

SB

9

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7) Date Referred: April 15, 1991 FURTHER REFERRALS: Rules

Date of Committee Action: 4-29-91

The COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS Committee considered: CSSB 9(TRA)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 9 (TRANSPORTATION)
BOB BLODGETT HWY; JOHNSTON BR.; MT. MCGHAN

"An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway, the Ina Johnston Bridge, and Mount McGhan."

RECOMMENDATIONS:
 be replaced with House CS for CS SB 9 (CRA) the same title a new title
 have attached amendments(s)
 do pass
 do not pass
 no recommendations
 individual recommendations
 additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s): (Dept) APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date)
 fiscal impact _____ fiscal note(s) _____
 zero fiscal note _____ zero fiscal note(s) DOT, DNR

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Richard [Signature]</i>	X				
<i>Neil Phillips</i>	X				
<i>Betty Davis</i>	X				
<i>[Signature]</i>	X				
<i>[Signature]</i>	X				
<i>Cheri Davis</i>	✓				
<i>John C. [Signature]</i>	✓				

[Signature]
CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE



Alaska State Legislature

Al Adams
District L

WHILE IN SESSION
P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-3707

OUT OF SESSION
P.O. Box 333
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
(907) 442-3245

3111 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 561-7622

Official Business

TO: Representative Mike Navarre, Chair
House Finance Committee

FROM: Senator Al Adams *ADA*

RE: Senate Bill 9, An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway, the Ina Johnson Bridge, and Mount McGhan"

DATE: April 9, 1991

This is to request a hearing in the House Finance Committee on the aforementioned legislation.

Attached to this letter are.

- copy of original bill and most recent version
- fiscal notes from LCRA, DOT and DNR
- map of the road area for Bob Blodgett Road designation
- letter of support from the Department of Transportation Western District manager for Bob Blodgett Road designation
- copies of past newspaper articles showing Senator Blodgett's interest in creation of the road
- letter of support from the City of Nome for Bob Blodgett Road designation
- resolution by the Nome City Council in support of Bob Blodgett Road designation
- statutory citation of need for legal action in road naming
- statutory citation for Geographic Names Board
- legislative citation that passed the Seventeenth Legislature recognizing the contributions of Senator Blodgett
- resolution of the North and Northwest Mayors Conference supporting the Bob Blodgett Road designation
- committee reports
- background material on Ina Johnson and Bruce McGahn

If you need further information please contact Martha Stewart my office.

Thank you for your consideration.

7-LS0163G ✓
Utermohle
4/25/91

**HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 9 (CRA)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): SENATORS ADAMS, Rodey, Sturgulewski

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway and the Ina Johnston Bridge."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 *** Section 1. AS 35.40 is amended by adding new sections to read:**

4 **Sec. 35.40.070. BOB BLODGETT NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY. This road connecting**
5 **Nome and Teller is named the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway.**

6 **Sec. 35.40.075. INA JOHNSTON BRIDGE. Bridge number 1192 on Edgerton Park**
7 **Road over the Little Susitna River is named Ina Johnston Bridge.**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Introduced:
Referred:

A RESOLUTION

1 Suspending Uniform Rules 41(b), 24(c), and 35 of the Alaska State Legislature concerning
2 Senate Bill No. 9, relating to naming a highway, bridge, and mountain.

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

4 That under Rule 54 of the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, the provisions of Rule
5 41(b), Rule 24(c), and Rule 35 of the Uniform Rules, regarding changes to the title of a bill, are
6 suspended in consideration of Senate Bill No. 9, naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway, the
7 Ina Johnston Bridge, and Mount McGhan.



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
BILL ANALYSIS

DEPARTMENT DCRA	DIVISION AK State Geographic Names Board	BILL NUMBER CSSR9	SPONSOR Senators Adams, Rodey, & Sturqulewski
SHORT TITLE OF BILL An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway, the Ina Johnston Bridge & Mount McGhan			
DEPARTMENT POSITION The Geographic Names Board does not name man-made features, so we have no position on the road or bridge names; suggest asking DOT/PF for their position. We are opposed to Sec. 2 of this bill which names Mount McGhan for reasons outlined below.			
PREPARED BY Vicki Moore	DATE 2/14/91	COMMISSIONER'S SIGNATURE <i>EL. STY</i>	DATE 2/19/91

SUMMARY

OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED BY BILL DOT/PF	CONSTITUENT GROUP(S) AFFECTED BY BILL Debra McGhan
ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BILL	ORGANIZATIONAL OPPOSITION TO BILL

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE FISCAL NOTE ATTACHED

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE INTENT

See Attached

ANALYSIS OF BILL/PROGRAM EFFECTS

Passage of this bill would have adverse impacts on the Executive Branch.
See Attached

AMENDMENTS PROPOSED

See Attached

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OF ANALYSIS.

Background/Legislative Intent:

Presently the Alaska Geographic Names Board (AGNB) reviews and names only natural features. Man-made features such as bridges, roads and buildings, may be named by the appropriate local government. Where no local government exists or for roads which cross local boundaries, the AGNB recommends a review by DOT/PF.

Section 2 of CS SB 9, amends AS 44.19.054-44.19.062, which outlines the duties and responsibilities of the Alaska Geographic Names Board. This bill also proposes naming a feature "Mount McGhan", "Notwithstanding AS 44.19.054 - 44.19.062..." This says that regardless of the procedures the AGNB already has in place or any prior or future action of the AGNB, the name of the feature is to be called Mount McGhan. The function of the Board would be pre-empted by this bill. It would also open the door for other features to be named without the Executive Branch's review or concurrence. Furthermore, this bill attempts to override AS 44.19.054 - 44.19.062 without going through a formal amendment process. It also adds a decision to a statute which is intended to outline the functions and responsibilities of a board.

The AGNB uses policies and procedures developed by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as a basis when reviewing proposals. Adherence to these federal precedents eliminates the possibility of arbitrary decisionmaking as well as providing equal public access to the naming of geographic features.

The Alaska Geographic Names Board falls under the purview of the Executive Branch. The Executive Branch, therefore, is responsible for accomplishment of the Board's statutory mandate through the establishment of procedures for day-to-day operations. CS SB 9 would allow the Legislature to administer an Executive Branch function.

Mrs. Debra McGhan proposed the naming of a mountain after her late husband, Bruce McGhan. Commemorative Name Policy states that the person for whom the feature is to be named must have made a "significant contribution" to the state or had a direct and long association with the feature. The AGNB formally reviewed the Mount McGhan Name Proposal during its February 9, 1988 meeting and rejected it since it was felt that the individual in question did not meet this criteria. (A copy of the Board's minutes for the Mount McGhan discussion is attached.)

The Second Session of the Sixteenth Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution #32 requesting the naming of a mountain on the Kenai Peninsula after Bruce McGhan. (Copy attached.) The Commissioner announced that the Board would reconsider the McGhan proposal in light of HCR 32. About the same time, Mrs. McGhan wrote a letter to the Governor (attached), to which the

Governor responded by instructing the AGNB to reconsider the proposal. The Governor also instructed the Board to review the proposal in light of the Board's policies and guidelines.

The Board met on February 22, 1990, to reconsider the proposal, and after considerable debate and discussion, voted to uphold its previous decision. Again, it was determined that the individual in question had not met the "significant contribution" requirement. (A copy of the minutes of the Mount McGhan discussion is attached.) Mrs. McGhan was personally contacted by the Deputy Commissioner and a letter was written her, formally explaining the Board's decision. (A copy is attached.)

Analysis of Bill/Program Effects:

The Alaska State Geographic Names Board has been charged with reviewing and evaluating name proposals for natural features. The Executive Branch is responsible for the administrative functioning of this Board as outlined in statute. CS SB 9 would set a dangerous precedent by taking away the function of the AGNB currently assigned by statute to the Executive Branch and giving it to the Legislature.

The McGhan decision was not a capricious one but one made in accordance with the clearly delineated criteria embodied in the guidelines used by the Board in evaluating commemorative name proposals. A copy is attached for your information.

Amendments Proposed:

Delete Section 2 of CS SB 9. If this section is not deleted, we recommend that the bill not pass.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CS SB 9

Revision Date: _____ Department Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
 Title: "An Act naming the Bob Blodgett BRU: Administration and Support
Nome-Teller Highway...." Component: Office of the Commissioner
 Sponsor: Adams, Rodey, Sturgulewski
 Requestor: Pourchot COMPONENT SERIAL NO.

	6	8	3
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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

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

POSITIONS:

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

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

Prepared By: Remond Henderson Remond Henderson Phone: 465-4708
 Division: Administrative Services Date: 2/18/91
 Approved by Commissioner: Ed. Blatchford Edgar Blatchford
 Agency: Community & Regional Affairs Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1991 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. CSSB 9

Revision Date: 12-Feb-91 Department Affected: Natural Resources
 Title: An Act naming the Bob Blodgett BRU: Management & Administration
 Name-Teller Highway etc. Nome-Teller Highway etc. Components: Commissioner's Office
 Sponsor: Senator Adams
 Requestor: Senate Transportation Committee COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 423

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND&STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of Current year impact:

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

See Attached

Prepared by: Carol Wilson Phone: 465-2400
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date: Feb. 12, 1991

Approved by Commissioner: B Harold Heinze Date: Feb. 12, 1991
 Agency: Department of Natural Resources

Distribution (by preparer) : Legislative Finance, legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1

Version: SB 9
(S) Publish Date: 2/8/91

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____ Department Affected: DOT&PF
Title: An act naming the Bob Blodgett Western District M&O
Nome-Teller Highway. BRU:
Sponsor: Adams, Rodey, Sturgulewski Component: Highways & Aviation
Requestor: Senator Adams Component Serial Number: 0587

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY91	FY92	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING:	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDING:	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS

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

Estimate of current year impact: None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

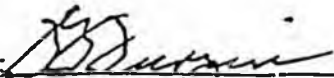
The only direct costs incurred by this bill would be approximately \$400 to purchase two signs; one for each end of the highway. That cost would be absorbed by the Western District M&O budget. Sign installation would be done incidental to normal sign maintenance.

Prepared by: Norm Piispanen

Phone: 474-2423

Division: Northern Region Planning

Date: January 29, 1991

Approved by Commissioner: 
Frank G. Turpin

Changes in CSB 9 Tran
have no fiscal impact. This
fiscal note is appropriate.

Agency: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

2/7/91 
date Comte Aide (initials)

Distribution By Preparer: Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Impacted Agency(ies).

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Sponsor
Sen. Adams

DATE: 2/8/91

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 2/19/91

The Finance Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 9

"An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway."

and recommended:

[] replace with _____ CS
[] or adopt _____ CS SB 9 (TRSD)
[] attached amendment(s)
[] _____ letter of intent adopted

[] same title
[] new title
[] technical title change (HB only)

[] do pass

[] do not pass

[] no recommendation

[] individual recommendations

[] further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Dept/Date:

[] fiscal note(s) _____

[] zero fiscal note(s) DNR 2/12/91

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

Dept/Date:

[] fiscal note(s) _____

[] zero fiscal note(s) DOT 2/29/91

[] appropriation-no fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Jim Duncan
Sen. Adams
Phil [unclear]
Rich [unclear]

1. *Pat [unclear]*

2. *Do pass*

Co-Chairs: Signatures and Recommendations

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

DATE: 1/21/91

FURTHER: Finance

Date of 5-Day Notice: 1-31-91
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 2-8-91

Transportation Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 9

"An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway."

and a majority of the committee recommends it be replaced with

and recommended:

[] replace with ~~SB 9~~ CS SB 9 (TRAN)

same title
 new title

[] attached amendment(s)

and do pass

[] _____ letter of intent adopted

do pass

[] do not pass

[] no recommendation

[] individual recommendations

[] further referral to _____

OK

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department(s)/Date:

Department(s)/Date:

[] fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) DOTPF/1/29/91
SB + CS

[] appropriation-no fiscal note

[] Governor's bill w/fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

Hope Jones Jones (1)
Irma Pearce (1)

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Chair: Signature and Recommendation DO PASS
Menas

FIRST SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL
NORTH AND NORTHWEST ALASKA MAYORS' CONFERENCE
NOME, ALASKA
OCTOBER 11-12, 1990

RESOLUTION NO. 91-35

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING RENAMING THE NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY TO THE BOB BLODGETT NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY.

WHEREAS, former Senator Bob Blodgett committed his life to representing and improving conditions in North & Northwest Alaska; and

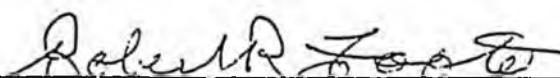
WHEREAS, Bob Blodgett was instrumental in obtaining funds for the creation and maintenance of the Nome-Teller Road; and

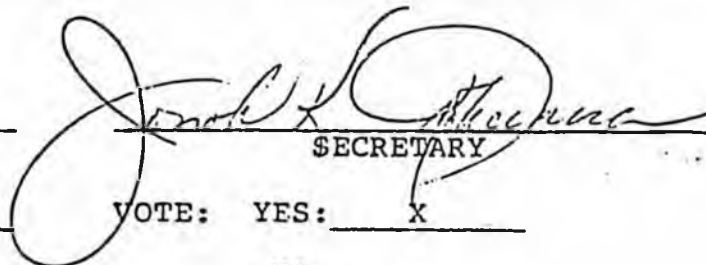
WHEREAS, renaming the Nome-Teller road for Bob Blodgett would be a fitting testament to his efforts; and

WHEREAS, Senator Al Adams will introduce legislation in the Seventeenth Legislature to rename the Nome-Teller highway.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL NORTH AND NORTHWEST ALASKA MAYORS' CONFERENCE THAT: efforts by Senator Adams to rename the Nome-Teller Road after Bob Blodgett are fully endorsed and supported.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE FIRST SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL NORTH AND NORTHWEST ALASKA MAYORS' CONFERENCE THIS 12th DAY OF OCTOBER, 1990.


PRESIDENT


SECRETARY

INTRODUCED: Kotzebue

VOTE: YES: X

SECONDED BY: White Mountain

NO: _____

DIRECTED TO: Governor Hickel

Representative Foster

Senator Adams

DOT/PF

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



In Memoriam

• ROBERT "BOB" BLODGETT •

The Seventeenth Alaska Legislature honors the memory of Robert "Bob" Blodgett who died on Friday, July 6, 1990 at his home in Teller, Alaska.

Bob Blodgett was born August 2, 1920 in Creston, Iowa. He was a businessman, pilot, state legislator, regional and local elected official. Mr. Blodgett arrived in Alaska in 1946 to attend the University of Alaska-Fairbanks to study mine engineering. In 1947 he went to work for Arctic Contractors building airports at the Defense Early Warning (Dew) line sites throughout western Alaska. He worked as a heavy duty mechanic, heavy equipment operator and welder.

In 1953, Bob moved to Teller and purchased Teller Commercial Company. In 1957 he started Teller Electric Company and in 1970 established Mukluk Telephone Company. The latter business grew to serve thirteen villages in northwestern Alaska. In 1959, Mr. Blodgett was elected to the First State Legislature, House of Representatives, from Teller. In 1963, he was elected to the State Senate and served until he retired in 1970. Mr. Blodgett served on the Finance Committee and was responsible for bringing many services to rural Alaska. He was elected to the second board of the Bering Strait School District and the Bering Strait Coastal Resource Service Area Board. Last year he won a seat to the Teller City Council as a write-in candidate.

Bob Blodgett served in the Army Air Corp as a pilot in World War II, receiving all decorated medals except the Medal of Honor. He was the second highest decorated Alaskan World War II veteran. Bob was the first commanding officer of guard units in Barrow and Fairbanks and was instrumental in their creation. He continued his military career in the Alaska National Guard, retiring with the rank of Captain. Mr. Blodgett retired as a member of Operating Engineers Local 322. He was a lifelong member of the Arctic Native Brotherhood in Juneau, founder of the Rural Alaska Power Association and member of the Alaska Telephone Association. Bob remained manager of his family owned businesses until the time of his death.

Bob Blodgett is survived by his wife Helen, son Richard, daughter-in-law Karen, and grandchild Robert David, Luanne and Kalena, all of Teller, Alaska. He is also survived by an identical twin brother Donald of Illinois.

The Seventeenth Legislature sends its condolences to the family for the loss of a man who served as a strong advocate for rural Alaska and contributed his many talents to his community, region and the State of Alaska as a whole.



James W. Halpern
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Richard Eliason
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: January 24, 1991

Requested by: Senators Adams, Zharoff, Sturgulewski, Rodey,
Pearce, Halford, Cotten, Kerttula, Jones, Eliason, Uehling and
Collins; Representatives Foster, MacLean, Brown, C. Davis, Gruenberg, Leman, Navarre, G. Phillips,
Phillips, Taylor, Ulmer and Zawacki

STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

P.O. BOX 1048
NOME, ALASKA 99762-1048
PHONE: (907) 443-3444

NORTHERN REGION, WESTERN DISTRICT

September 11, 1990

Senator Al Adams
P.O. Box 333
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Dear Al:

We here at the Department of Transportation wholeheartedly support naming the Nome-Teller highway for Bob Blodget. Were it not for his efforts it would not have been constructed. Additionally, having Bob as a friend and discussing the areas needs with him on numerous occasions I am well aware of his love for and dedication to the people of the Seward Peninsula. Bob is most deserving of this recognition.

To answer your questions: The Nome-Teller highway is a Federal Aid Secondary route. As to jurisdiction, it is under the State's but to receive Federal money it must meet Federal Standards.

I have attached copies of a 1976 Department of Highways map showing the Seward Peninsula and the various road systems. I haven't been able to find anything more detailed.

Looking through our archives here in Nome I only find a couple of old newspaper clippings which may be of some use so have included them. I will research this further.

I will send along anything else I find which will assist you in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



C. M. Coyle, Manager
Western District

CC/sg

Enclosures



AFTER

Basic System Of Throughways In Alaska Illustrated 'Before And After' By Sen. Gruening

Proposals of Senator Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska) for construction of a basic system of throughways in Alaska is seen in the accompanying photographs.

The first shows the existing road system in Alaska. In the second, the senator points out how the system would be expanded under his program.

Senator Gruening has proposed that the Public Works Committee of the Senate visit Alaska after adjournment this year to study Alaska's highway needs. He has received encouraging support from Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.), Senator Dennis Chavez (D-N.M.), chairman of the Public Works Committee, and Senator Pat McNamara (D-Mich.), chairman of the Public Roads Subcommittee.

The main elements of the Gruening highway plan are as follows:

- (1) Completion of the Copper River Highway from Cordova via Chitina to McCarthy and its extension to a junction with the Alaska Highway;
- (2) Construction of a road paralleling the Alaska Railroad from Nenana via McKinley Park to Talkeetna and Willow, so as to provide

a second through route from Fairbanks to Anchorage;

(3) Completion of Highway 97 from Fairbanks to Nome and Teller;

(4) Provision of a road from Talkeetna via McGrath to a junction with Highway 97 at Ruby, so as to give Anchorage access to northwestern Alaska;

(5) Provision of a southeastern Alaska ferry system on a fast and frequent schedule linking Prince Rupert with Haines and with stops at Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Juneau and Skagway;

(6) Construction of a road from McGrath to Dillingham to tie Bristol Bay into the rest of the state overland;

(7) Construction of a road from Unalakleet to the Yukon River and

a junction with Highway Yukon;

(8) Closing of the Eagle link;

(9) Extension of the road Nabesna to a junction with the Alaska Highway;

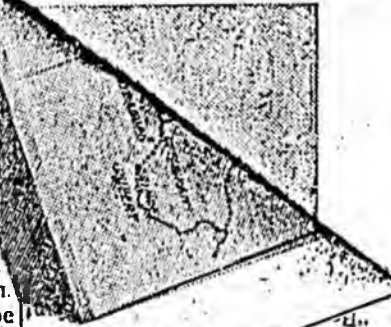
(10) Completion of a cutoff of the Glenn Highway to the DeWitt Highway via Lake Louise;

(11) Building of a highway across Baranof Island from Sitka to Warm Springs Bay so that Sitka may be linked into the ferry system;

(12) Completion of the Hydaburg-Craig-Hollis road so that the west coast of Prince of Wales Island may be linked with the ferry;

(13) Building of roads from southeastern Alaska cities (all depending upon Canadian cooperation in construction on their side of the border), so as to connect Skagway with Carcross, Juneau with Atlin, Petersburg and Wrangell with Telegraph Creek and Ketchikan with an extension of the "A" Route northward from Hazelton, B.C.

Senator Gruening advocates this construction over the next 10 years to correct a situation which leaves Alaska unique among the states in that few of its cities are connected with others by road.



The Northern Alaska chapter cooperating with the State and Federal Medical Association in urging every person to obtain the Salk vaccine shots at their earliest possible convenience. There are general ways in which the immunity of Salk vaccine may be obtained. "You may obtain the vaccine shot from your family physician in place, at your convenience. All children through age 18 and expectant mothers may obtain the Salk vaccine at the Fairbanks Health Center, during the weekly shot clinic each Friday."

RE. CHANGE IN PRESENT METHOD OF ALLOCATING GASOLINE TAX FUNDS

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner - March 21, 1959
Anchorage Times March 21, 1959
Nome Nugget March 23, 1959

Anchorage Times
Mar 21 '59

Mon Mar 23
Nome Nugget

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, Saturday, March

or Highw Government Would OK Planned Split, He

JUNEAU, March 21, (AP) — A Federal Bureau of Public Roads official yesterday voiced strong opposition to a bill to change Alaska's present method of allocating gasoline tax funds and require equal distribution among the state's four major districts.

After the hearing before the Senate, in session as a committee of the whole, the bill was retained on the calendar but appeared in line for amendment before final action.

Strongest support for the measure has come from northwestern Alaska senators who seek a road connecting Nome with other parts of the state. The measure, which had been saved from defeat several times, appeared headed for passage before yesterday's hearing.

E. H. Swick of Juneau, regional engineer for the BPR, told senators he felt it would be impractical to split off available highway funds in the method proposed under the bill. And he added the federal agency would not be agreeable to administering federal matching funds on such a basis.

"It's my personal opinion that the Legislature would not be wise to program a highway fund. For the first few years

Opposition To Gas Tax Measure From Fed. Roads Bureau

JUNEAU, (AP) — A Federal Bureau of Public Roads official Friday voiced strong opposition to a bill to change Alaska's present method of allocating gasoline tax funds and require equal distribution among the state's four major districts.

After the hearing before the Senate, in session as a committee of the whole, the bill was retained on the calendar but appeared in line for amendment before final action.

Strongest support for the measure has come from Northwestern Alaska senators who seek a road connecting Nome with other parts of the state. The measure, which had been saved from defeat several times, appeared headed for passage before Friday's hearing.

E. H. Swick of Juneau, regional engineer for the BPR, told senators he felt it would be impractical to split off available highway funds in the method proposed under the bill. And he added the federal agency would not be agreeable to administering federal matching funds on such a basis.

"It's my personal opinion that the Legislature would not be wise to program a highway fund. For the next few years at least, you should permit the state Highway Department to come up with a program and then you can see how it is doing," he said.

"I can't see how you can decide that any one area is going to have so much money and still come up with anything that makes sense."

Alaska now receives about 13 1/2 million dollars a year in federal highway aid, he said. Along with state matching funds, the total amount available to Alaska for road programs amounts to about 15 million dollars a year.

I Oppo

Proposal Impractical, Swick States

JUNEAU (AP) — A Federal Bureau of Public Roads official yesterday voiced strong opposition to a bill to change Alaska's present method of allocating gasoline tax funds and require equal distribution among the state's four major districts.

After the hearing before the Senate, in session as a committee of the whole, the bill was retained on the calendar but appeared in line for amendment before final action.

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"I can't see how you can decide that any one area is going to have so much money and still come up with anything that makes sense."

Alaska now receives about



CITY OF NOME

*Send to
John*

P.O. BOX 281 - NOME, ALASKA 99762
TELEPHONE (907) 443-5242

October 5, 1990

Senator Al Adams
Box 333
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

Dear Al,

Enclosed please find City of Nome Resolution No. R-91-9-7, " A Resolution Endorsing the Renaming of the Nome-Teller Highway to the BOB BLODGETT NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY". This resolution was adopted unanimously by the Nome Common Council at their September 24, 1990 regular meeting.

Thank you for your plan to introduce legislation naming the road in memory of Bob. It is a fitting memorial to a man who served the Seward Peninsula for many years.

Sincerely yours,

Linda

Linda E. Conley
City Clerk

cc: Representative Richard Foster
Mrs. Robert Blodgett

Presented By:
Councilman Adams
Action Taken:
Yes 6 No 0

CITY OF NOME, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. R-91-9-7

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE RENAMING OF THE
NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY TO THE BOB BLODGETT NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, the expansion of road systems on the Seward Peninsula has always been instrumental in encouraging economic development; and,

WHEREAS, the Nome-Teller Highway is a valuable transportation route for the cities of Nome and Teller which allows ease of trade and better access to medical facilities; and,

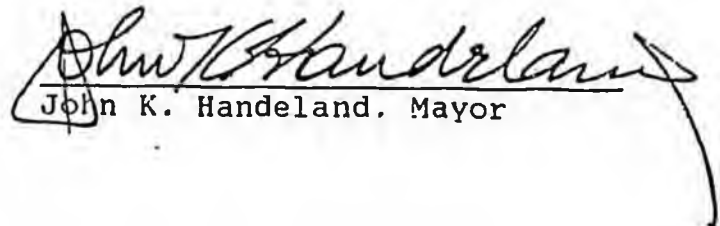
WHEREAS, R.R. "Bob" Blodgett was elected as a State Representative from the local area during the First Session of the First State Legislature in 1958 and he continued to serve in that capacity through the Third State Legislature in 1964, at which time he was elected to the State Senate and served through the Sixth State Legislature ending in 1970; and,

WHEREAS, the contributions of Senator Bob Blodgett to the local area and the state as a whole should fittingly be remembered by a dedication to his name; and,

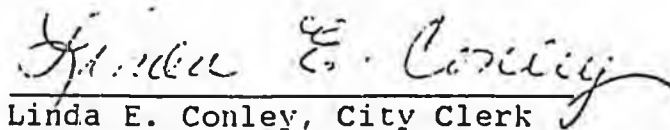
WHEREAS, Senator Blodgett was instrumental in developing and securing funding for the construction of the Nome-Teller Highway,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nome Common Council that in recognition of his commitment and dedication to the residents of Nome and Teller, the City of Nome endorses efforts to rename the Nome-Teller Highway to the BOB BLODGETT NOME-TELLER HIGHWAY.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 24 day of September, 1990.


John K. Handeland, Mayor

ATTEST:


Linda E. Conley, City Clerk

Alaska State Legislature



Sen. Curt Menard, *Chair*
Sen. Lloyd Jones, *Vice-Chair*
Sen. Bettye Fahrenkamp, *Member*
Sen. Drue Pearce, *Member*
Sen. Dick Shultz, *Member*

P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

907 465-4921

Senate Transportation Committee

TO: Senate Transportation Committee

FROM: Senator Curt Menard, Chairman

DATE: 6 February 1991

RE: Ina Johnston and Bruce McGahan Amendments to SB 9

Ina Johnston came to the Matanuska-Susitna valley in 1957, where she worked for many years as a nurse's aid at the hospital. In 1963, the state provided the materials for the building of bridge #1192, with local volunteers doing the construction. Mr. Johnston worked as a welder on the bridge, and his wife Ina provided the meals for the workers.

Ina died in March of 1989, and her friends and neighbors have requested that this bridge be named to honor the work that Ina has done for her community and neighbors. As per the letters attached, Ina was always willing to lend a helping hand to those who needed it. As one of the local people who helped with the construction of the bridge, it seems only fitting that this bridge become a memorial to her.

Bruce McGhan was killed in an industrial accident on November 26, 1986 while upgrading a septic system in the Wasilla area. The family and friends of Bruce would like the State of Alaska to leave a landmark and memorial for him. Born and raised in Alaska, Bruce explored much of the state. In his travels he discovered Crescent Lake on the Kenai Peninsula.

Bruce worked throughout Alaska on many construction projects. He built village schools, houses, and state campground facilities. The work Bruce did around the state over the years stretches from Fairbanks to Valdez, Kenai to Palmer, Iliamna to Girdwood and all around southcentral Alaska.

Page 2

Ina Johnston & Bruce McGhan amendments

Bruce took great pride in his home state and in every job and landmark he left behind.

His family and friends have joined together in their request that the unnamed mountain near Crescent Lake be officially named Mt. McGhan as a memorial for this most deserving man. Bruce's remains have been spread on the slopes of this mountain in the place he loved and visited so much.

I am requesting that the committee members consider these amendments to SB 9.

BRUCE ALLEN MCGHAN

By: Debra McGhan

On November 26, 1986 Bruce McGhan was killed in an industrial accident while upgrading a septic system in the Wasilla area. Bruce is gone, but his memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him; and in the many landmarks of work he left behind to the state of Alaska, his home.

The family and friends of Bruce now call on Alaska to help leave a landmark for him; a memorial for Bruce. Born and raised in Alaska, Bruce explored much of the state. In his travels he discovered Crescent Lake on the Kenai Peninsula. When Bruce and his wife Debra needed a change from the fast pace of city life, they hiked to Crescent Lake. Here, in this special place, they spent many hours sharing their love and enjoying the beauty of Alaska's backcountry.

Located approximately three miles north of Kenai Lake in the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Crescent Lake is bordered by several mountains. One mountain, which lies on the north shore of Kenai Lake and the south shore of Crescent Lake, is currently unnamed. We would like to have this mountain named Mt. McGhan in memory of Bruce Allen McGhan and his love for the state of Alaska.

Bruce was born on August 14, 1953 in Anchorage Alaska. He was the oldest of four children born to Terry Smith and Marilyn Cox McGhan.

His father, Terry McGhan, owned an Anchorage based construction company which specialized in water and sewer excavation. His company installed the first public water and sewer systems used in Spenard. He was a bush pilot and son of pioneer Alaska parents who operated one of the early airlines between Alaska and Seattle. Terry's father, Clifford D. "MAC" McGhan drove one of the first cars over the Alcan Highway after it opened in the 1940's.

In 1961 Bruce's parents divorced and Bruce, along with his sister and brothers: Mike, Colleen, and Pat, remained in Anchorage living with their mother. Terry continued to work in Alaska in the construction field for many years. He owned and operated Mentasta Lodge on the Tok Cutoff from 1966 to 1969. In 1973 he left the state and currently owns a construction company in Warrenton, Oregon.

Marilyn, Bruce's mother, began working for Business Service Bureau in 1961 as a receptionist and executive secretary. In 1967 she was offered an executive position with a newly formed company, Labor Trust Services, as administrator for many large health, welfare, and pension trust funds. She is now a corporate owner of Labor Trust Services in Anchorage.

As the oldest child many responsibilities fell to Bruce and he took this position seriously. He realized at an early age that the only way to get ahead was hard work; and Bruce was determined to thrive. He kept his brother's, who were both rapidly growing taller than himself, in line with brute strength. There was a constant challenge among the brothers but they each respected one another recognizing the individual talents that

emerged as they grew.

At eight years old Bruce became the youngest paper boy hired by the Anchorage Daily News. Conscientious and hard working, he succeeded in establishing one of the largest paper routes in the Spenard area, winning dozens of awards for his efforts. He kept up with the deliveries for many years, getting up at 4:00 a.m. seven days a week.

When Bruce was 12 his father bought Mentasta Lodge on the Tok Cutoff. For three summers the kids worked in the lodge making beds, cutting wood, stocking shelves, and even building an aircraft runway. Bruce learned to run his first piece of heavy equipment on that runway. It took all summer because when the dozer broke down he had to repair it; this was quite a task for a 13 year old who didn't know much about fixing dozer's. But with a book, some tools, and a sense of challenge, Bruce fixed the dozer and finished the runway a week before summer ended.

The McGhan family faced many hard years as Marilyn struggled to raise four children alone in Anchorage. It was a challenge keeping food on the table, and extra money was unheard of. In spite of the odds Bruce saved enough money to buy a brand new Datsun pickup by his seventeenth birthday.

Once Bruce had wheels and could drive he began to thirst for more; he wanted to fly. Along with his school work he took on two jobs (appliance repair and gas station attendant) to earn the money needed for flying lessons. He soloed after just eight hours of formal instruction. At 18 he earned his private pilot license and began saving for an airplane.

In 1971, during his senior year of high school, Bruce landed a job with A.A.A. Rental company as a yard hand. Within a week, Bob Holt the owner, discovered Bruce had a knack for mechanic work and running equipment. He was promoted, given a raise, and put to delivering loaders, backhoes, and dozers around Anchorage, Girdwood, and the Mat-Su Valley. He became known as "the kid who could get anything unstuck." Occasionally arriving to pick up a piece of equipment buried in the mud, he would jump down from his truck, a huge grin lighting his boyish face, and proceed to do what seemed impossible; get a multi ton piece of equipment out of the mud and onto dry ground. But somehow he always succeeded.

Bruce continued his education with engineering and math courses at Mount Hood Community College in Portland, Oregon. But he missed Alaska, and after a short time, returned home.

In November 1973 Bruce married a former classmate, Debra McDaniel, the daughter of Alaskan artist Scott McDaniel, and settled down to raise a family.

Taking his new wife, Bruce moved to Seward and worked in the lumber mill for several months. In the spring of 1974 he was accepted into the operating engineers union so the couple returned to Anchorage. 1975 brought more changes with the start of McGhan Construction company, owned by Bruce's uncle, Tim McGhan. Bruce went to work for Tim's company as the foreman and operator. And for the next five years he worked with Tim, helping to build a strong, successful business.

In 1976, shortly before the birth of their first child, Bruce made the decision to move his family to the Mat-Su valley.

He spent the winter designing house plans, then began construction of his first home in Wasilla during the summer of 1977. He continued to work for Tim, commuting into Anchorage daily, and working on the house at night, and days off. He finished the construction in June 1978.

By 1980 the drive to Anchorage became too hard, and after buying his first airplane, Bruce went to work for a remote bush company; Jansen Construction. He flew to Iliamna and worked on the construction of several village schools around the lake.

When the schools were finished Bruce went to work for the State of Alaska, Department of Parks under the supervision of Jim Hoag. Headquartered in Willow, he worked as part of a 4 member maintenance and building crew in the state campgrounds throughout the Mat-Su Valley. Accompanied by his family, he spent the summer of 1982 traveling around south central Alaska making repairs, and building new, better devices to be used in the campgrounds. (He aided in the design and building of the currently used bear proof garbage cans.)

In the fall of 1982 Bruce bought his first backhoe and started his own construction company, B.A.M. Construction. For the next five years Bruce worked hard to build up his business. He earned the reputation of being hard working, honest, and dependable. He built seven homes in the Wasilla and Big Lake area, each one with pride and quality construction. He installed hundred's of water and sewer systems, did landscaping, home improvements, and additions; all of which were done with the same high standards Bruce lived by.

The work Bruce did around the state over the years stretches from Fairbanks to Valdez, Kenai to Palmer, Iliamna to Girdwood, and all around South Central Alaska. Bruce took great pride in his home state and that pride went into every job, and every landmark he left behind.

Now, as the one year anniversary of Bruce's death approaches, his family and friends have joined together to make a request to the state of Alaska; that the mountain near Crescent Lake be officially named Mt. McGhan as a memorial for this most deserving man.

Bruce was cremated and his remains have been spread on the slopes of this mountain in the place he loved so much. What better monument could be dedicated to this true Alaskan?

He wasn't a politician

State rejects widow's plea to name mountain

By **SUSAN MORGAN HOWK**
Frontiersman staff
Mount McGhan.

Wasilla resident Debra McGhan had hoped by now that a mountain near Cooper Landing would bear that name in honor of her late husband. This month, however, she says she was told that Bruce McGhan just wasn't important enough to the state of Alaska to warrant naming a mountain after him.

Soon after Bruce, a life-long Alaskan, was killed in a construction accident Nov. 26, 1986, Debra realized she wanted a permanent reminder of her husband of 13 years.

Someone suggested naming a star for him, but she decided on one of the unnamed mountains on the Kenai Peninsula instead. "A star just seemed too far away," she says. "I wanted something more tangible."

Debra began plowing through all the required paperwork and regulations the state told her she needed.

She collected signatures on peti-

tions, talked about her dream with politicians in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and traveled with her two young children to meetings in the area. She never doubted that her husband was worthy of a mountain.

"Bruce lived and breathed Alaska. This was home," she says. "I just always saw him go out of his way to help the state as a private citizen."

Bruce and Debra married shortly after both graduated from Diamond High School in 1972. Bruce owned his own construction business in Wasilla. He was killed when the walls of a sewer ditch collapsed on him.

Debra says her husband was an adventurer and recalls the time they spent camping and hiking on "their mountain" fondly. "Just to be in the heart of that beautiful country was great," she says. "It was our favorite place."

After collecting 1,200 signatures of support, Debra's application to name Mount McGhan was finally approved by the Kenai

Borough last June.

She then packaged up all the information and supporting data and mailed it to the Commissioner of Regional Affairs in Juneau for final approval. A phone call from someone in the office in August told her the application looked "really good" and said approval would probably be just a formality.

On Feb. 9, however, she was told the state had refused her request.

"They said they didn't feel that Bruce had given the state of Alaska a substantial enough contribution," Debra says. "I said, 'What exactly are you looking for' and she said, 'Well, like somebody who held a political office or something.'"

Debra said Bruce made more than his share of contributions to Alaska. He designed a bear-proof trashcan still in use in state parks and took pride in installing sewer systems that wouldn't pollute the environment.

"His whole thing was, 'I'm going to be here forever and my

children are going to be here forever,' so he wanted to take care of the state," she says. "But they didn't think that was enough."

She admits to feeling bitter. "Do they think that somebody who puts on a white shirt and works in Juneau makes more of a contribution than Bruce did?" she asks. "This is what Alaska is all about, we're the people who live here and work here."

Now, Debra says, she's beginning the appeal process. Juneau will need more supportive information and reasons to consider naming Mount McGhan.

Meanwhile, a bronze plaque, installed by Debra, marks the 4,730-foot-high mountain that her husband loved. After his death Debra scattered his ashes over the peak and says she and the children can feel his presence when they visit.

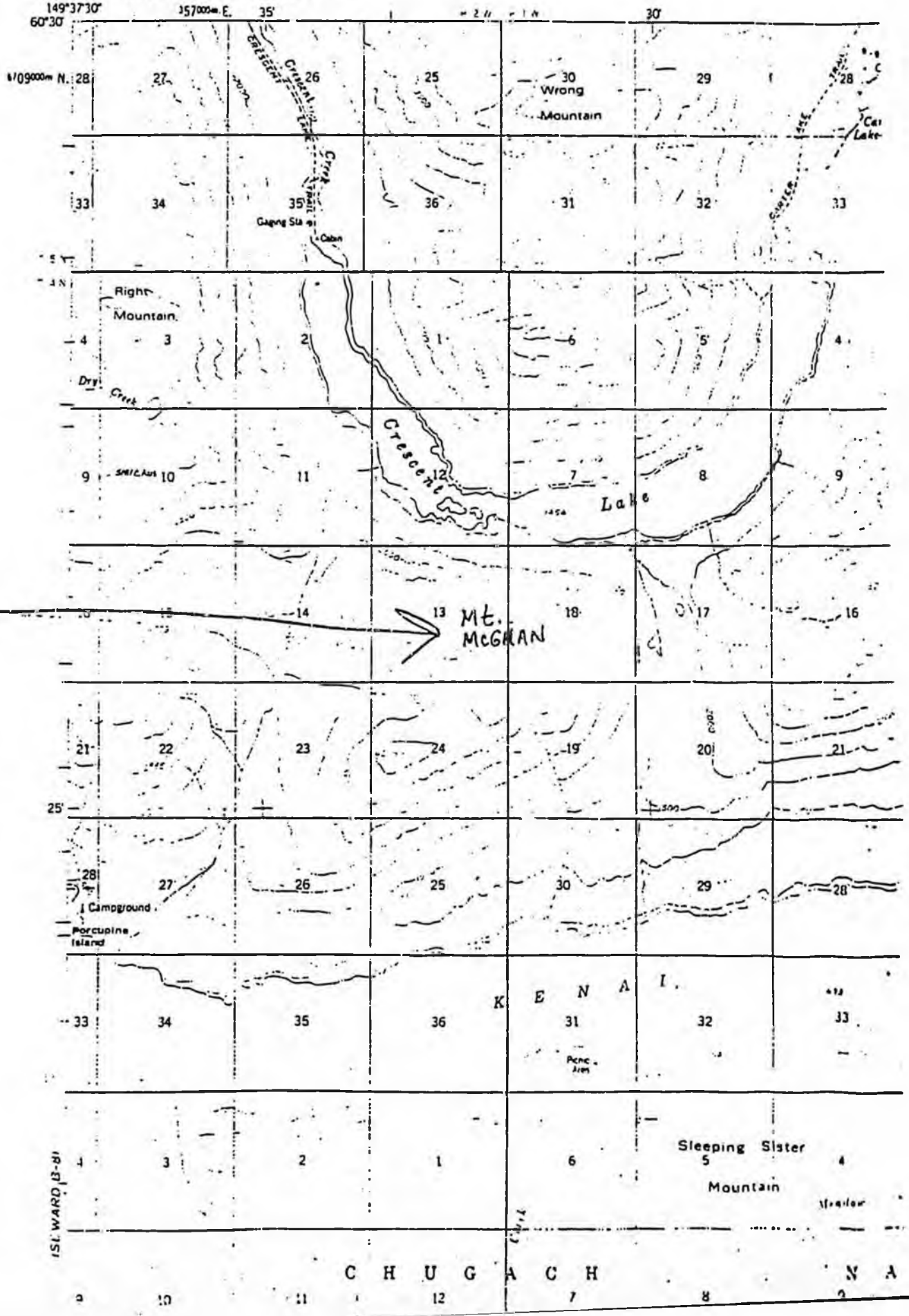
"It's like when you get there he's really there," Debra says. "It's so quiet, it's like being in the middle of a picture. It's like heaven and it feels like he's really happy there."



Debra McGhan

(SEWARD C-8)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



POSED
FEATURE

MT. MCGHAN



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669

PHONE (907) 262-4441

DON GILM
MAYOR

RECEIVED
JUN 13 1988

June 8, 1988

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Alaska State Geographic
Names Board
P.O. Box B
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sirs:

On June 7, 1988, the Kenai Peninsula Borough approved a motion to forward a letter of non-objection to the naming of a mountain at Latitude 60°26'0" North; Longitude 149°33'30" East, Section 13, Township 4N, Range 2W, Seward Meridian located on the north shore of Kenai Lake and the south shore of Crescent Lake. The mountain is currently unnamed based on the section map - Seward B-7 quadrangle.

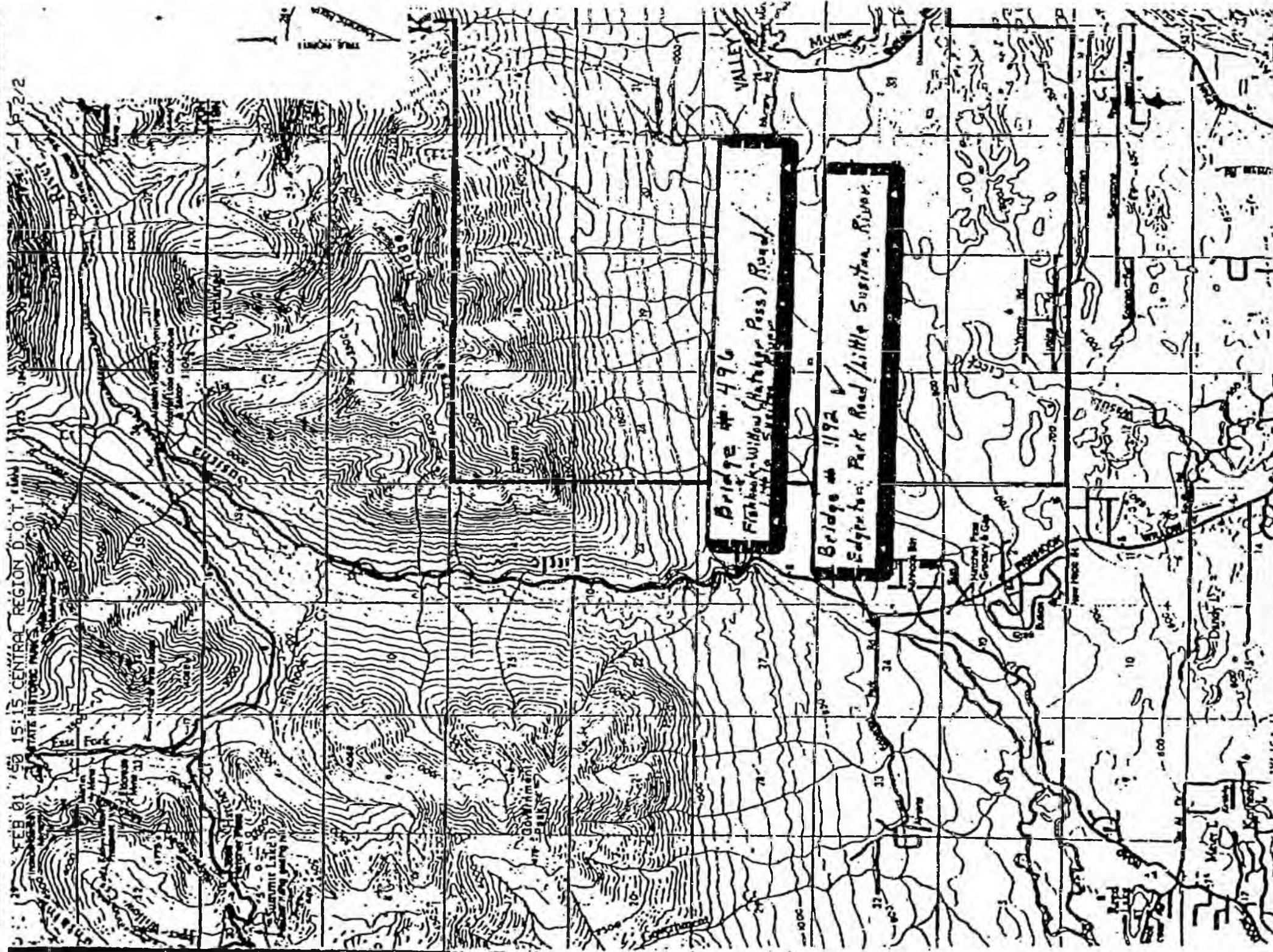
Debra A. McGhan has requested the mountain be named in memory of her deceased husband - Mt. McGhan.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office, 262-4441 ext. 220/221.

Very truly yours,

Joanne Brindley, CMC
Kenai Peninsula Borough Clerk

FEB 01 '59 15:15 CENTRAL REGION D. O. T. 150
STATE HISTORIC PARK



ALVIN JOHNSTON
P.O. BOX 6
PALMER, AK. 99645
(907) 745-3531

September 29, 1989

Reo. Curt Menard
351 W. Swanson Ave., Ste. 1
Wasilla, Ak. 99687

RE: The Naming of a Bridge; i.e., Johnston Bridge

Greetings:

The family and friends of Ina Johnston request a memorial for Ina, who died in March 1939.

We have talked this over and there is a bridge near the Johnston home which has been a very definite part of our lives. The bridge does not as yet have a name. It was started in March 1963 and completed in November 1963. The materials were funded by the state, however the construction was completed by volunteer work from neighbors. The meals during this construction were served by Ina.

We have researched the project and the following is the information we have found:

Edgerton - Parks Road
State #57062
Federal #BR-OS-1(44)

Susitna River - Hatcher Pass Road
State #57340
Federal #BR-580(18)

Ina loved this valley and she gave generously of her time with much love as she worked at the Valley Hospital and was always ready to be a friend to her neighbors.

Your considerations and assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Alvin Johnston,
family and friends

P.S. If we do not hear from you we will write again during the session in Juneau.

Ria Cottini
H C 01 Box 6755
Palmer - Ak. 99645

Feb. 5-1990

Rep. Curt Menard
Juneau Ak.

Re: Johnston Bridge

Dear Mr. Menard

I wish to advise that
I knew Ina Johnston when
she first came to Alaska as a
neighbor and a friend she
was always near when anyone
needed her

I sincerely appreciate the
consideration of this memorial
of naming the bridge

Sincerely,

Ria Cottini

Rep. Curt Menard
Box 1
Juneau, Alaska

Feb 5-1990

Re: John's request for
memorial bridge

Dear Curt -

For your office request, I am happy
to advise that I've known the family
for many years and they enjoy a very
fine reputation.

As for Ina's activities - she
was very well acknowledged as
a special person. At her funeral,
there was standing-room only.
I believe that says a great deal
for a person in our busy world.

Whatever support you can
give to this cause will be
appreciated by her husband,
family and friends.

My personal regards to you
and your family -

Sincerely,
Betty Lupton

P. Box 847,
Palmer, AK
99645



Kelsey, Senator Murkowski, Representative Red Boucher, Archbishop Francis T. Hurley, U.S. Mineral Surveyor Maurice P. Oswald, and Nabesna Area Guide Ken Oldham all sent letters of support.

AGNB ACTION: A motion to approve the proposal was made and second. The vote was against the approval (4 nay, 1 yea). A motion was made, second and voted unanimously to defer the proposal pending the development of a Board policy regarding commemorative names for public officials. Board members will send their ideas about the policy to Vicki Moore who will present a policy for discussion at the AGNB on May 18, 1989. After a policy has been adopted, the Board will reconsider this proposal.

7.

Proposal Name: Mount McGhan 6/88

Description: mountain, located on the N shore of Kenai lake, S shore of Crescent Lake; Section 13, T4N, R2W, Seward Meridian, 60°26'00"N, 149°33'30"W.

DISCUSSION: Other Factors: Named after Bruce McGhan who was killed in an accident in 1986. He was a pilot and spent a lot of time in the Crescent Lake area. He comes from an old time Alaskan family, his father operated one of the early airlines between Alaska and Seattle. He worked hard all of his life, getting into the heavy equipment field. He aided in the design of bear-proof garbage cans. he started his own construction company. Contacts, Responses: Chugach National Forest - No strong objection to proposed name, person has not had significant impact on forest issues. No known local or historical usage of this name being used for the feature. Kenai Peninsula Borough - approved. CIRI - N/R. Lots of public support - signatures. Representative Curt Menard and Representative Dave Donley sent letters of support.

AGNB ACTION: A motion was made, second and voted unanimously to reject the proposal. The individual did not meet the "significant contribution" to Alaska criterion. Nor did the individual meet the criterion of long association with that feature.

8.

Proposal Name: Dunn Island 11/88

Description: island, located between Wrangell Island and Etolin Island; one of several islands SSE of Zimovia, which are named Islets; Section 36, T65S, R85E; Section 1, T66S, R85E, Copper River Meridian.

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MENARD AND DONLEY

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Requesting the State Geographic Board to

6

name a mountain on the Kenai Peninsula

7

after Bruce McGhan.

8

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan was born and raised in the state and spent many hours enjoying the beauty of Crescent Lake and the surrounding mountains on the Kenai Peninsula; and

12

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan was killed in an industrial accident at the age of 33 leaving behind family and friends who knew and loved him; and

14

WHEREAS four generations of Bruce McGhan's family have lived in the state, coming to the state in the 1940's and bringing the brass rail that is still installed in the Anchorage Fourth Avenue Theatre; and

17

WHEREAS members of Bruce McGhan's family installed the first transmitter station on Mount Susitna and worked on the statehood committee; and

19

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's grandfather, Clifford D. McGhan, drove one of the first cars over the Alaska Highway and operated one of the early air-lines between Alaska and Seattle; and

22

WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's historic family ties to the state were made stronger by his father, Terry McGhan, who installed the first public water and sewer systems used in Spenard; and

25

WHEREAS by being a conscientious and hard worker, Bruce McGhan accomplished much in his short life, beginning at the age of eight when, as the youngest paper boy for the Anchorage Daily News, he established one of the largest paper routes in Spenard and won dozens of awards for his efforts; and

1 WHEREAS Bruce McGhan always exhibited the Alaska trait of accepting
2 any challenge, including when, at age 13, he learned to run his first piece
3 of heavy equipment, fixed the bulldozer when it broke down, and built a
4 runway at Mentasta Lodge on the Tok cutoff; and

5 WHEREAS Bruce McGhan contributed to the history of the state when he
6 worked for a remote bush construction company to build several village
7 schools; and

8 WHEREAS Bruce McGhan worked for the former state Department of Parks
9 and helped to design and build the bear-proof garbage cans that are used
10 today; and

11 WHEREAS Bruce McGhan exemplified the spirit of the state by simply
12 being a good and honorable man and by taking pride in his home state, pride
13 in every job he did, and pride in the family he left behind; and

14 WHEREAS Bruce McGhan's ashes are spread on a certain unnamed mountain,
15 among nine other unnamed mountains, in the area he loved so much; and

16 WHEREAS it is appropriate that a geographic feature within the
17 Crescent Lake area be named in his honor as a permanent testimony to his
18 memory; and

19 WHEREAS there is strong public support for this action, as demon-
20 strated by local political backing, resolutions, letters of support, and a
21 petition bearing more than 1,200 signatures; and

22 WHEREAS the unnamed mountain is located on the north shore of Kenai
23 Lake and south shore of Crescent Lake, at Section 13, Township 4 North,
24 Range 2 West, Seward Meridian, 60 degrees 26'00"N, 149 degrees 33'30"W;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the State
26 Geographic Board to name the above-described mountain in the Kenai Penin-
27 sula "Mount McGhan."

28 A COPY of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable David G.
29 Hoffman, Chair of the State Geographic Board and to the members of Bruce

1 McGhan's immediate family.

February 11, 1990

The Honorable Sam Cotten
Speaker of the House
P.O. Box 7
Juneau, AK 99811


Dear Representative Cotten:

Thank you for forwarding HJR 32, requesting the Alaska State Geographic Names Board name a mountain after Bruce McShan. The Board will meet on Thursday, February 22, 1990, at the Juneau Public Library from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. During this meeting, the Board will reconsider the Mount McShan name proposal.

Mount McShan falls under the Board's guidelines on Commemorative Names. The individual for whom the feature is to be named must have made a "significant contribution" to Alaska or have had a long association with the feature. Last February, the Board reviewed the Mount McShan proposal. The Board did not approve the name proposal because it believed that Bruce McShan did not meet the established guidelines. I have included a copy of the Commemorative Names guidelines for your information.

With the passage of HJR 32, the Board will reconsider the Mount McShan proposal. The Board will refer to the information about Bruce McShan provided in HJR 32, as well as information included in a letter from Mrs. McShan. The Board will review the contributions of Bruce McShan to the state according to its guidelines, and make a decision based upon whether Bruce McShan meets the established criteria for Commemorative Name proposals.

Sincerely,


David B. Hoffman
Commissioner and Chair
Alaska State Geographic Names Board

Enclosure

cc: Curt Menard, State Representative
Dave Donley, State Representative

Debra McGhan
HC 31 Box 5268
Wasilla, Ak. 99687
(907) 376-2898

RECEIVED
JAN 5 1990
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

January 2, 1990

Governor Steve Cowper
Office of the Governor
Juneau, Ak. 99801

Re: HCR 32 (Naming a mountain in memory of Bruce McGhan)

Dear Governor:

For the past three years I have been attempting to have an unnamed mountain on the Kenai Peninsula named in memory of my late husband Bruce McGhan. After his tragic death in 1986 I discovered this mountain, which we spent a great deal of time enjoying, exploring and camping near during his lifetime, was unnamed. The mountain and the area around it hold many wonderful memories for my family and friends.

On finding this mountain did not have the honor of a name I requested instructions from the state of Alaska for the proper procedure to have the mountain named in his memory. I received a package from the state of Alaska and followed the instructions precisely. I prepared a biography of Bruce's history, collected over 1,200 signatures in support of my request, contacted the local assemblies and governments where the mountain is located and gained their support as well as support from state and borough officials. Once I had collected all required information I forwarded it to the naming commission for consideration. My request was denied on the basis that the board felt Bruce did not make a substantial contribution to the state.

At the time of their decision (February 1989) I investigated what the definition of a substantial contribution entailed and discovered no definition existed. I was told by a secretary in the commissioner of regional affairs office a substantial contribution was something like holding political office. They have since defined the definition more specifically. I feel Bruce still meets their requirements.

Bruce was a third generation Alaskan who gave much to this state. His parents were both active on the statehood commission and contributed much to making Alaska what it is today. Bruce dedicated his life to upholding the dignity of his home state and aided in the engineering and design of the currently used bear proof garbage cans, a valuable device that is used today in parks and recreation areas all around the state. He lived by the adage that helping others was what life was all about.

He was a quiet, un-public person, but that did not make his contributions any less substantial.

Curt Menard, Dave Donley and Richard Foster sponsored HCR 32 and the resolution also has support from Jay Kerttula, Mike Szymanski, Mike Navarre, Ronald Larson and others.

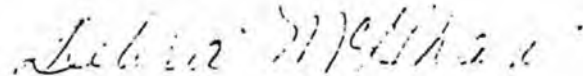
I have brought this situation to your attention in the hope that you might be able to add your assistance to my cause.

Alaska is inundated with geographic features that bear the names of people who have never been to Alaska, or would have wanted to if given the chance (Mt. McKinley). Or in memory of corrupt politicians (Foraker) or just plain corrupt citizens (Juneau). We have dozens of features that seem to be named for no apparent reason at all (Right Mountain and Wrong Mountain to name only two.)

Isn't it time Alaska's geographic features receive more worthy names? And isn't it time we do something for the "average" Alaskan who did little more than work hard and love his home state?

I appreciate any help and support you can lend in this matter.

Sincerely,



Debra McGhan

Enclosures: (3)

STEVE COWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

January 29, 1990

Ms. Debra McGhan
HC 31, Box 5268
Wasilla, AK 99687

Dear Ms. McGhan:

Thank you for your letter giving more background on HCR 32 and why you are seeking to have a mountain named after your late husband, Bruce McGhan. In light of the passage of HCR 32, the Alaska State Geographic Names Board (AGNB) will reconsider your name proposal during its next meeting, to be held February 22, 1990, at the Juneau Public Library.

The AGNB follows the guidelines developed by the federal Board on Domestic Names. The federal guidelines for commemorative names specify that the person for whom a feature is to be named must have had either a direct association with the feature, or have made a significant contribution to the state. That term is somewhat ill-defined, and was deliberately left that way so that federal and state geographic boards would have leeway in making a determination.

After the Alaska Board began holding regular meetings again last year, following a two-year hiatus, the Board members themselves felt that the Alaskan public would benefit from a more clearly defined explanation of what they were looking for in Commemorative Name proposals. I think the Board's elaborated definition succeeds in making "significant contribution" clearer. I only regret that it wasn't in place sooner.

The Board has adopted and adhered to these review guidelines and policies to avoid naming features after persons who have made no significant contribution to the state, such as those you mentioned in your letter. Since you feel that your husband meets the expanded definition and has made a significant contribution, I would like to encourage you to let the AGNB know, in writing, why you believe his actions will have a lasting impact on the state. I am confident that the Board members will review your proposal fairly and without undue bias.

Ms. Debra McGhan

- 2 -

January 29, 1990

I appreciate your desire to name a feature after your late husband. But, I can only say that I will have the Board reconsider your proposal and make a decision based upon established guidelines.

Sincerely,

S/S Steve Cowper

Steve Cowper
Governor

cc: Bob A. Evans, Legislative Liaison
Office of the Governor
Mike Irwin, Special Staff Assistant
Office of the Governor
Alaska State Geographic Names Board

February 22, 1990
Alaska State Geographic Names Board
Minutes

Proposal Name: Mount McGhan, 6/88

Description: Mountain, located on the north shore of Kenai Lake, elevation 4,730',
S shore of Crescent Lake; Sec. 13, T4N, R2W, 60°26'00"N, 149°33'30"W;
Seward Meridian

1. Proposal Type: reconsideration
2. Map:
3. Proposer: Debra McGhan
4. Administrative Area: Mat-Su Borough
5. BGN Docket #: N/A
BGN/AGNB Action: none
6. Names Associated With Feature: no known
Spoken:
Written:
Historical:
Legal:
7. Other Factors: Named after Bruce McGhan who was killed in an accident in 1986. He was a pilot and spent a lot of time in the Crescent Lake area. He comes from an old Alaskan family; his father operated one of the early airlines between Alaska and Seattle. He worked hard all of his life, getting into the heavy equipment field. He aided in the design of bear-proof garbage cans. He started his own construction company.
8. Contacts, Responses:
Chugach National Forest - No strong objection to proposed name; person has not had significant impact on forest issues.
Kenai Peninsula Borough - approved.
CIRI - N/R
Other: public support (signatures); Rep. Curt Menard and Rep. Dave Donley have sent letters of support
9. AGNB Action: On February 8, 1989, the Alaska State Geographic Names Board voted unanimously to REJECT the proposal. The individual did not meet the "significant contribution" to Alaska criterion. Nor did the individual meet the criterion of long association with that feature. Mrs. McGhan was notified by phone and by letter.
10. Follow Up: (copies enclosed in agenda packet)

- A resolution was introduced into the House requesting the Board to name the feature mentioned above Mount McGhan, after Bruce McGhan. The resolution did not make it through both chambers.
- I received a request for more information from Rep. Menard's office and Sen. Faiks' office.
- The Board received a letter of support later that year from Sen. Kerttula's office asking the Board to name a mountain after McGhan. The Board responded.
- Several articles appeared in newspapers about the proposal. They are included in this packet.
- This session of the Legislature, HCR 32, naming a mountain after Bruce McGhan, passed both chambers.
- Debra McGhan also sent a letter to the Governor soliciting his support. The Governor's reply is attached. He directs the AGNB to reconsider the Mount McGhan proposal during its February 22, 1990 meeting.
- Letter from Debra McGhan to Commissioner Hoffman containing additional information about Bruce McGhan's contribution to the state and some information about the McGhan family in Alaska.
- Public Opinion Message (POM) from Claude Privett opposing HCR 32.
- Letter in January 28, 1990 Anchorage Daily News letters to the editor opposing Mount McGhan.
- Letter and response forwarded to AGNB from Donald Orth of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) to Mr. Jack Moran. Mr. Moran requested the BGN to approve Mount McGhan because "proposal is tied up in a 'maze of red tape' in the state." BGN refuses to override AGNB decision.
- Letter from Rep. Menard supporting the proposal.

11. Staff Recommendation: In Mrs. McGhan's letter to Commissioner Hoffman, Debra McGhan outlines her late husband's contribution to the state. While he did indeed contribute to the state as a good citizen, worker and neighbor, it does not appear that he meets the significant contribution requirement. Nor does the fact that he is a third or fourth generation Alaskan necessarily imply a significant contribution to the state. According to our definition of commemorative names, his contribution to the state would not be considered significant. McGhan's family is mentioned in HCR 32, but the mountain is to be named for Bruce McGhan and must stand on Bruce McGhan's contribution. There is no doubt that Bruce McGhan, as an ordinary citizen, contributed to the state by way of working and living in the state. Although this proposal does not meet the Board's requirement, there is no reason why a local man-made feature (library, park, bridge, road, etc.) couldn't and shouldn't be named after Bruce McGhan or for the McGhan family.
*(Sandra Maclean, ix F rep not present at vote) 2 votes from DNK
 1 - Julie Listerke, DERA*
12. AGNB action: By roll call vote, 4 rejected and 3 approved. The AGNB REJECTED the proposal by a majority opinion that the proposal did not meet the definition of "significant contribution" within the

Commemorative Names policy. The Board recommends the proposer seek to have a local man-made feature such as a park, road, or building, named after the individual.

Federal Policy + Guidelines

POLICY III: COMMEMORATIVE NAMES

Human impact on the land has taken many forms. One of the more prominent forms has been the association of people's names with the landscape. This has resulted in the adoption of many personal names and nicknames for identifying geographic features, such as populated places (Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Washington, Elizabeth); mountains (Pikes Peak, Mount Saint Helens, Lone Eagle Peak); and streams (Hudson River, Guthrie Run, Barnes Creek, Parkers Creek).

Policy sec. 1

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names will consider proposals for assignment of the names or nicknames of deceased persons to geographic features in the United States and its territories. The Board will not consider names that commemorate or may be construed to commemorate living persons. In addition, a person must have been deceased for at least one year before a commemorative proposal will be considered.

sec. 2

The person being honored by the naming should have had either some direct association with the feature or have made a significant contribution to the area or State in which it is located.

sec. 3

A proposal commemorating an individual with an outstanding national or international reputation will be considered even if the person was not directly associated with the geographic feature.

Guidelines

A person's death on or at a feature, such as in a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the mere ownership of land or the feature, does not normally meet the "direct association" criterion.

A proposal to commemorate an individual should contain evidence of local support for the proposed name and its application. Such evidence may be in the form of letters from local residents and administrative agency personnel and/or petitions containing original signatures of local citizens.

Approved by:
Board on Geographic Names
April 22, 1986

Approved by:
Secretary of the Interior
May 27, 1986

POLICY IV: WILDERNESS AREAS

In the Wilderness Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-577, 78 Stat. 890) Congress established a National Wilderness Preservation System composed of federally owned areas to be administered

"...for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use

POLICY + GUIDELINE STATE DEFINITION

COMMEMORATIVE NAMES

Commemorative Name proposals are designed to honor or recognize an individual who has made an outstanding or noteworthy contribution to an area, region, or the state as a whole. Occasionally, the individual may have been a national or international figure, or be a personage from Alaska's history. Proposals containing a given name or nickname of an individual are considered commemorative. Commemorative names cannot be submitted for any living person. The person must have been deceased for at least one year before the Board will review the proposal.

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) states in its guidelines on commemorative names:

"The person being honored by the naming must have been deceased for at least one year and should have had either some direct association with the feature, or have made a significant contribution to the area or state in which it is located."

The Alaska State Geographic Names Board has further defined the terms "direct association" and "significant contribution" in order to explain what exactly the Board is looking for.

Significant Contribution

The Alaska State Geographic Names Board has defined the term "significant contribution" to include the following:

- * The Contribution that the individual has made must be notable and of consequence and have had a noticeable impact on the state, region, or community. A "significant contribution" is one that is beyond commonplace, an extraordinary effort, achievement, or impact, and it may come from the individual's work, professional or civic activities, and can be in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas. The significant contribution should have benefitted Alaskans beyond their immediate circle of family and friends. Generally, these individuals will often have been recognized previously through the following: letter of thanks from the Governor; certificates of appreciation from an agency or group; awards received; newspaper articles featuring the contribution(s) made; dedication of local man-made features (park, street, garden, building); mention in Who's Who, etc.

COMMEMORATIVE NAMES (Continued)

- * The individual may be a historical figure in relation to Alaskan history, or the individual may have made an exceptional contribution to Alaskan history, quality of life, or donation of time or service. The individual's action would have affected the lives of past, present or future generations of Alaskans.
- * Commemorative names are not intended to memorialize a family member or friend.
- * Features also can be named for persons who have made a significant contribution nationally or internationally, especially if such individuals have made advancements in the area of global peace or cooperation, made the nation or planet a better place to live, or have made a unique and exceptional contribution to the nation or planet in the social, political, economic, scientific, or cultural areas.

Direct Association

Commemorative name proposals which claim an individual's direct association with a feature, will need to provide local comments or support by local "authorities" and residents attesting to the individual's association with that feature. The individual should have been physically present at, or in the vicinity of, the feature for some years OR have engaged in some activity that affected the feature OR spent a great deal of time at or in the vicinity of the feature. Recreational use of or visits to a feature do not necessarily meet this criteria.

The Federal Board states:

"a person's death on or at a feature, such as a mountaineering accident or plane crash, or the mere ownership of land or the feature, does not normally meet 'direct association' criterion."

The person must meet the commemorative name proposal guidelines.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

- P.O. BOX B
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-2100
PHONE: (907) 465-4700
- 949 E. 36TH AVENUE, SUITE 400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508-4302
PHONE: (907) 563-1073

February 27, 1990

Mrs. Debra McGhan
HC31 Box 5258
Wasilla, AK 99687

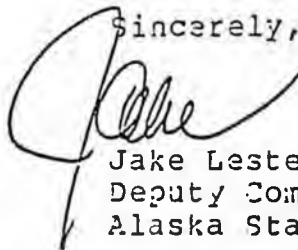
Dear Debra:

I was happy you called and I had an opportunity to speak to you personally. I know how disappointed you were about the results of the Names Board ruling on your proposal.

I want you to know that the Board deliberated at length and they were very sensitive to your proposal. The rules, however, made it extremely difficult to accomodate your request. We all feel that naming a man-made feature, as is often done, should be tried.

I admire your hard work and your loyalty to your late husband, and hope you may succeed in some recognition for him. Good luck.

Sincerely,



Jake Lestenkof
Deputy Commissioner and Chairman
Alaska State Geographic Names Board

cc: Representative Curt Menard
Representative Jave Donley
Representative Richard Foster
Senator Jalmar Kerttula
Penny Forsmo, Boards & Commissions, Office of the Governor
Mount McGhan file

RECEIVED
FEB 27 1990
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS