used for winter parking for snowmobilers.
- 123.0 **GUNSIGHT MOUNTAIN LODGE** Open 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Complete meals are served; homemade soups. Services include liquor store, wrecker service, guiding, garage repairs, snowmachine sales and repair. Seven rooms rent out for \$12 per night per person.
- 123.2 **TAHNETA INN** Located in prime hunting grounds for caribou, grizzly bear, sheep and good fishing. A cafe is open at 6 a.m. to serve you complete meals; gas station open from 6 a.m. til 2 a.m. with 24 hour wrecker service. Rooms rent for \$34 per night per person, camping is available nearby. A bar is open from 9 a.m. till after midnight.
- 123.3 **BELANGER PASS TRAIL** Access to Squaw Creek Trail and Startup Lake.
- 126.4 **NELCHINA RIVER TRAILHEAD** Heads southwest off the highway to Goober Lake and over a ridge to the Nelchina Glacier and River.
- 128.0 **EUREKA LODGE** Since 1936. Six motel "bunkrooms" with 4-5 beds per room, each with private bathrooms, and overnight parking by Eureka Lake. Union gas and diesel. Bar and a complete liquor store. Restaurant with complete meals. Owner Hal Fimpel takes especial pride in the pies and soups saying "We make 100 pies a week at least". A gift shop that makes gold nugget jewelry from the creeks in the hills behind the lodge, also scrimshaw and ivory pendants, along with Alaskan souvenirs. The Nelchina Gold District extends from this area. Activities include snowmachining, skiing, fishing, hunting, guided hunts and air taxi service.
- 129.4 **OLD ROAD COMMISSION ROAD** Pullout on north side of highway is a trailhead to Old Road Commission Road (goes to Strelsha Ridge).
- 130.3 **OLD MAN CREEK TRAILHEAD** Pullout on north side of highway is a trailhead for Old Man Creek Trail. This trail receives much winter use and is sometimes used for access to placer mining area around old Nelchina Townsite.
- 136.9 **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH** boundary.
- 138.0 **LITTLE NELCHINA WAYSIDE** On the Glenn Highway is a convenient rest area and overnight stop for highway travelers, as well as an access point for moose and sheep hunters during season.



LAKE LOUISE ROAD

Junction at Mile 159.8 Glenn Highway

LOON LANDING CAMPGROUND A campground on a gravel road 18 miles from the Glenn Highway. Popular with hunters and fishermen. An access point to Lake Louise, adjoining lakes and streams. Lake trout and Grayling.

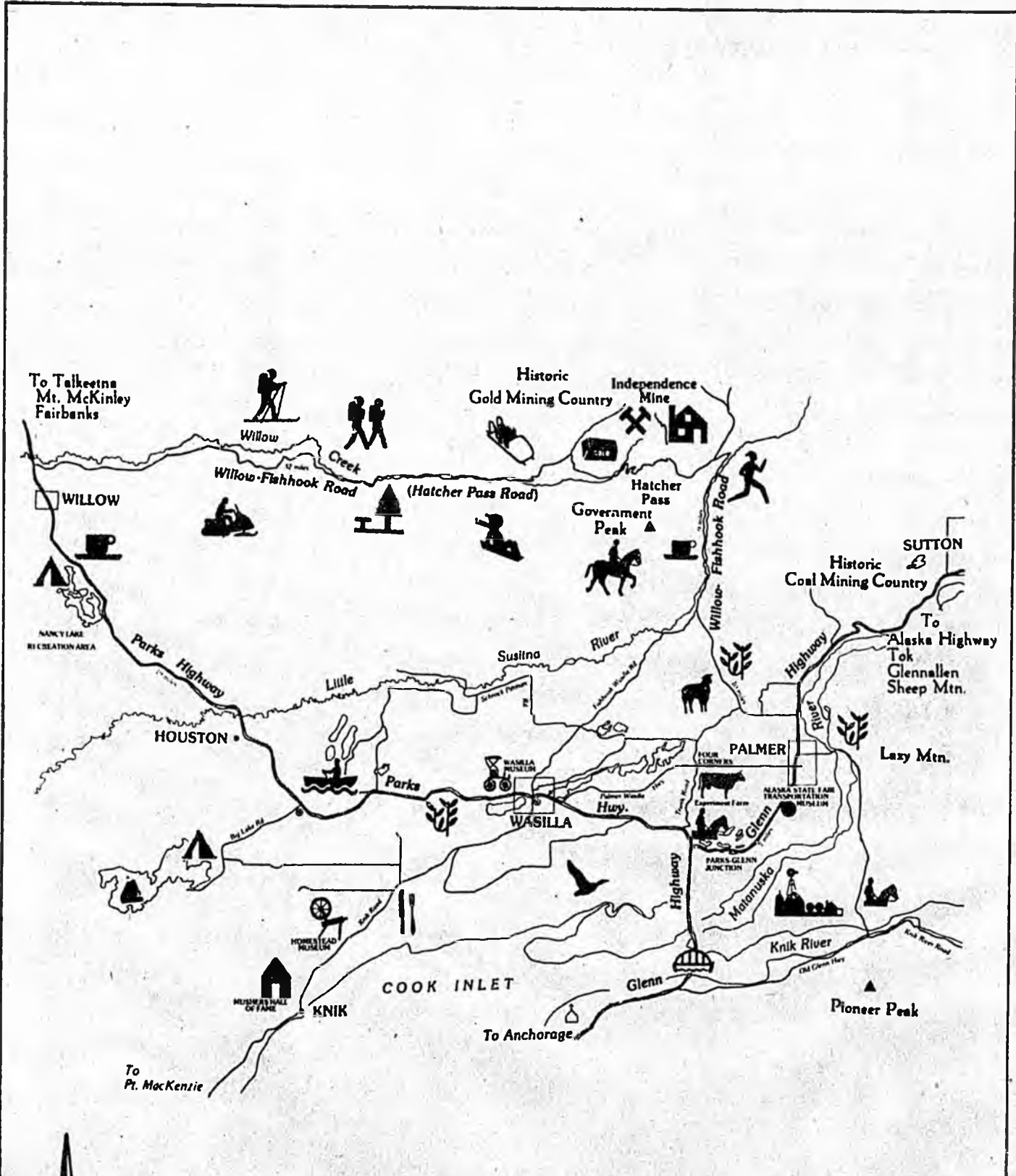
LAKE LOUISE LODGE Built in 1951, on Lake Louise, 19.3 miles north of Mile 160 of the Glenn Highway. The main lodge overlooks the lake. Cafe opens at 8 a.m., three cabins rent for \$22 per night and each sleeps four, no indoor plumbing. Fishing is great, snowmobiling, ice fishing, skiing, hunting. Specialties include a Lake Louise Luncheon with ham, roast beef, and homemade horseradish sauce.

EVERGREEN LODGE On Lake Louise. Ten kilometers of cross-country skiing, groomed trails. Meals are served family style, with prime rib, homemade bread and dessert. Rooms run from \$50 per night, including 3 meals. A night in the bunkhouse is \$15 and includes food. Sunday brunch features sourdough pancakes and champagne. For reservations call 345-1160.

WOLVERINE LODGE Located off Lake Louise with access to the lake. Eight rooms in the lodge. Kitchen opens from 6 a.m. til 11 p.m. The bar opens at 8 a.m. Menu includes steak dinners, seafood platter, chicken dinner and hamburgers. Good fishing and hunting in the area.

Lake Louise Lodge





Central Matanuska-Susitna Valley



The Mapmakers



PARKS HIGHWAY TO WASILLA

35.1 PARKS HIGHWAY Once called the Anchorage-Fairbanks Highway, this road connects Alaska's two largest cities, Anchorage and Fairbanks. Northbound on the Glenn Highway, the Parks Highway leads off to the left about 35 miles from

Anchorage.

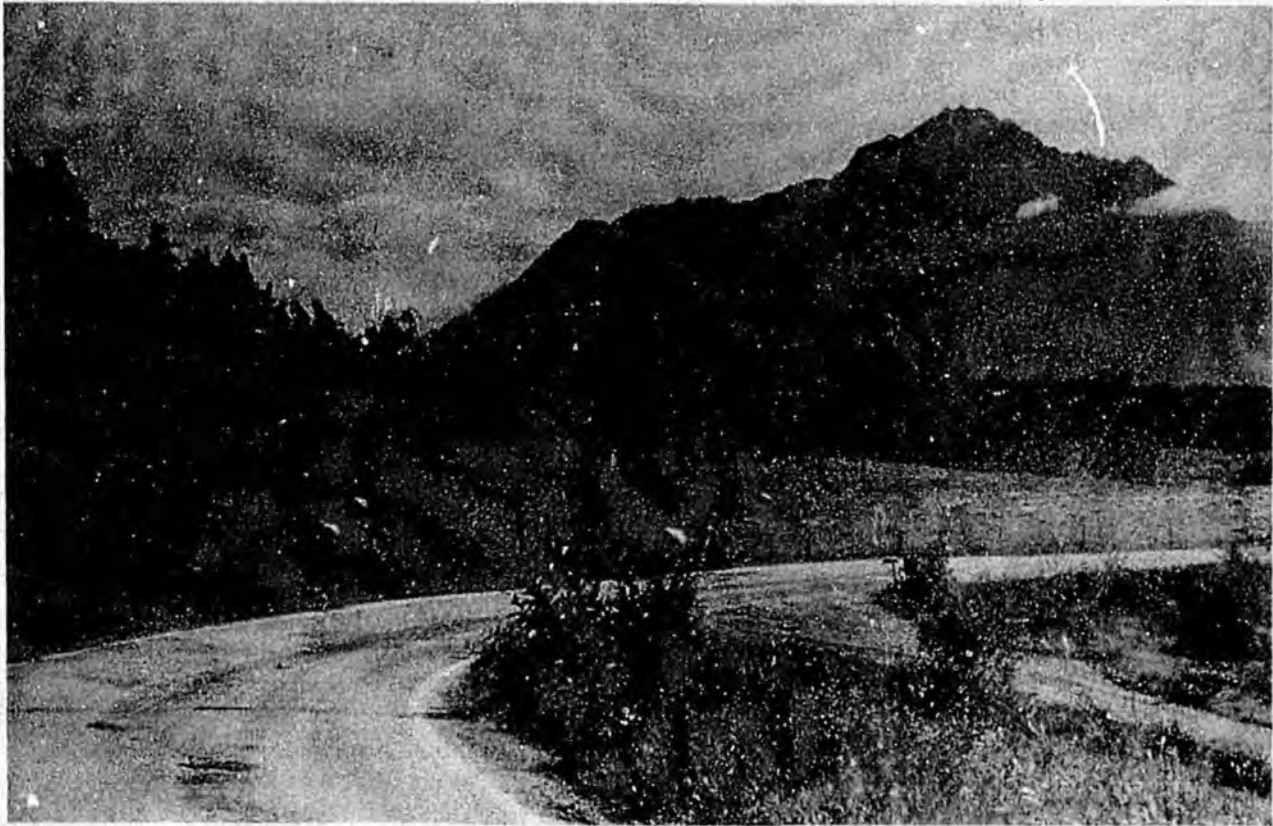
36.5 VALLEY FARM MARKET "We sell locally grown vegetables." Turn right after Farm Market to Trunk Road Mile 36.5

TRUNK ROAD SIDE TRIP

MATANUSKA GUEST RANCH & RIDING STABLE AND MATANUSKA LAKE PARK (campground) In operation for 15 years on Trunk Road, near Glenn and Parks Highway junction. Horseback rides and pony rides every day during June-July-August, and on weekends April-May and September-October. Fourteen lakes, including Kepler-Bradley Lake State Park lakes, within 1 and 1/2 hour walk from campground. Campground and camper park located on lake frontage. Guest ranch for ages 8 to 15, bunk houses, toilets and showers. Meals are available for children and guests. Camping facilities include electric hook-ups, drinking water and port-a-cans. Enjoy swimming, boating, hiking, horseback riding and

fishing for Rainbow trout. Seventeen camper and motor-home spaces, no sewer hook-up. Fruit stand and curio shop with nic-nacs sold near by. Families are encouraged to come and visit.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA EXPERIMENT STATION Established in 1917 on Trunk Road, the Station has guided tours from June 1 to September 1, seven days a week. For appointment call 745-3257. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. A great place to take photographs of Alaskan vegetables and flowers. The Alaska Experiment Station has tested and developed numerous crops for Alaskan and subarctic growing conditions. It is also a center for dairy farm testing and development.



37.0 ARCHIE'S DRIVE-IN For 10 years Archie's has featured shakes and cheeseburgers. Always popular.

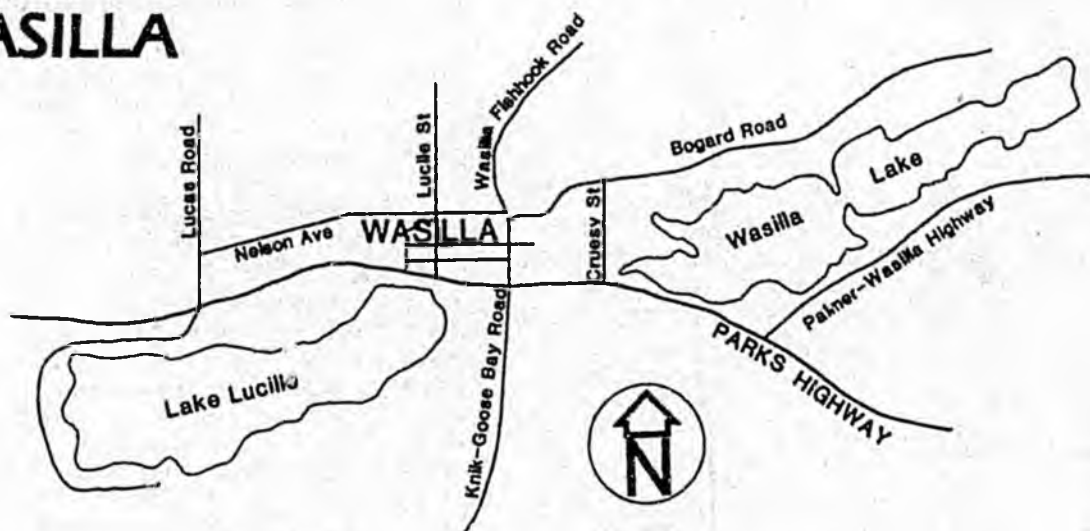
37.0 JACKSONS A full family restaurant specializing in barbecued foods.

38.0 G & G QUICK STORE Since 1980. Grocery, gas and liquor store for party needs.

39.4 GREEN RIDGE CAMPER PARK 35 hook-ups, dump station, showers, washers and dryers.

40.0 WINDBREAK RESTAURANT Daily specials, compatible prices for complete meals, open 7 days a week, 6 a.m. to midnight.

WASILLA



Wasilla, population 3,000 and growing fast, is 42 miles from Anchorage. The center of town is concentrated between Wasilla Lake and Lake Lucille, both popular recreation spots.

The community got its start around 1917 with the development of the Alaska Railroad, when Wasilla became the supply center for the Willow Creek Mining District and the local farms. During the heyday of the Gold Card, Mable, Fern, Independence, Lucky Shot and War Baby mines, gold worth many millions of dollars was extracted. Recently, the lure of the precious metal has rekindled a flurry of new mining activity.

Wasilla today supplies its residents and visitors with services and conveniences expected of any modern town — campgrounds, stores, shopping malls, post office, restaurants and a movie theater.

THINGS TO DO

Stop by the Museum & Visitor Center. A log structure, on Main Street just off the Highway, it was built in 1931 and became the center for social functions, such as dances, theatricals, political meetings, weddings, funerals, basketball games and other community activities. Since its restoration in 1967 as a contribution to Alaska's centennial celebration, the building has served as museum and visitor center, and contains and preserves the history of Wasilla and the surrounding area.

See Frontier Village behind the museum. This little village includes Wasilla's first school, the first public bath in town, two different styles of log cabins, a smoke house and a smithy. The Wasilla-Knik-Willow Creek Historical Society, a non-profit corporation, operates the museum and the village, as well as the Knik Museum and Musers Hall of Fame at Knik. The facilities are supported by volunteer donations and a \$1.00 admission charge.

Participate in the Wasilla Water Festival or the Iditarod Winter Carnival. Both are annual events organized by the Wasilla Chamber of Commerce. The Water Festival in July centers on water-oriented sports and activities on Lake Wasilla. The Iditarod Winter Carnival is held the first weekend in March, to cheer on the mushers and their teams taking off toward Nome on the Iditarod Trail. Shuttle bus service to the restart-point at Settlers Bay is provided, many winter-oriented activities are going on in town, as well as a trade fair and Monte Carlo Night.

Go fishing, boating or have a picnic. Wasilla Lake has a picnic spot and roped-off swimming area right next to the Parks Highway. Launch your boat and fish for Rainbow trout or silver salmon. In the winter, the lake is popular for ice-sailing and ice-fishing. Lake Lucille also has good Silver salmon fishing. Other lakes in the vicinity are Reed, Memory, and Seymour Lakes. Canoeing and fishing are also popular at the Little Susitna River — driving north on Main Street to Wasilla-Fishhook Road, left on Schrock Road at Mile 3, to the end of paved road. Old homesteader roads are north of the river.

LODGING & DINING

COUNTRY KITCHEN Has served the area in the Wasilla Shopping Center with a variety of foods, and specializes in some French and Italian cooking. Open 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., 7 days a week.

THE DELI For the last 6 years the Deli has served special sandwiches from all over the world and a wide variety of sliced meats and cheeses. Located in the Wasilla Business Park mall, bake their own pies, bread, and rolls. A good place to eat breakfast, lunch or dinner. Open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. 7 days a week.

ESXIMOTEL & KASHIM ROOM has 34 modern rooms with rates at \$45 single, \$50 double. Good dining in the Kashim room, open 24 hours, 7 days a week. A buffet lunch is served daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Kashim Bar is open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

FARINA'S EPICUREAN PARLOUR in the north part of town, serve hot dogs, hamburgers, tacos and ice cream.

HALLEA LODGE on Lake Lucille on Lucille Lane at Mile 43.5 Parks Highway across the railroad tracks. Bar, picnic area, boat launch, camper park.

THE HEALTH FOOD SHOPPE For the past 8 years has been feeding natural food customers in the Wasilla Shopping Center. They sell everything from vitamins to yogurt, and have a natural foods snack bar.

HUPPIE'S ROADHOUSE One of Wasilla's liveliest night spots, bar and live music.

IDITAROD DON'S CAFE in the Wasilla Shopping Center, lives up to its name. Anything you want to know about "The Last Great Race," the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, you can find out here. While you're eating Don's fine foods, you can enjoy a gallery of race photographs. Hours are from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. The only cafe of its kind in Alaska.

KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN in the Wasilla Shopping Center serves "Finger Licken Good" chicken, fish, shrimp and clams from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week.

PANCHO VILLAGE in the B&J Shopping Center. Mexican food and steaks. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

PEKING CHINESE RESTAURANT downstairs in Huppie's Roadhouse in Wasilla serves authentic Peking, Szechuan and Cantonese food. Features luncheon specials during the week, and take-out orders.

PIZZA NAPOLITANA in the Wasilla Shopping Center. Not only do they serve a variety of delicious pizzas, they also have "create-a-diet" pizza, and offer wine and beer.

NEW RESTAURANTS In fast-growing Wasilla, new places open for business month by month. Keep your eyes open as you drive along the widened and beautiful Parks Highway.

SERVICE STATIONS

COTTLE'S FUEL SERVICE Texaco gas and oil, minor repairs, propane, heating oil and diesel fuel.

H & H SERVICE Tesoro products, propane, minor repairs, and tool rental.

RON'S CHEVRON Auto and aviation gas, auto and motorcycle repair, 24-hour wrecker service.

WASILLA CHEVRON In operation since 1971, they have Chevron gas, diesel, full service and automotive repairs, complete maintenance. Atlas and Sonic tires, batteries and accessories. Gary Weber, owner and operator.

SHOPS & SPECIAL SERVICES

ALASKA SUSITNA AGENCY/SUSITNA STUDIO Professional photography service and store. Owner-operator Jim Laughlin can supply most of your photographic needs, from film developing to portrait work. The past 8 years Susitna Studio has been located in the Wasilla Shopping Center and serves most of the Matanuska-Susitna Valley.

CARR'S SHOPPING CENTER Groceries, hardware and miscellaneous other stores.

CHARLIE'S SEAFOODS A wide variety of fresh and processed seafoods, including delicious smoked salmon.

CHIEF WASILLA'S GIFTS off Railroad Avenue has a unique selection of Alaskan gifts and souvenirs.

D & A SUPER in the Wasilla Shopping Center. Full line of groceries, dairy products and produce.

HERITAGE STORE in the Wasilla Museum, operated by the Wasilla-Knik-Willow Creek Historical Society offers a wide variety of locally created items.

IDITAROD TRAIL COMMITTEE, INC. Upstairs in Teeland's Country Store at the traffic light. The Committee organizes the annual Anchorage-to-Nome 1,049 mile sled dog race. Their headquarters here is staffed 5 days a week, from 9 to 5. Information about the race is enthusiastically dispensed. Iditarod memorabilia sales items can be purchased, and many photographs and other displays await your viewing.

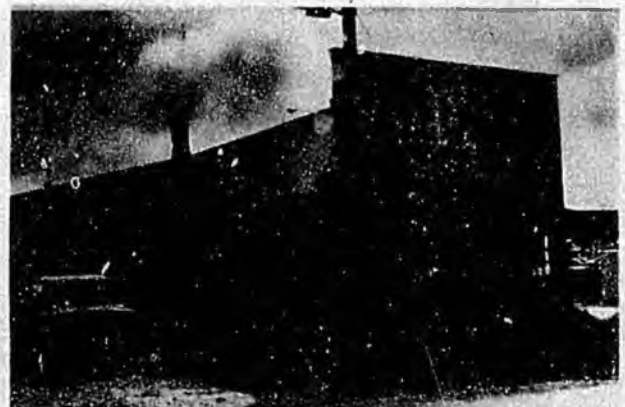
IVORY WORKSHOP AND SLUICE BOX just before the traffic light on the Parks Highway. An all-Alaska workshop that specializes in handmade ivory gifts, scrimshaw, carvings, jewelry and Alaskan coral. The Sluice Box has been in operation since 1979, and turns gold nuggets into watch bands, rings and pendants. It houses a pawn shop, and sells metal detectors.

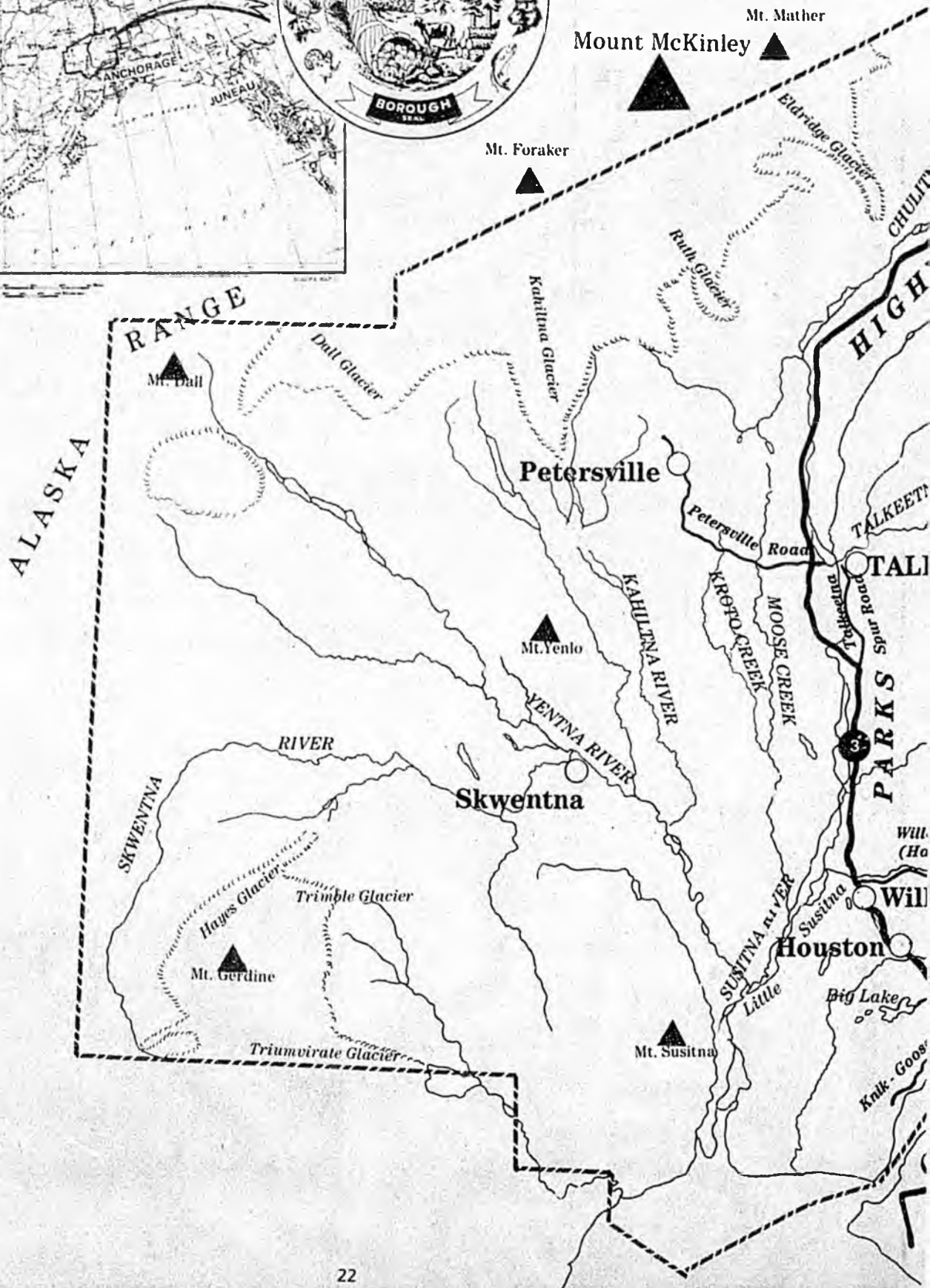
SPEEDIE GENERAL STORE Groceries, hardware, electrical, tools and plumbing supplies.

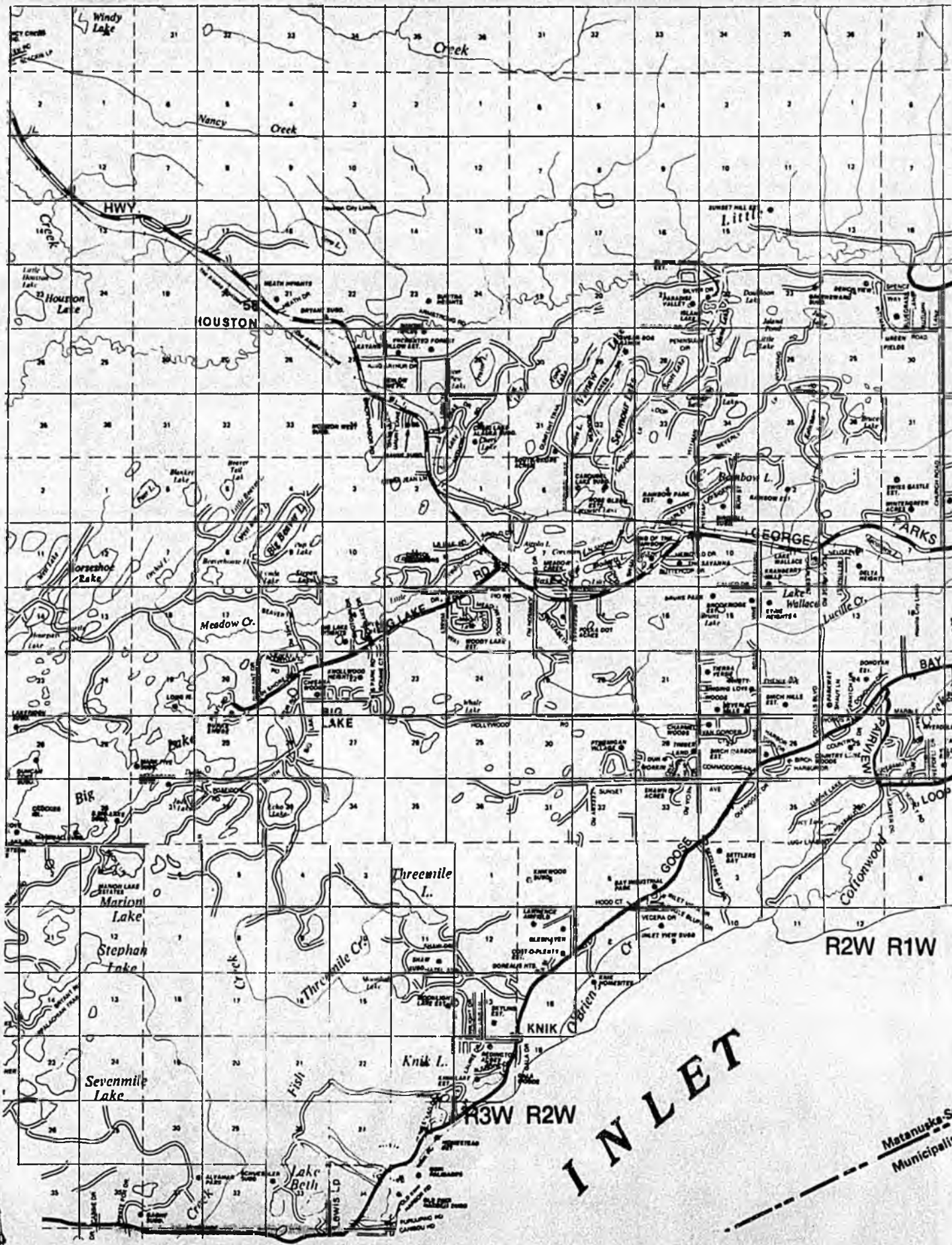
TEELAND'S COUNTRY STORE AND MOONSHINE SHOP has operated for nearly 80 years and is located at the traffic light at the intersection of the Parks Highway and Main Street. The store building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Some antiques and photographs are on permanent display. Teeland's is a general merchandise store with groceries, quick snacks and food, beer, liquor and wine. Upstairs is headquarters for the Iditarod Trail Committee, Inc.

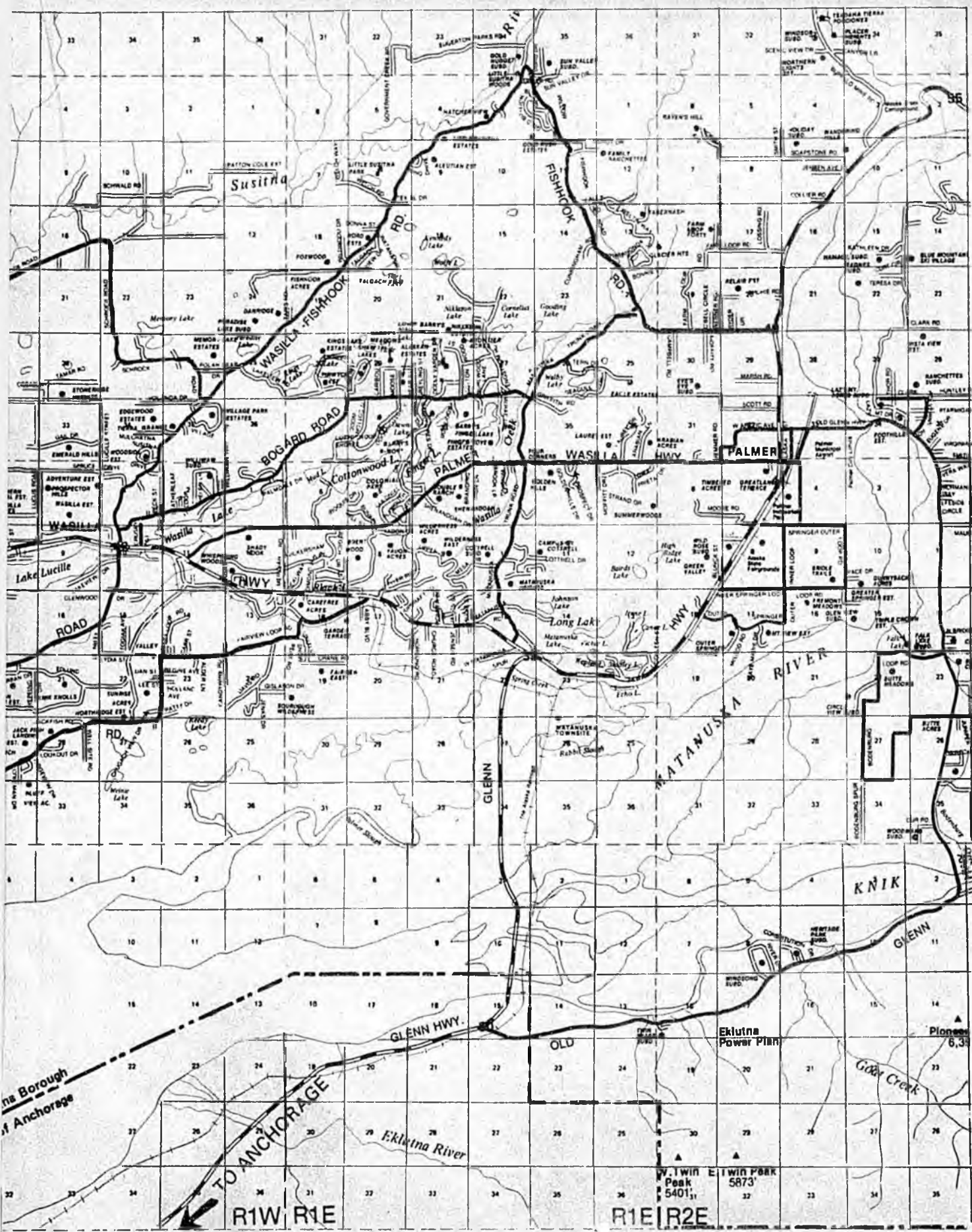
VIOLET'S DELL in the Land Company Building offers many Alaskan gifts and souvenirs.

WASILLA SHOPPING CENTER includes super market, health food store, restaurants, fabric shop, beauty shop, etc.



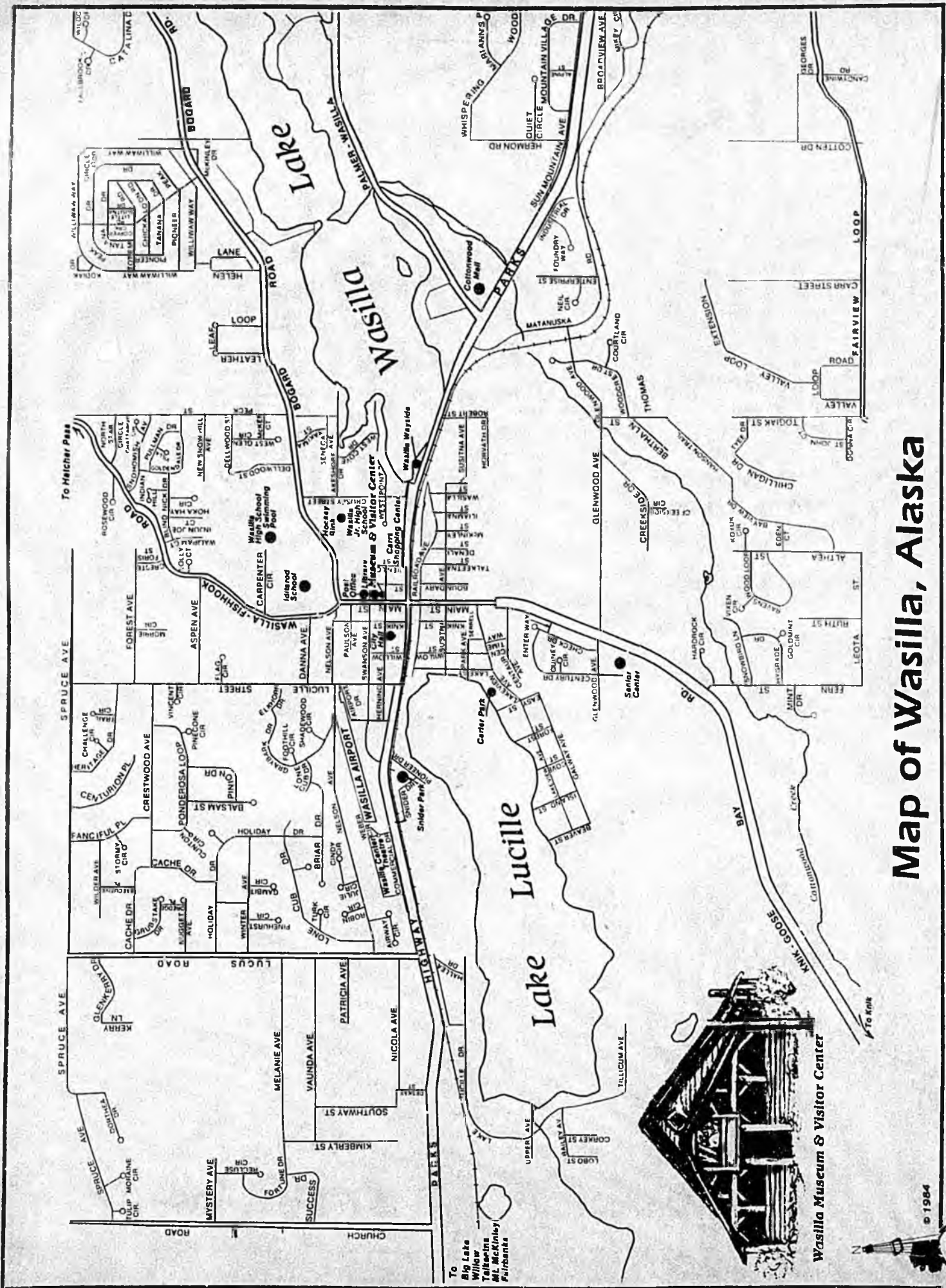




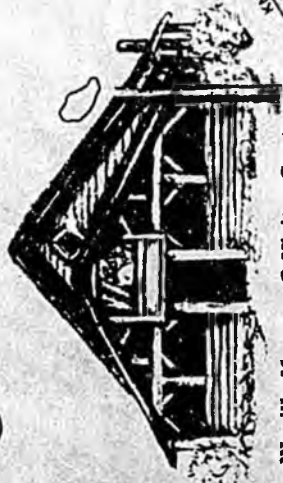


MATANUSKA-SUSITNA VALLEY

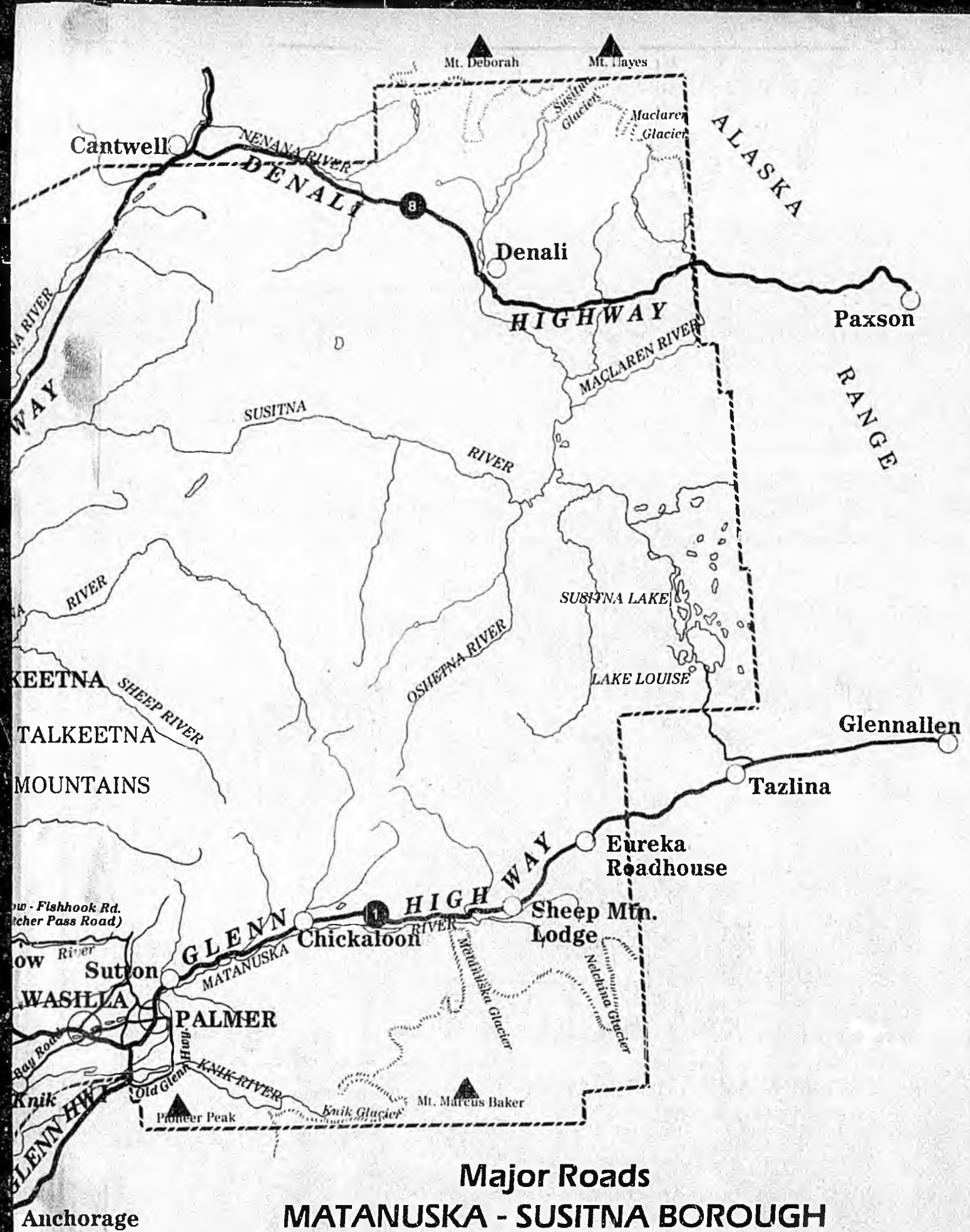
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Map of Wasilla, Alaska



Wasilla Museum & Visitor Center



**Major Roads
MATANUSKA - SUSITNA BOROUGH**

Sidetrip from Wasilla

BOGARD ROAD

MAT-SU RESORT On beautiful Lake Wasilla overlooking the majestic Chugach Mountains. Open 7 days a week, gracious dining with dancing in the upstairs lounge. Covered picnic facilities for 600 people make this a favorite gathering place for those summer get-togethers. During the winter, hayrides are offered on Friday and Saturday nights and on Sunday afternoons. 24 motel units and cabins also available.

BARRY'S RESORT Off Bogard Road on Finger Lake, since 1962. The resort building is historical. It once served as the railroad depot at Matanuska, a townsite that was established

in the early 1900's but no longer in existence. The resort serves complete meals. The restaurant and bar are open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Alaskan oil paintings contribute to the unique atmosphere.

FINGER LAKE WAYSIDE On Bogard Road, six miles from Palmer. A popular site for water-oriented recreation. Fishing, boating, canoeing and sailing, camping, picnicking and sanitary facilities as well as a gravel boat launching ramp and floating dock facilities are available.



PALMER-WASILLA HIGHWAY

GREEN ACRES BAR & RESORT For 30 years on Lake Wasilla near the junction of the Parks Highway and the Palmer-Wasilla Highway. Homestyle cooking from lunch specials to dinners. Ten cabins available. Camping facilities with spots for tents. Lots of recreational opportunities with swimming, fishing and boating. A boat launch is available for visitor's use. Fourth of July barbeques, ball games, volleyball, horseshoes, picnic tables, snowmobiling, skiing. Open all year round.

FOUR CORNERS LOUNGE At Four Corners of the Palmer-Wasilla Highway, Trunk and Bogard Roads, liquor and beer at the bar, live music on Friday and Saturday nights. Open from 11 a.m. til midnight. Pool tables and video games are available for your entertainment.

FOUR CORNERS COUNTRY STORE At Four Corners, groceries, gas and liquor store.

ARCHIES DRIVE-IN At Four Corners, open in the summer for hamburgers, hot dogs and soft ice cream treats.

KNIK-GOOSE BAY ROAD

Knik, at Mile 14 of the Knik-Goose Bay road, was the first white settlement in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough around the turn of the century. It served as the trade and supply center for the Willow Creek and Iditarod gold mining districts. Freight was brought to Knik by boat, and hauled to its destination by dog teams and horses. The only way to get to Iditarod was in the winter by dog team when the frozen rivers could be crossed. To the Willow Creek mines, horses were used in the summer, and dogs in the winter.

Knik was a bustling town, the population a conglomerate of pioneers, adventurers, and resident Tanaina Indians. With the coming of the railroad through Palmer and Wasilla, Knik's importance declined. Some of the buildings were moved to Wasilla, one of which is now Teeland's Country Store.

Now, Knik can't even be called a ghost town, since there are only two old structures left. The former pool hall is now the Knik Museum and Sled Dog Musher's Hall of Fame, and the other is the Bjorn Cabin, recently restored by members of the Knik-Wasilla-Willow Creek Historical Society. Frozen Knik Lake is the first checkpoint of the 1,049 mile Iditarod Trail sled dog race, where mushers and their teams head out on the original trail to Iditarod.

KNIK MUSEUM AND SLED DOG MUSHERS HALL OF FAME is open during the summer from 11 to 5 daily. Dog mushing memorabilia and portraits of famous mushers, the heroes of the north country, are featured exhibits. Winter hours of operation can be obtained by calling the Wasilla Museum at 376-2005.



KNIK-GOOSE BAY ROAD

On Knik Road, the visitor will encounter these places:

KNIK KOUNTRY STORE Near the Fairview Loop Road intersection. Pick up your grocery needs or snacks, or a ready-made sandwich, and fill up your car with gas.

SETTLERS BAY VILLAGE INN Offers a good view of the Chugach Mountains and Cook Inlet. Very good food, specializing in Alaskan and American cuisine. Dining from 5-10 p.m. Friday-Sunday; the bar is open from 5 to midnight. Enjoy the fine golf course, the tennis court, or the picnic and playground area.

KNIK BAR & LIQUOR on Knik Lake, where fishing is good for Rainbow trout, lets you picnic or launch your boat.

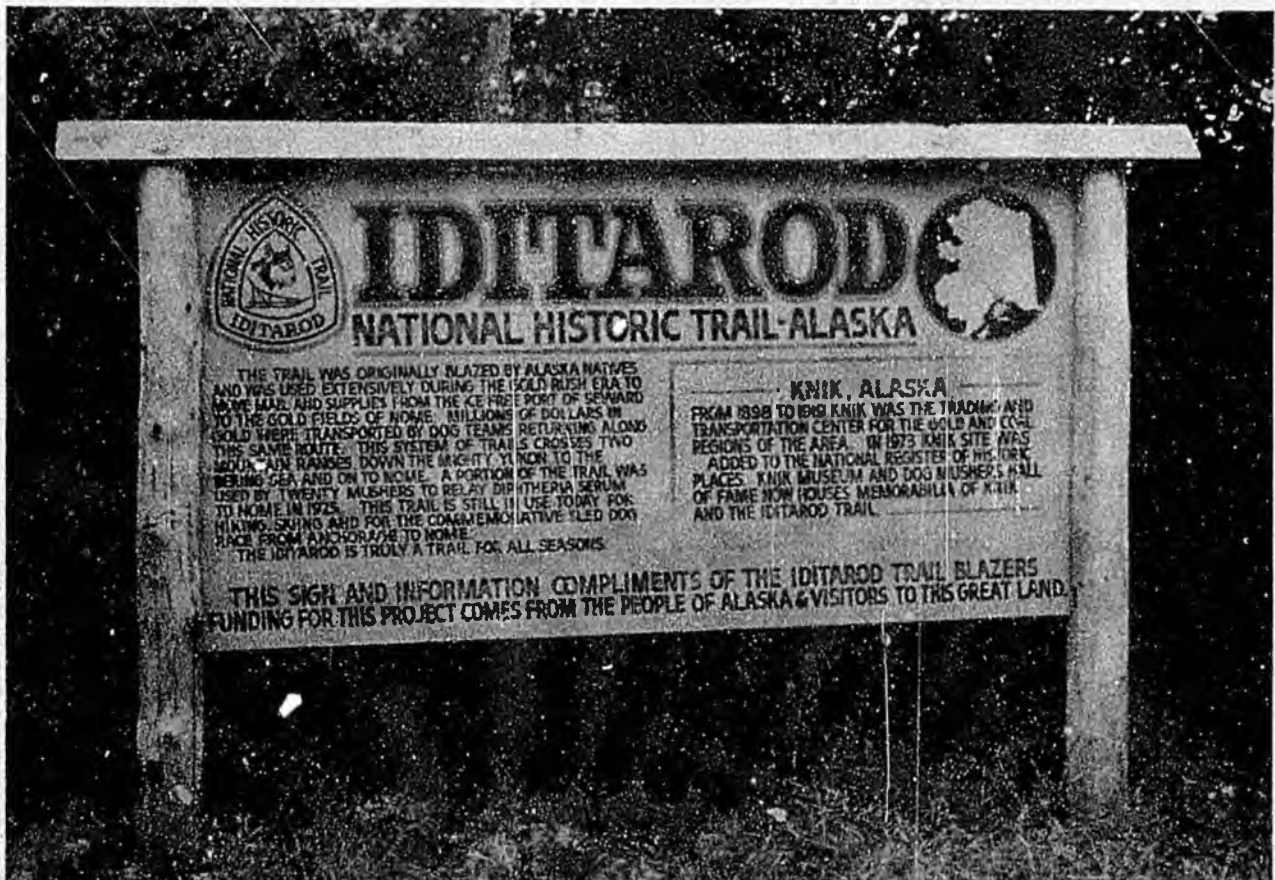
KNIK KENNELS owned by Joe and Vi Redington is home for many past, present and future Iditarod dog champions. Joe Redington Sr., "Father of the Iditarod," claims the largest sled dog kennel in the world as his own. Visitors are welcome, but are asked to call 376-5562 for an appointment.

HOMESTEAD MUSEUM & KNIK KNACK MUD SHACK includes an ore wagon from the Willow Creek Mining District, an old Alaskan stage coach, and many other objects which prove fascinating to the adult tourist, while a MacDonald's petting zoo adjacent to the museum makes a welcome break for the children. Bud and Mary Longenecker's museum, zoo,

and ceramic shop are on one of the area's oldest homesteads. Native clay, found in the banks of Cook Inlet and the lakes and streams of the Matanuska Valley, is made into many interesting objects for the inveterate souvenir collector at a modest price.

POINT MacKENZIE AGRICULTURE PROJECT The 15,000-acre project is at the end of Point MacKenzie Road, a gravel road heading west eight miles from Mile 17 of the Knik Road. The farms, started in 1982, are large — 300 acres or more — mostly forage, grain, and dairy. They are subject to requirements for rapid development. Clearing, new fields and new barns can be seen from the various roads named after different breeds of cattle.

LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER RECREATION ACCESS The only access to the lower reaches of the Little Susitna River is from Ayrshire Road, a northernmost east-west road in the Point MacKenzie Agricultural Project. The access used to be from Burma Road south of the Big Lake area. Two and a-half miles of primitive road lead to a point within easy walking distance of the river. Two-wheel automobiles can be used — but slowly. The area by the stream is heavily used by fishermen and people putting boats in and out of the river. A hidden jewel!



- 49.5 **CAPRI RESTAURANT** Specializing in Greek and Italian foods with a great buffet. Open 6 days a week from 5 to 10 p.m.
- 50.0 **IDEA SHOPPE** Since 1976. All gifts exclusively hand made in Alaska. Beautiful scrimshaw walrus ivory, paintings, drawings, art supplies, native clay. "We make it, or it's made in the Valley."
- 51.5 **RED'S CAFE** Breakfast all day, specializing in barbecue beef and charbroiled steaks
- 52.0 **BIG LAKE ROAD JUNCTION**

BIG LAKE

The turnoff at Mile 52 Parks Highway onto Big Lake Road leads to one of the more popular lakes in the borough for boating. Big Lake is connected to several other lakes. In this area, there are many marinas, resorts, campgrounds, picnic areas, and boat-launching ramps.

As you travel Big Lake Road, you will find:

MEADOWOOD COUNTRY MARKET Mile 52 on the corner of the Parks Highway and Big Lake Road, is equipped with a wide variety of grocery needs. They have a full service meat department.

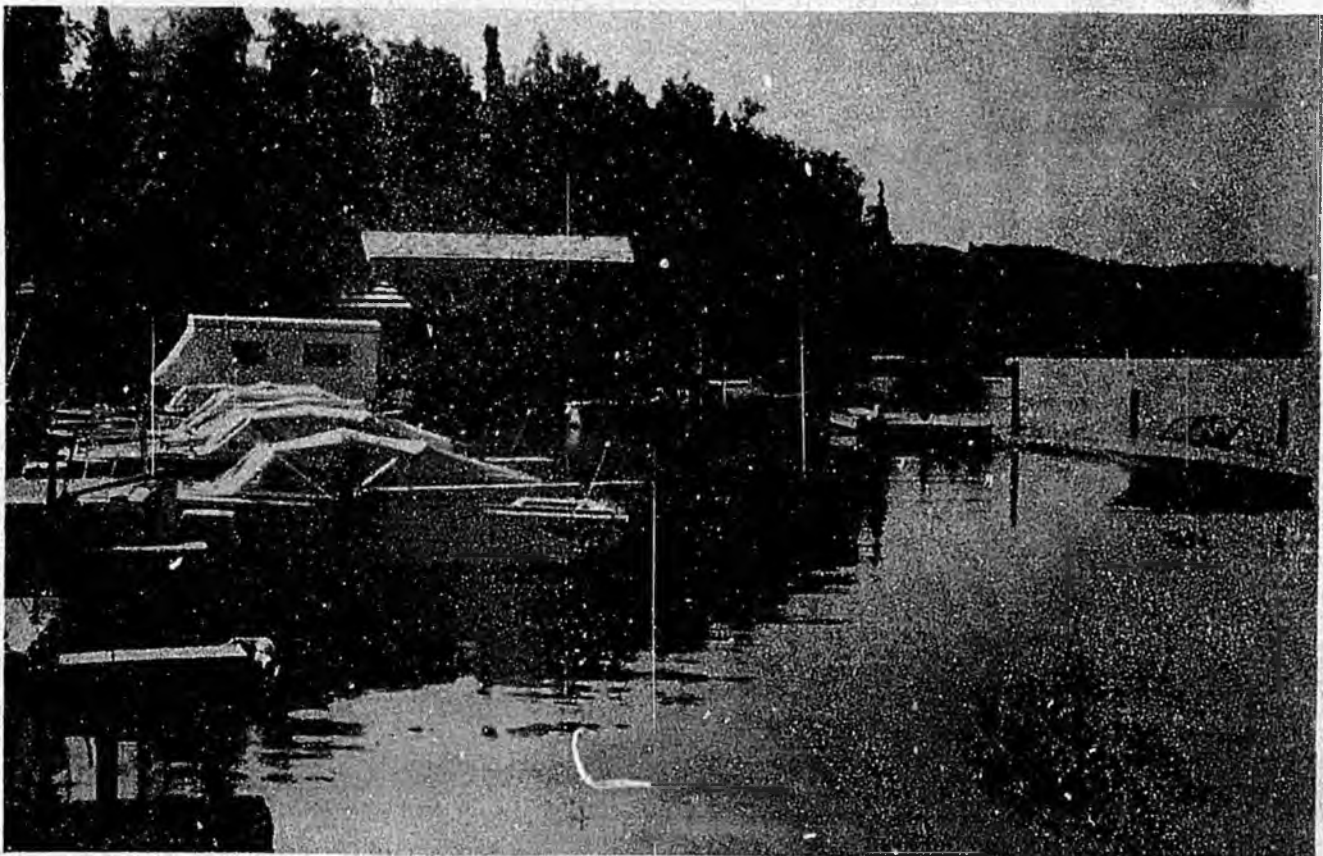
MEADOWOOD TESORO A full service gas station with a mechanic on duty.

BIG LAKE MARINE Showroom, boat repair and docking facilities. The Dodge family has run this marina for many years.

FISHERS 'Y' located at the 'Y' in the road, houses the local post office, as well as a real estate office, general store and gas station.

BIG LAKE UNION 76 A full service gas station with boat storage, and a camper waste dump station.

FISHERS 'Y' GROCERY just past the 'Y', a complete grocery store with liquor store next door.



BIG LAKE

BIG LAKE EAST AND SOUTH WAYSIDES Big Lake is 57 miles from Anchorage via the Glenn and Parks Highways and Big Lake Road. Because of the many and varied recreational activities available in the Big Lake area, these two sites are especially valuable in providing public access to the lake and its facilities. Major activities include swimming, boating, water skiing, fishing and sailing, as well as winter sports such as ice fishing, snowmachining, three-wheeling, cross-country skiing and skating. Camping and picnicking sites are available and concrete launching ramps for boats are provided at each wayside. The various lodges and marinas also provide public access to the lake, but these are private businesses and you should keep this in mind when you park or use their facilities.

SHIP AHJOY LOUNGE & LIQUOR A favorite local pub, serving everyone's favorite beverages. Live music on weekends. Liquor store next door to lounge.

PLAYBUOY LOUNGE On the east shore of Big Lake, serves alcoholic beverages and local lore seven days a week.

POWER SPORTS Snow machine and boat sales and service. Open all year round.

KLONDIKE INN & LAKEVIEW LOUNGE Off North Big Lake Road. In operation since 1962. Bar, restaurant, motel, saunas and boat docks. Thirteen rooms at \$25 per day. The restaurant serves complete meals with Mexican food on Thursdays. Specialties include homemade pies and chili, soup and dinner specials. Summer events include Monte Carlo night and the Big Lake Regatta. The Klondike is home port for the paddle-wheeler "Ain't Miss B Havin," available for private charters. Boat docks and launching area are available. In the winter the Klondike is used for the pits and starting area for snowmachine races and you can sit in comfort in the lounge while watching the races. Also a great place to watch the Ultralights that come up to fly on weekends. Give them a call at 892-6261 to find out what's happening at Big Lake.

BIG LAKE LODGE Operating for the last 24 years at the east end of Big Lake. Homemade pies and chili are a favorite. In the summer, on weekends, be sure and ask about Helmi's bar-b-que chicken and ribs. Open 7 a.m. till 10 p.m. The bar stays open till Popsie's ready to close. The lodge has four rooms available at \$20 per night. Activities in the area include boating, water skiing, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmachining and three-wheeling. Boat launch available in the summer along with temporary docking. They sell aviation gas for those drop-in flyers.

ROCKY LAKE WAYSIDE This small area is located one-half mile off the Big Lake Road at Mile 3.1. The lake is popular with boaters, water skiers and fishermen. A gravel boat launch, camping and sanitary facilities and firewood are provided.

BURKESHORE MARINA Groceries, propane, liquor store, boat gas and year-round boat storage. Docking facilities as well as boat repairs available.

SAIL 'N' FUN Campgrounds, sailboats, swimming, boat rentals and private picnic grounds.

CALL OF THE WILD Has been in operation since 1957 and is located at the west end of Big Lake. Open 7 days a week, it can be reached by boat or plane in summer, or by snowmachine and car in winter. A delicious ribeye steak or the gigantic "Buddy"-burger is served along with favorite alcoholic beverages. A water taxi service carries passengers back and forth across the lake.

THE LITTLE KOBUK has purple potato salads. The purple potatoes are raised north of Willow. Moe, owner and operator of the Little Kobuk, boasts of having the best hamburgers in the Valley.



Camp site at south Rolly Lake in Nancy Lake State Recreation Area

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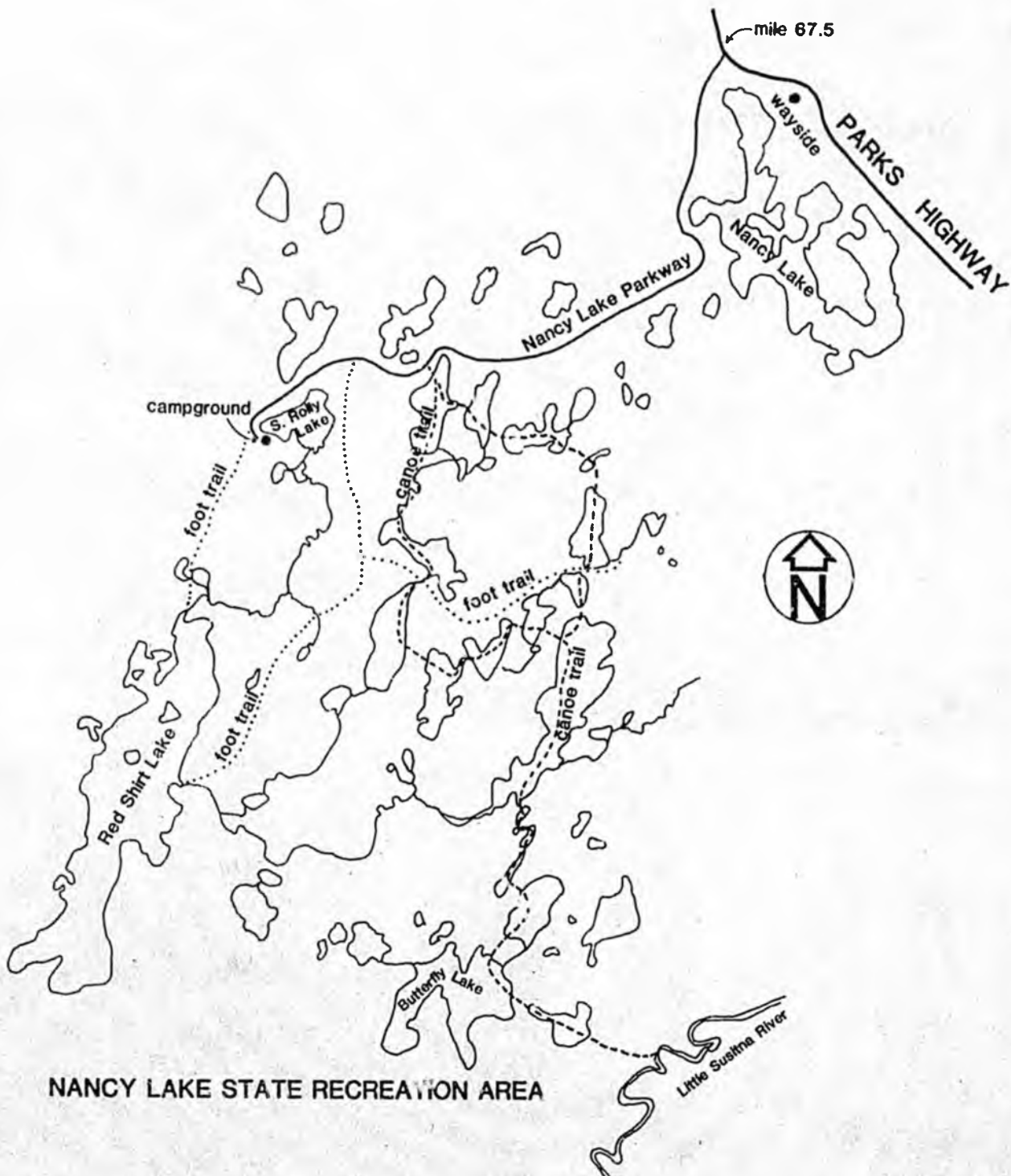
FISHERS 'Y' GROCERY just past the 'Y', a complete grocery store with liquor store next door.



- 57.0 LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER CROSSING** Salmon fishing is good here with a boat launch and parking area
- 57.3 HOUSTON CAMPER PARK** Camper spaces on north shore of Little Susitna River. First turn to the right after crossing Little Susitna River heading north.
- 57.5 MILLER'S MARKET** Grocery store with picnic supplies, ice, sandwiches, film, soft ice cream, milkshakes, hamburgers, hot dogs, the ice cream is homemade. A post office, coin operated laundry with 10 washers and 10 dryers, shower room, campground, sewer dump, boat ramp, fishing licenses, fishing charter service, (reds, kings, silvers) fishing tackle, cabins. All on the Little Susitna River.
- 57.5 HOUSTON LODGE** Serves complete meals, bar, open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Good fishing in the area. Little Susitna River is located behind the lodge. River trips available.
- 60.5 HOUSTON INN** Eleven rooms with private bathrooms. The restaurant, with adjoining bar, specializes in Mexican and American foods.
- 64.5 NANCY LAKE MARINA & RESORT** Open year-round, cabins rent from \$15 - 35 per day. There is a camp store with groceries and you can cook in the rooms. Fifty camper and parking spaces, a water fill station and propane. Summer activities include fishing, boating, sternwheeler tours, swimming. Winter activities including ice fishing, ice races, cross country skiing, ice skating. Tour Nancy Lake on the sternwheeler "Michael B. Ardaw". Aircraft fuel available.
- 67.2 NANCY LAKE PARKWAY** Spend a day at Nancy Lake. Nancy Lake Recreation Area, between Wasilla and Willow, has picnic, camping and hiking facilities and a 12 mile canoe trail with shelters and campsites.
- Nancy Lake State Recreation Area is one of the few flat, lake-studded landscapes in Alaska preserved in its natural state for recreation. It's ideal for canoeing, fishing and boating on a network of more than 130 lakes and ponds, or for camping, hiking and picnicing in the surrounding forests. The area is well used in winter by dog mushers, skiers and snow machiners. Visitors will find a nature trail, hiking and ski trails and a system of canoe portages, including a portage from the Little Susitna River. The park is just south of Willow on the Parks Highway.
- 67.8 WILLOW INN** Restaurant serving complete meals, open every day. Bar serving your favorite alcoholic beverages.
- 69.0 WILLOW CREEK GROCERY** A variety of groceries to supply your campground.
- 69.0 WILLOW TRADING POST** Since 1947, located off the Parks Highway, follow signs to the Willow Post Office. Open from 12 noon 'til late or when the last person leaves. View of Mt. McKinley is spectacular from the bar. The restaurant serves a touch of Mexico: Burritos for \$2.25, Chili \$2.00, Nachos for \$2.50, and the best hot sauce north of the Rio Grande. The Willow Trading Post is the oldest establishment in the area. The main



Michael B. Ardaw sternwheeler at Nancy Lake Marina



NANCY LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA

building and two cabins were brought over Hatcher Pass to Willow from the Lucky Shot Mine in the late 40's by Bob Douglas. The bar and liquor store has the best selection of imported beers in the wilderness.

- 70.0 **WILLOW COMMUNITY CENTER** The log Willow Community Center, built in 1962 by the Willow Area Civic Organization (WACO), on the shores of Willow Lake is the center for the annual Willow Winter Carnival. 14 days of events in December, including the Miss Willow Pageant, a 22 mile dog mushing race, bingo, swede sawing contest, snowshoe race and more. A new 9,500 square foot community center is being built next to the old; it will be available for rent throughout the year for company picnics, square dances, club meetings, auctions and outings. The ground along the lake is a good place for picnics and for children to wade.
- 70.5 **SUSITNA RIVER ACCESS ROAD** Construction is under way to provide road access to a boat launch area on the Susitna River just south of Willow Creek, and trail access to the south shores of Willow Creek for fishing access. The project is about half funded at this time.
- 71.2 **HATCHER PASS ROAD** Turn-off to Independence Mine State Historical Park, and Hatcher Pass. One mile up the road is Willow Creek; Wayside with camping and picnic facilities beside the creek. The 35 miles of road to Hatcher Pass was once a trail leading to producing gold mines. (More Information on page 10)
- 71.4 **WILLOW CREEK** Excellent fishing for Trout, Grayling, Silver salmon, Chum salmon, Pink and King salmon. Whitewater canoeing and rafting is popular between Mile 7 and Mile 4 of Willow Creek.
- 71.5 **PIONEER LODGE** On Willow Creek, 8 small rooms with private bathrooms. Bar features dance floor and live band, and restaurant offers complete meals from \$3-\$12, open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Campground with 25 parking areas, boat charters, boat launch. Good fishing, hunting, backpacking, snowmachining and dog mushing. Alaskan-made gifts include scrimshaw, cribbage boards, ivory carvings.
- 74.7 **LITTLE WILLOW CREEK** Fishing for Pink salmon, Silver salmon, Rainbow trout and Grayling.

- 83.1 **KASHWITNA RIVER** Good fishing for Rainbow trout, Grayling and Dolly Varden.
- 84.9 **CASWELL CREEK** Silver salmon, Pink salmon and Rainbow trout fishing.
- 88.2 **SHEEP CREEK LODGE** This full menu restaurant serves superb breakfasts with local eggs and home-grown Alaska potatoes. Only the finest cuts of steak from Mr. Prime Beef are used for the dinner menu. Daily homemade soups with mostly home-grown Alaskan vegetables and homemade noodles. Some of the finest fishing in the state. The cafe window offers one of the finest views of Mt. McKinley. Gifts, bar, package liquor, gas, diesel & propane, 2 modern cabins with private bath, excellent high and dry camping spots along good fishing stream. The Alaskan bar has a unique hand planed spruce bar top, many Alaskan displays of fish and sheep. Maps are available of surrounding streams and lakes.
- 96.5 **MONTANA CREEK LODGE** Excellent food, bar and carryout liquor. The lodge is headquarters for the Montana Creek Dog Musers Association. Good snowmachining and cross country skiing trails also. The lodge has three cabins at \$25 per day, phone is in the lodge, camper parking spaces along the creek. Small gift shop sells local paintings and crafts. Video games, pool table, and live music in the bar during the summer. Gasoline available.
- 98.7 **JUNCTION OF TALKEETNA SPUR ROAD** 14.5 miles on a paved road, Talkeetna is well worth a side trip.



Montana Creek Lodge

TALKEETNA SPUR ROAD

BARTLETT HILLS AGRICULTURE PROJECT AT mile 7.7 of Talkeetna Spur Road. South Birch Road takes you into the middle of the 8,000 acre Bartlett Hills Agriculture Project. This is gently rolling wooded country just now being cleared for farming.

TALKEETNA ROAD SCENIC PULLOUT Three miles south of Talkeetna as highway descends to Talkeetna just before the Alaska Railroad crossing.

From here is the first and only view of a panorama consisting of Mt. McKinley, Mt. Hunter, Mt. Foraker, the Susitna River, the Chulitna River and the Talkeetna River.

It is a favorite place for taking photographs. This is not a

developed turnout and pulling off onto the shoulder of the road can be dangerous.

ALASCOM EARTH STATION Drive 2.6 miles south of Talkeetna, then 3.4 miles east on a paved side road. The station provides interstate communications between Alaska and the other 49 states by processing signals sent and received via a satellite. No tours of the facility.

CHRISTIANSON LAKE CAMPER PARK Dock and boat ramp and picnic area just south of Talkeetna off of Comsat Road and 1.1 miles from Talkeetna Spur Road. Comsat Road is the only paved road heading to the east from the Talkeetna Spur Road and is just north of the public landfill.

TALKEETNA

Once a settlement for miners and trappers, today Talkeetna still has many log buildings and dirt roads, retaining the look of past days.

The first settlers came to this area about 1901 and built roads into the Talkeetna Mountains leading to coal and silver mines. Some 375 people now live in or near Talkeetna.

Most visitor facilities are available: restaurants, motels, grocery store, general store, gas stations and campgrounds.

THINGS TO DO

Visit the Talkeetna Museum: An old schoolhouse built in 1936 now serves as a museum for many historical items, local art and a library of old papers and books. The museum also has a history of mountain climbing displays which includes background on the late Ray Genet (who climbed Mount McKinley 25 times) and the late Don Sheldon, famous Alaskan bush pilot.

Take a riverboat tour: Talkeetna Riverboat Service offers tours through Talkeetna Canyon and Devil's Canyon.

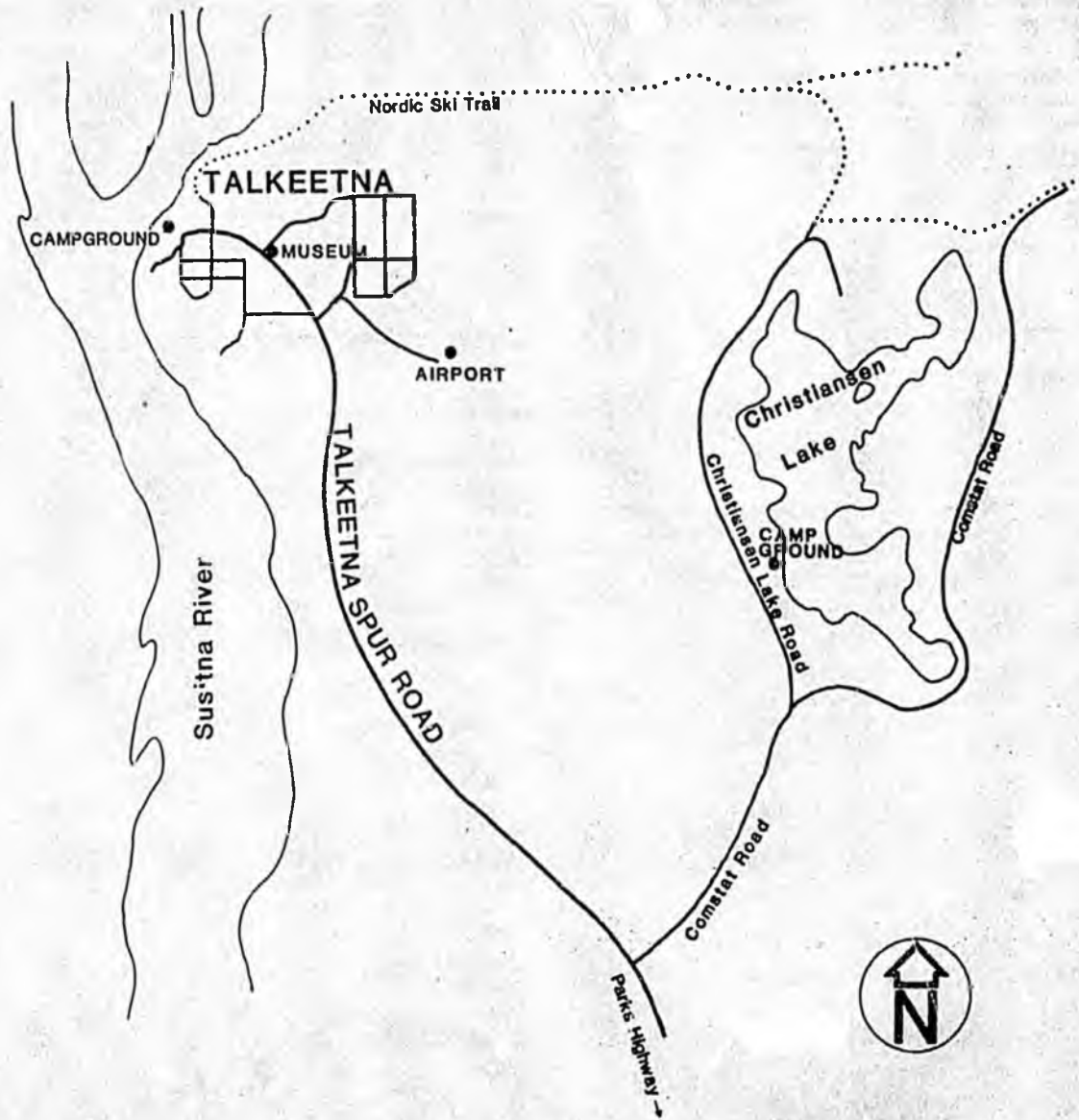
Ski Cross-country: A 17-mile nordic ski trail with a 10-mile inner loop follows the road north and northeast of the airport, then turns south two miles east of airport and then east and south of airport to Talkeetna Spur Road.

Attend the annual Moose Dropping Festival: This festival, scheduled on the weekend following the Fourth of July, is a fundraiser for the Talkeetna Museum. Activities include game booths, wheelbarrow races, moose dropping throwing contests and the "Moose Dropping Dinner".

Annual Blue Grass Festival A Blue grass music festival is held in August.

Other Special Events: The Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce holds numerous special events, including Trappers Day in mid-May, and Nordic cross country ski races throughout the winter months.

TALKEETNA



TALKEETNA

LODGING & DINING

TALKEETNA MOTEL Has operated in Talkeetna since 1960, ten rooms, open all year round. \$35-\$40 per day, private bathrooms. Also restaurant, homemade foods, & chili. People come from Anchorage just for pies. Beer and wine is served with meals, and in a separate bar. Shopping is conveniently located nearby in Talkeetna. Fishing right out the back door where three rivers - the Chulitna, Talkeetna and Susitna - comes together.

SWISS ALASKA INN Has fine foods, with many foreign specialties, including the real Wienerschnitzel. A place to spend the night, they are equipped with 10 rooms, \$30 single, \$40 double, phones and T.V. Camping facilities are at the boat landing which has toilets, table benches, water and rain cover. Pullouts for campers, hiking, fishing, boating and the convenience of a state airport close by.

THE FAIRVIEW INN is a 60 year old historical building. Inside the bar on the walls are many interesting pictures of old-time Talkeetna and its colorful people. There are seven rooms at the Fairview priced from \$15-\$20 per day. Fishermen, mountain climbers and skiers frequent the Inn.

TALKEETNA ROADHOUSE Has operated for over 30 years in downtown Talkeetna. Family style meals run from \$2 - \$8. Beer and wine are also served. Six rooms are available at \$17-\$24 per day. Numerous camping spots along the Big Susitna River.

LATITUDE 62° LODGE on Talkeetna Spur Road. Restaurant, bar and ten rooms, each with a bath. Old Alaska log construction. Rooms available at any hour. Free transportation from airport, train station or Lake Christensen, or you can walk from station or airport. Owners Marvin and Jane Milam can assist on fly-in fishing and riverboat trips.

SPARKYS Next to Hudson's Air Service. Carryout foods, many of which are homemade. Picnic tables out front. Everything from hamburgers to shrimp, ice cream comes with a variety of ice cream to choose from. Open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

TALKEETNA DELI In Talkeetna, home baked natural foods, some foreign; cookies, sandwiches, cheeses, salami. Open 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

SHOPS & SPECIAL SERVICES

THREE RIVERS UNION 76 For the past 15 years has operated in downtown Talkeetna. A service station with complete fuel service, propane, aviation gas, jet fuel and diesel. Laundromat and showers.

VILLAGE ARTS & CRAFTS Local Alaskan made crafts can be found here. Furs, fur hats, beaver pelts, mink, marten, ivory, scrimshaw, gold nugget jewelry, U.S.G.S. maps of the area, including maps of Mt. McKinley. On display also are mammoth molars from the ice age, and whale bones.

B & K TRADING POST Has operated for the past 35 years, and handles groceries, liquor and varieties. The B & K Trading Post is a historical building and serves the needs of the surrounding area. It has much historical atmosphere and many of the old artifacts are on display. They carry a wide assortment of stock, from fresh produce to fishing equipment, and some clothing.

TALKEETNA RIVERBOAT SERVICE Operates from May to September. \$35 a boat trip up local rivers for fishing and scenic trips, for hunting or photography.

GENET EXPEDITIONS Some people only dream of adventure. Genet Expeditions has been to the top of McKinley more times than anyone. You must be in good health and have some climbing experience to undertake this task. "We specialize in climbing."

MAHAY'S RIVERBOAT SERVICE Mahay's will take you to good fishing. Lush green mountains with beautiful stands of birch and spruce, unique geological formations line the rivers. A 65-mile, 5-hour Talkeetna Canyon tour is among the favorite of wilderness connoisseurs. What a way to explore Alaska's beautiful outdoors, by riverboat. Children 12 years and under go half price. Fishing includes; Dolly Varden, Grayling, Kings, Silvers, Chum, Pink and Sockeye salmon. For more information call (907) 733-2307.

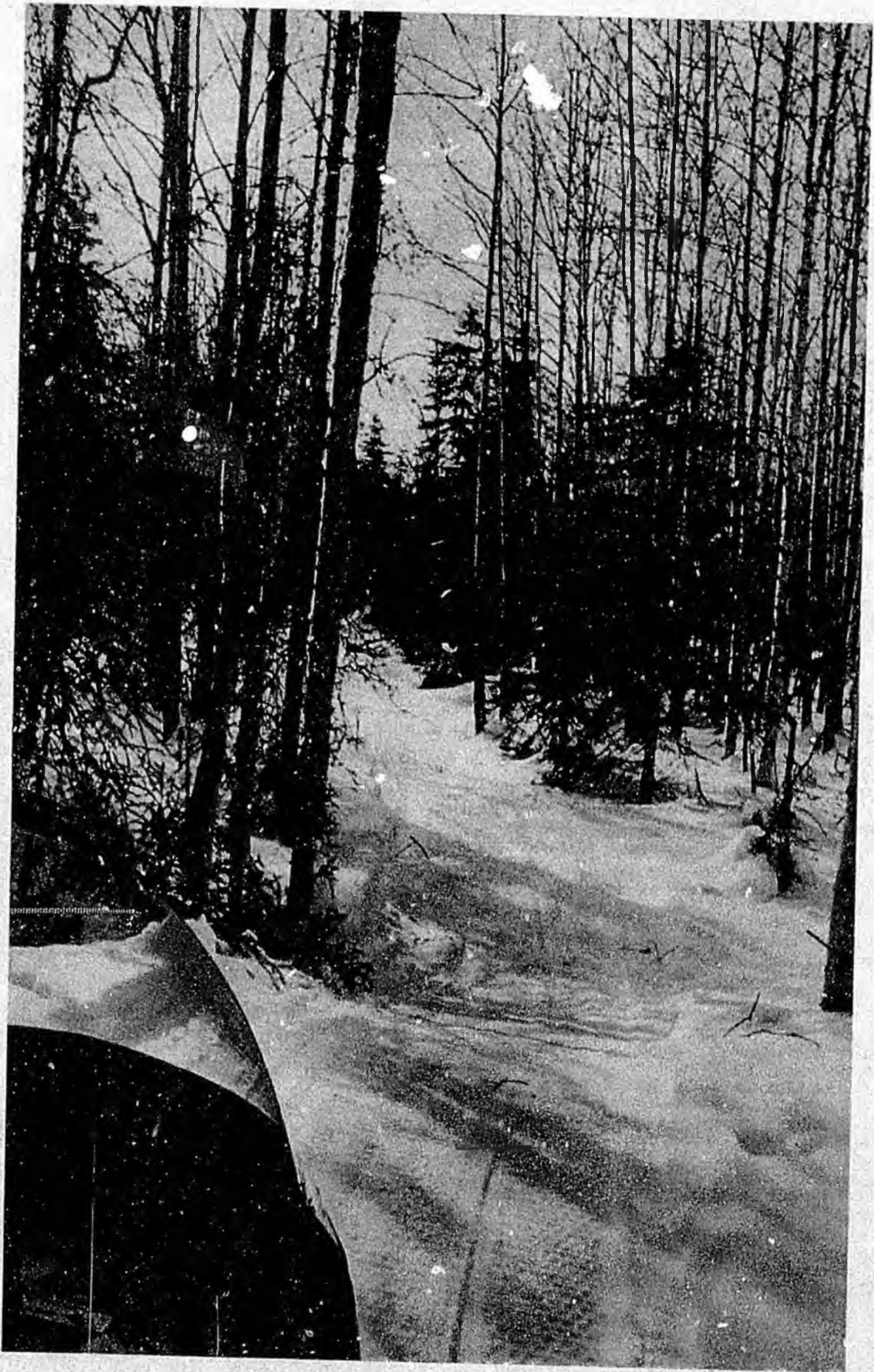
TALKEETNA AIR TAXI Doug Getting and Lowell Thomas, Jr., owners and operators. They maintain a fleet of fine aircraft on floats, wheels, and skis and will fly you with a pilot who flies expeditions on Mt. McKinley daily, who knows the mountain, its climbers and all its lore and legend. On your flight into McKinley you may see moose, caribou or bear, a miner's cabin or a trapper's cache. Fly to nearby gold mines, choice hunting and fishing areas.

HUDSON'S AIR SERVICE Serving Talkeetna since 1947. See McKinley from on top, look for grizzlies along the way. For the moose hunter, scenery viewer, or photographer. We can fly most anywhere, winter or summer.

AKLAND HELICOPTERS Guides into the Talkeetna Mountains, hauls climbers to McKinley. The only way to fly and see beautiful Alaska, where you can land nearly anywhere with a helicopter.

Village Arts & Crafts (left) and Fairview Inn (right)





FLY—IN FUN WEST OF THE SUSITNA

LAKE CREEK LODGE At the confluence of Lake Creek and the Yentna River, 65 miles northeast of Anchorage. Open May 15 to October 15. There are seven rooms, liquor, a radio telephone is available. This is an Alaskan fly-in adventure; fishing, float trips, riverboating, flight-seeing along with excellent hunting.

YENTNA STATION ROADHOUSE Mile 18 of the Yentna River, four rooms with twelve beds at \$35 per day. Tent areas are available, outhouse, excellent fishing and hunting.

KING BEAR LODGE On the Yentna River by Lake Creek, along the Iditarod Trail. Moose, bear, eagles, lots of wildlife,

and a wildlife tour by boat down the river to Skwentna. Wood fire sauna, family style meals. The spring breakup presents fantastic Rainbow and Grayling fishing. Pike fishing is excellent in five nearby lakes. Largest taken out in 1982 was 25 pounds. June and July is excellent for salmon. They have five cabins with a total of 20 beds. \$300 per person, party of four, includes plane transportation, room and board, boat and motor, fishing gear. Guides are extra. A total "get away from it all" atmosphere. Your pleasure and contentment are number one priorities.

PARKS HIGHWAY

99.5 **H & H CAFE & LODGE** In operation since 1959. Open year round. Five rooms with 12 beds are available, along with camping facilities in a wooded area between the lodge and the lake. Water and electric hookups. Good food priced from \$6 all the way to \$20, along with the best homemade pies. Greatest fishing area in the community and good hunting from the road, river or airplane.

104.0 **BIG SU LODGE** A liquor store, bar and restaurant, homemade pies and other baked goods, good coffee, complete meals. A boat landing is located on the river. Campers may stay in the parking lot at the lodge. Gas is also available, as well as tire repairs. Lots of activities, fishing, hiking, cross country skiing, snowmobiling and dog mushing. Dog sled rides are available in winter at reasonable rates.

114.5 **CACHE CREEK LODGE** Open all year-round with ten rooms. Parking is available for campers. A complete line of cold deli sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs, dinner specials every night. Full service gas station and laundry facilities, showers, diesel, propane, restaurant and bar. The bar was an old barn put up in the 50's by miners who traveled from Talkeetna to Cache Creek and who used it for supplies and horses. Some of the best moose hunting in Alaska, and many creeks and rivers nearby for good fishing. There is a park-like atmosphere during summer, with barbecues, outside tables, music, and games such as horseshoes and volleyball. During winter there is dog mushing, snowmobiling, and cross country skiing.

114.5 **REED AUTOMOTIVE** Parts (new and used), car repair, custom welding, road service available. Phone 733-2548.

114.8 **JUNCTION OF PETERSVILLE ROAD**



Toy Mill on Petersville Road

PETERSVILLE ROAD

MOOSE CREEK LODGE Old-fashioned grocery store, liquor, gas, propane. Campground with outhouse, no hookups. Rental cabins with lights, no water. Bargain store, kids playground and Moose Creek Tavern. Excellent fishing in Moose Creek for Rainbow trout, Grayling and Silver salmon.

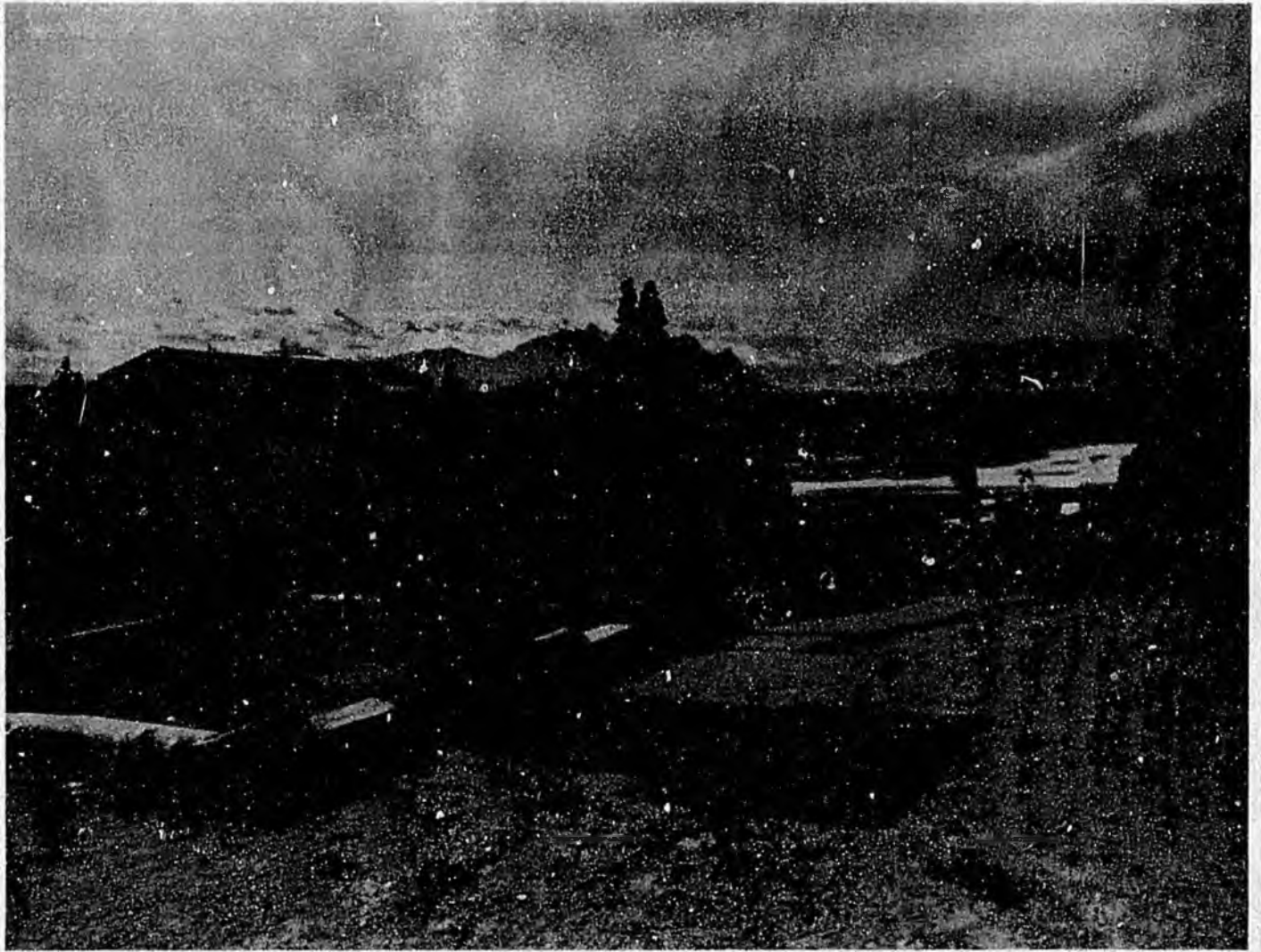
KROTO CREEK (Deshka River) Excellent fishing for salmon trout.

THE FORKS ROADHOUSE Complete and buffet style meals are served here, with a bar for your favorite drinks. Situated in the heart of the Cache Creek Mining District. There are three cabins with eight beds and a total of 28 beds in all. \$35 per room. A campground is nearby. There are many things to do here; fishing, hiking, skiing, hunting, snowmachining, dog mushing, prospecting for gold below the beauty of Mt. McKinley. The roadhouse was first built in 1931 for the use of miners, trappers and freighters. There is a lot of Alaskan history here.

Road continues to historic mining areas -- not recommended for passenger cars.

The Forks Roadhouse





The Ruth Glacier Overlook

- 115.5 **TRAPPER CREEK TRADING POST** Complete meals are served here along with some Mexican food. They are open from 8 a.m. til 11 p.m. Camping fishing and hunting.
- 121.6 **STATE REST AREA** Camping, water, firepits, picnic tables, toilets and litter disposal.
- 134.5 **THE MOUNTAIN HAUS** Complete meals with short order service, prices range from \$3 - \$10 for meals. Gift shop and liquor, self serve gas. Open 7 a.m. til 9:30 p.m.

- 135.2 **TWO PAVED TURNOUTS** View of Mt. McKinley. Intermittent view of glaciers on southern slopes of Alaska Range to the west. Ruth, Buckskin and Eldridge glaciers are the most conspicuous.
- 137.3 **TROUBLESOME CREEK** Rainbow, Grayling and Dolly Varden fishing from June thru September.
- 143.9 **BYERS CREEK** Fishing for Rainbow, Grayling and Dolly Varden.

147.0 BYERS LAKE STATE PARK Byers Lake State Park is on a small, attractive lake. There is a boat launch, campground and picnicing area on the north side of the lake. There are 62 camping and 20 picnic sites, pit toilets and drinking water at the lake. A trail starts at the north end of the lake crossing a small creek by a suspension bridge. From there it is possible to hike to the east end of the lake to view salmon and to campsites, and to walk upstream (east) about six miles along the Cascade Ridge Trail to Curry Ridge and numerous upland lakes above timberline.

The Byers Lake Trail climbs quite steeply from the campground to Curry Ridge, which is a very good viewing location. There are dozens of small lakes on top of the ridge. This was Sidney Laurence's favorite spot for painting Mt. McKinley. (The Dutch Hills area at the end of Petersville Road was another favorite spot.) It is possible to follow the ridge 20 miles to a point near the former Mt. McKinley Roadhouse and come down the ridge at that point to the highway. It is also possible to follow the Troublesome Creek Trail down.

156.0 CHULITNA RIVER LODGE On Ermine Lake. Breakfast menu and fast food for lunch and dinner, hamburgers, groceries and small gift shop, rafting trips, great views for photographers. Rustic in appearance. Guided wilderness and float trip. Open from May 29 to September 15.

163.2 COAL CREEK Rainbow trout, Grayling and Silver salmon fishing.

185.1 CHULITNA TRAIL The Chulitna Trail takes off from the Alaska Railroad, about six miles southeast of the crossing of the Parks Highway and the Alaska Railroad near the Chulitna River. It heads southeast 7.5 miles to the Susitna River. This trail is fairly close to the proposed access road from the Parks Highway to the proposed Susitna River dam site.

185.7 EAST FORK REST AREA On right, northbound. Gravel picnic area with overnight parking, 23 tables, concrete fireplaces, rest rooms with hot and cold water and flush toilets, and a dump station. The rest area is in a bend of the East Fork Chulitna River.

188.5 IGLOO SERVICE Gasoline and diesel.

200.0 SUMMIT LAKE TRAIL This is a quarter of a mile road from the Parks Highway southeast to Summit Lake. It is a hiking, fishing and picnicing trail.

202.1 BOUNDARY OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

209.9 JUNCTION OF THE DENALI HIGHWAY Turn west to Cantwell, turn east to Paxson.

Byers Lake





DENALI HIGHWAY

The area in the northeast corner of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is rolling country, mostly high tundra, with little tree cover.

The Denali Highway joins the Parks Highway near Cantwell. It was built in the 1950s to make Denali National Park (formerly called McKinley National Park) accessible by road. The highway has never been paved, and even under the best of conditions can not be traveled at more than 40 miles an hour. The wise traveler uses this slow speed to his advantage. The scenery encountered continuously is breathtaking and spectacular and hardly has its equal any other place in the world. There is very little evidence of human habitation. It's a land of animals, and also a favorite destination of hunters.

Starting from Cantwell, the traveler will find the following points of interest:

VALDEZ CREEK Just east of the Susitna River and north of the Denali Highway is an old gold placer mining district going back to the 1910s. There are still ten to fifteen small operators working claims. In this vicinity, the Susitna River occupies a broad flood plain from one-half to nearly a mile in width at an elevation of almost 2,500 feet. Valdez Creek is a westerly flowing tributary within the Clearwater Mountains which rise to summit elevations of some 6,000 feet. These mountains are moderately steep on the lower slopes and rugged near the crests.



Mile

30.7 **BRUSHKANA RIVER BLM CAMPGROUND** 12 sites beside river, outhouses and water. Watch for moose.

35.0 **ADVENTURES UNLIMITED** is situated on the south slope of the Alaskan Range with magnificent views of the Nenana and Susitna Glaciers, including Mount Hayes, Mount Hess and Mount Deborah. The lodge is completely modern with power and water systems and offers reasonable rates, home cooking, unguided and guided big game hunts, and backcountry trips for bird watching, photography, fishing, gold panning and glacier exploring.

46.3 **TURN-OUT** Scenic viewing of Alaska Range.

53.0 **GRACIOUS HOUSE LODGE** has been at this location since 1951, and surrounded by some of Alaska's most beautiful scenery, centered between the Talkeetna and Alaska mountain ranges. Home cooked meals are served from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Prices range from \$4 to \$10 per meal. There are two cabins at \$30 a night with private bathrooms. Groceries are available, camping facilities are nearby with electrical hookups. If it's game you want, the area offers some of the finest hunting in Alaska, the fishing is great. Guided hunts are also available. Horseback hunts, photography guides, and an airport for flying the backcountry. Back in the mountains behind the lodge is a mining area famous for its large gold nuggets in the Valdez Creek Mining District.

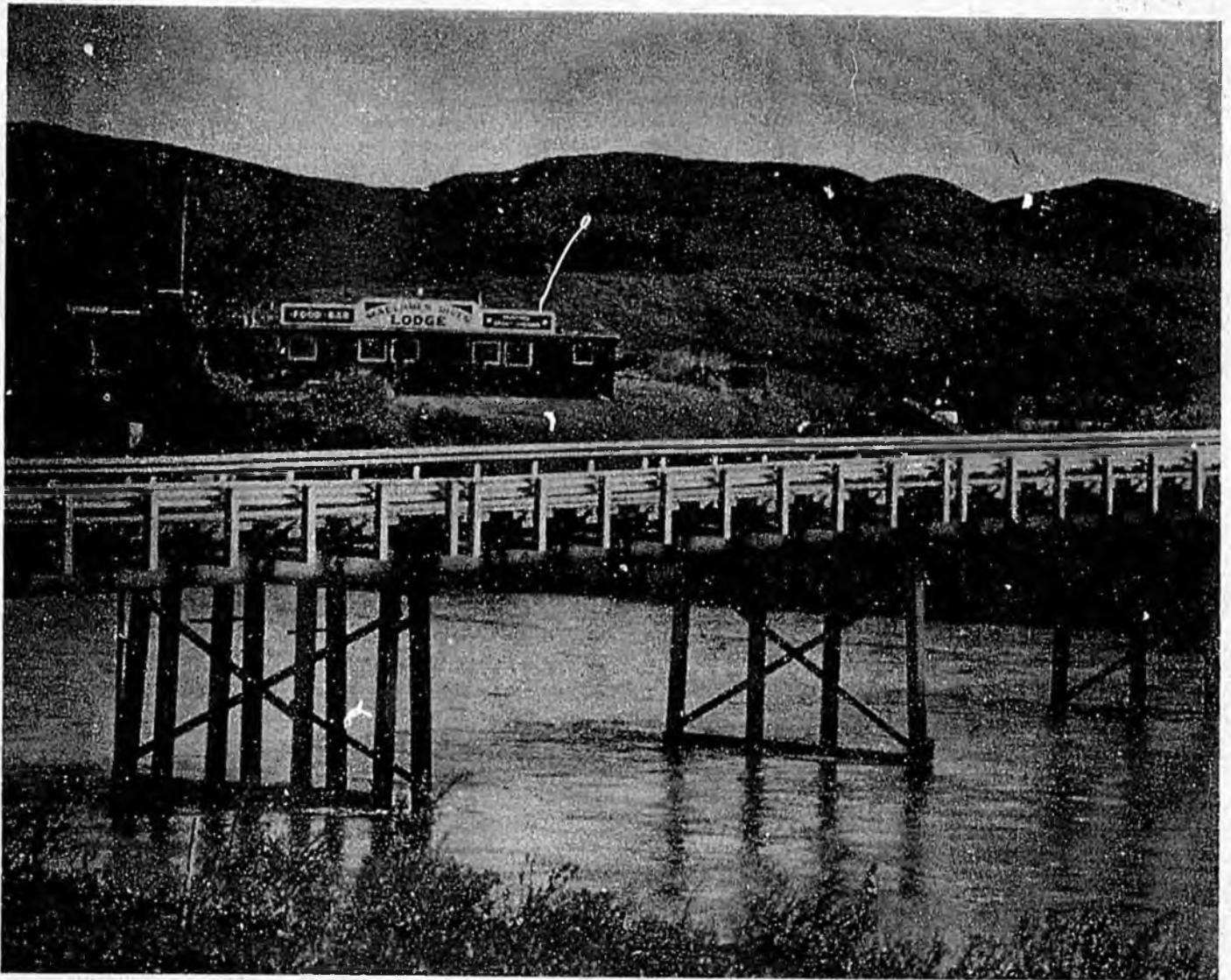
76.8 **CLEARWATER TRAIL** A 14-mile hunting trail that crosses the Denali Highway, the trail provides access to the Maclaren River Trail to the north, and to the headwaters of the Maclaren River to the south.

79.1 **CLEARWATER CREEK** Camping area along creek with outhouses.

MACLAREN RIVER TRAIL This 55-mile hunting trail starts at the Valdez Creek Trail and runs north of the Denali Highway and parallel to the highway for about 15 miles and continues to the east boundary of the borough, where it rejoins the Denali Highway near Mile 93.1. A spur — the Clearwater Creek Trail, drops southward 14 miles to join the Denali Highway.

93.0 **MACLAREN RIVER LODGE**

93.1 **MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH BOUNDARY**



Maclaren River Lodge on Denali Highway

TOURISM

an Alaska industry deserving support

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough has supported tourism to create steady jobs in the borough and to create recreational opportunities for its residents and others. Here are the Borough's chief legislative goals for development of tourism.

HATCHER PASS — INDEPENDENCE MINE Restoration and adaption of the old mine buildings at Independence Mine State Park for tourism. Creation of winter and summer recreation opportunities — downhill and cross country skiing, bobsledding, snow-machining, hiking and horseback riding. This includes an adequate road to the area and facilities for visitors.

STREAM ACCESS Creation of stream access for fishing, boating, and canoeing on the Little Susitna River, Willow Creek, and the many other fishing streams along the Parks Highway — Little Willow Creek, Kashwitna River, Sheep Creek, Montana Creek, Sunshine Creek, etc. This involves land acquisition, road building, parking and camping areas.

CAMPER PARKS Establishment of a camper park at Palmer on the Matanuska River, a camper park in Wasilla on Lake Lucille, and enlargement of the Houston camper park to include the area on the Little Susitna River on both sides of the Parks Highway bridge.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION Preservation and restoration of historic sites and exhibits including Independence Mine, the Alaska Historical and Transportation Museum at the Alaska State Fairgrounds, the Knik and Wasilla Museums, the Talkeetna Museum, the Knik Dogmushers Hall of Fame, the Iditarod National Historic Trail, the Fairview Territorial School and grounds, and many others.

TRAILS The establishment, preservation and marking of historic and recreational trails throughout the borough.

FARMLANDS The preservation of established farm areas and, in particular, the old Matanuska Colony farms. Although promotion of agriculture as part of the Mat-Su economy is the primary reason for preservation of high-quality farm lands, they also have a high economic value as a tourist destination. The Borough supports legislation to purchase, on a voluntary basis, development rights in farms threatened by urbanization.

CAMPGROUNDS AND WAYSIDES Development of existing state parks and waysides and new pullouts and waysides at scenic points along the Glenn Highway, the Parks Highway, and the Talkeetna Spur Road. Many of the scenic locations described in this publication lack pullouts.

INFORMATION CENTER An information center near the junction of the Glenn and Parks Highways to direct the visitor to tourist destinations and points of interest in the borough and beyond.



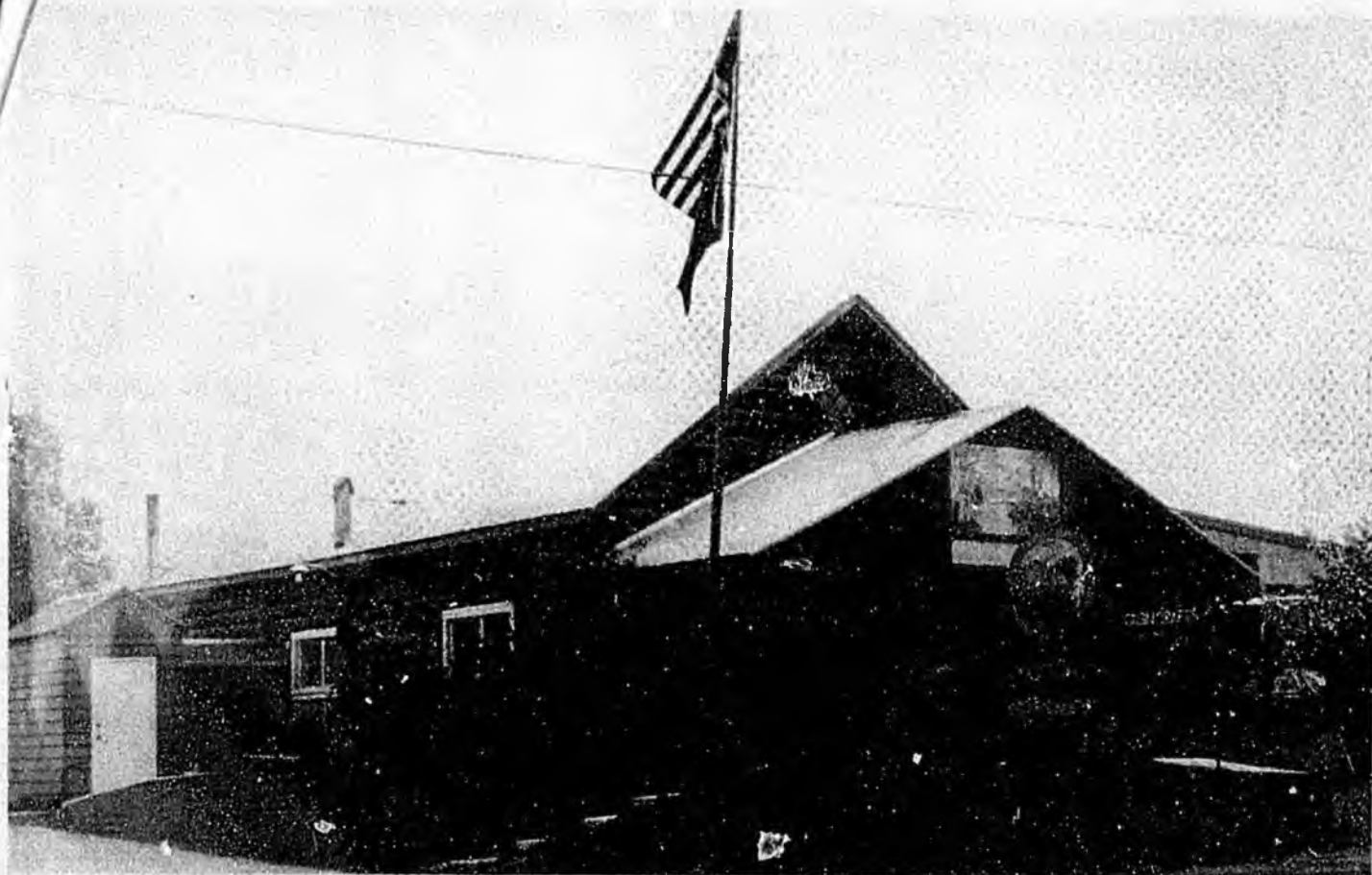
Prices and rates for goods, services or accommodations may have changed during the preparation of this publication. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough cannot be held responsible for accuracy of prices, or hours and times of operation at the various establishments. Please contact the individual businesses for current information.



A view of the Knik River Valley rewards the hiker on Bodenbug Butte trail.



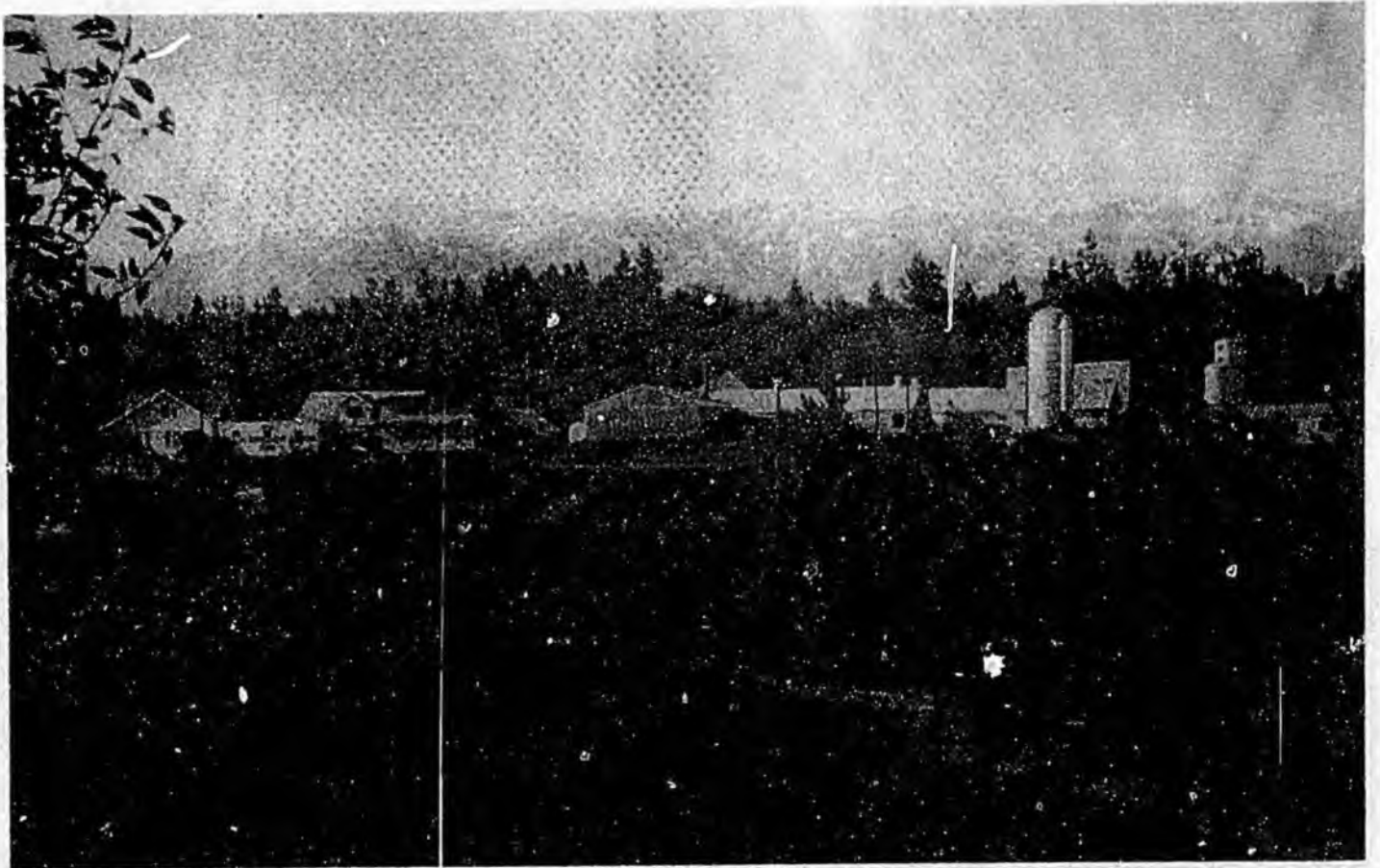
The log cabin visitor center in downtown Palmer.



Wasilla Historical Museum and Visitor Center.



4-H horse meet at the Alaska State Fairgrounds in Palmer.



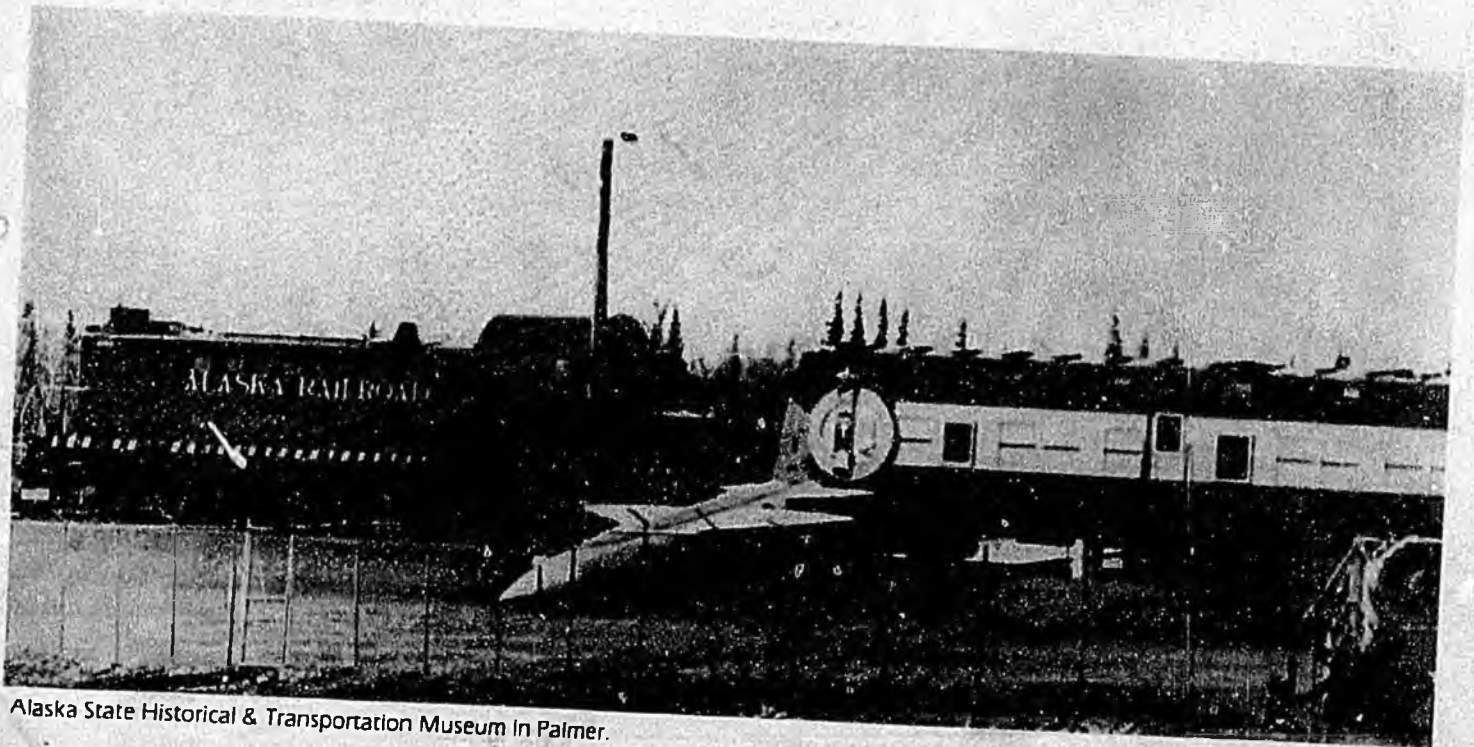
Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station on Trunk Road between Palmer and Wasilla.



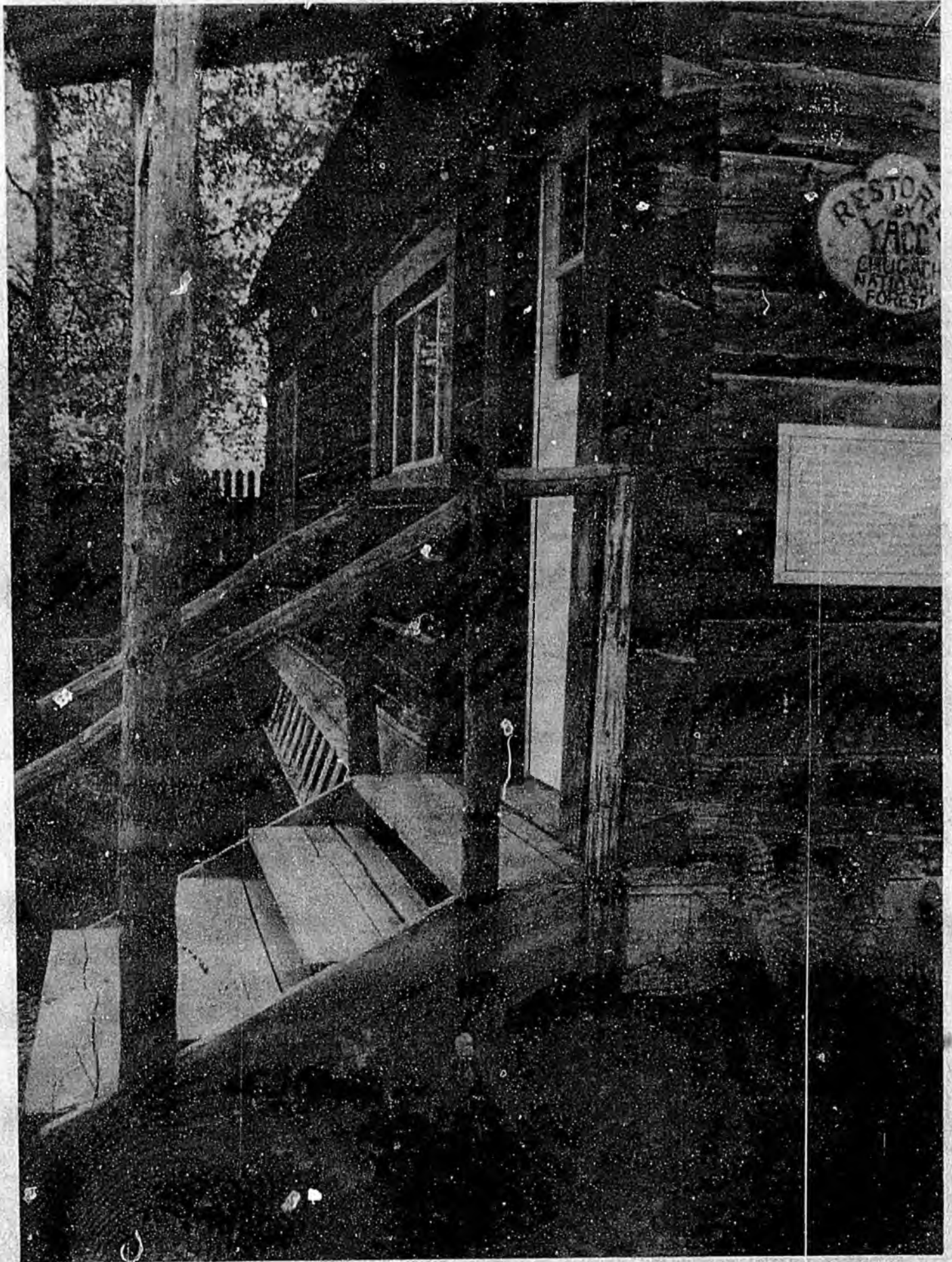
Horses in the Bodenbug Butte farming area are always a welcome sight for visiting youngsters.



A musher's farewell on Knik Lake leaving for the 1,049 mile Iditarod Trail Race to Nome.



Alaska State Historical & Transportation Museum in Palmer.



Frontier Village in Wasilla