

SB 9

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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 (TRSP.)
 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):

fiscal note(s) _____ Dept/Date: _____

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

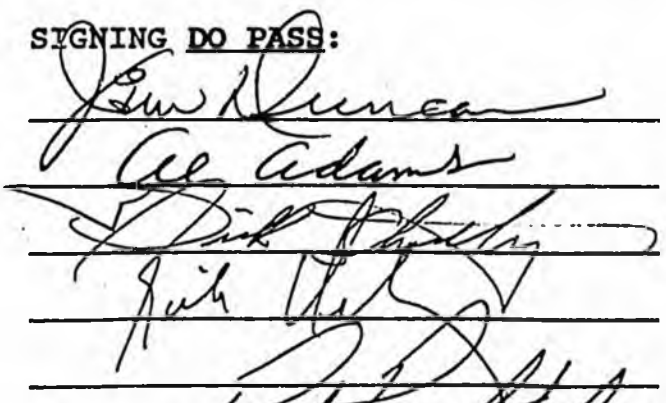
APPROVES PREVIOUS:

fiscal note(s) _____ Dept/Date: _____

zero fiscal note(s) DOT 1/29/91

appropriation-no fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:



OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Pat [Signature]
Co-Chairs: Signatures

2. [Signature] Do pass
and Recommendations

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. 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)

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

Approved by Commissioner: MB 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: Scnator 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

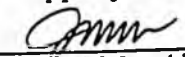
Approved by Commissioner: 

Frank G. Turpin

Agency: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Changes in SSB 9 Trans
 have no fiscal impact. This
 fiscal note is appropriate.

2/7/91
 date


 Comte Aide (initial)

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

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

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/8/91
 Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATORS ADAMS, Rogo, Sturgulewski

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

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

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

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

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

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

9 * Sec. 2. AS 44.19 is amended by adding a new section to read:

10 Sec. 44.19.063. MOUNT MCGHAN NAMED. (a) Notwithstanding AS 44.19.054 -
 11 44.19.062, the unnamed mountain located on the north shore of Kenai Lake and south shore of
 12 Crescent Lake, at Section 13, Township 4 North, Range 2 West, Seward Meridian, 60 degrees
 13 26'00"N, 149 degrees 33'30"W is named "Mount McGhan."

14 (b) "Mount McGhan" is the official name of the geographic feature identified in (a) of

1 this section and shall be used on all maps, records, documents, and other publications issued by
2 the state or its departments and political subdivisions.

FISCAL NOTE

Rec'd 2/20/91

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 Nome-Teller Highway...." BRU: Administration and Support
 Sponsor: Adams, Rodev, Sturgulewski Component: Office of the Commissioner
 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: Edgar Blatchford Edgar Blatchford
 Agency: Community & Regional Affairs Date: _____

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



Official Business

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

TO: Senator Pat Pourchot

FROM: Senator Al Adams *APA*

RE: Senate Bill 9, "An Act naming the Bob Blodgett Nome-Teller Highway."

DATE: February 9, 1991

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

The Senate Transportation version adds the naming of the Ina Johnston Bridge over the Little Susitna River and the naming of Mt. McGhan.

Attached to this letter are:

- ° copy of original bill and new version
- ° fiscal note to the original version
- ° 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

Not attached to this that have been requested and will be forthcoming:

- ° new fiscal note from the Department of Transportation
- ° fiscal note from the Department of Natural Resources

Page2

Request to Sen. Pourchot for hearing on Senate Bill 9

February 9, 1991

° back up materials regarding the Ina Johnson Bridge and Mount
McGahn

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

Thank you for your consideration of this.

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?

Rep. Curt Menard
Box 1
Juneau, Alaska

Feb. 5-1990

Re: John's request for
memorial bridge

Dear Curt -

Per 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,
Barcky Layton

Box 547,
Palmer, AK
99645

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

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

September 29, 1989

Rep. 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:

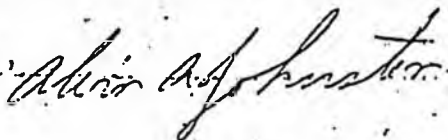
Edgerton - Parks Road
State #57062
Federal #BR-OS-1(44)

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.



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA 99669
PHONE (907) 262-4441

RECEIVED
JUN 13 1988
DON GILMAN
MAYOR

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



Debra McGhan

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 lobbies 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."

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ISEWARD C-8)

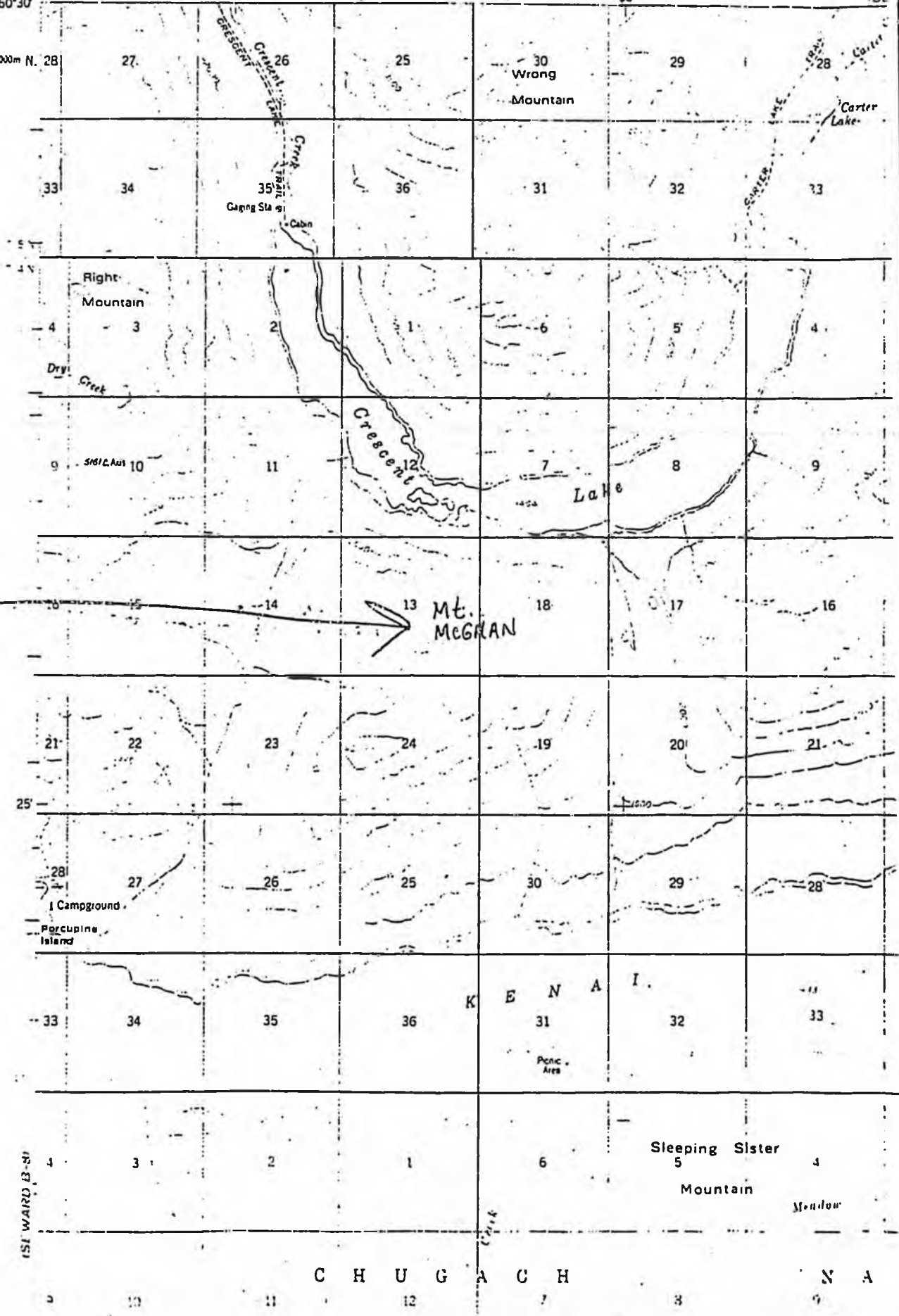
149°37'30"
60°30'

357000m. E. 35'

30'

ISE

6709000m N. 28'



POSED
FEATURE

Mt.
McGRAN

ISEWARD B-8)

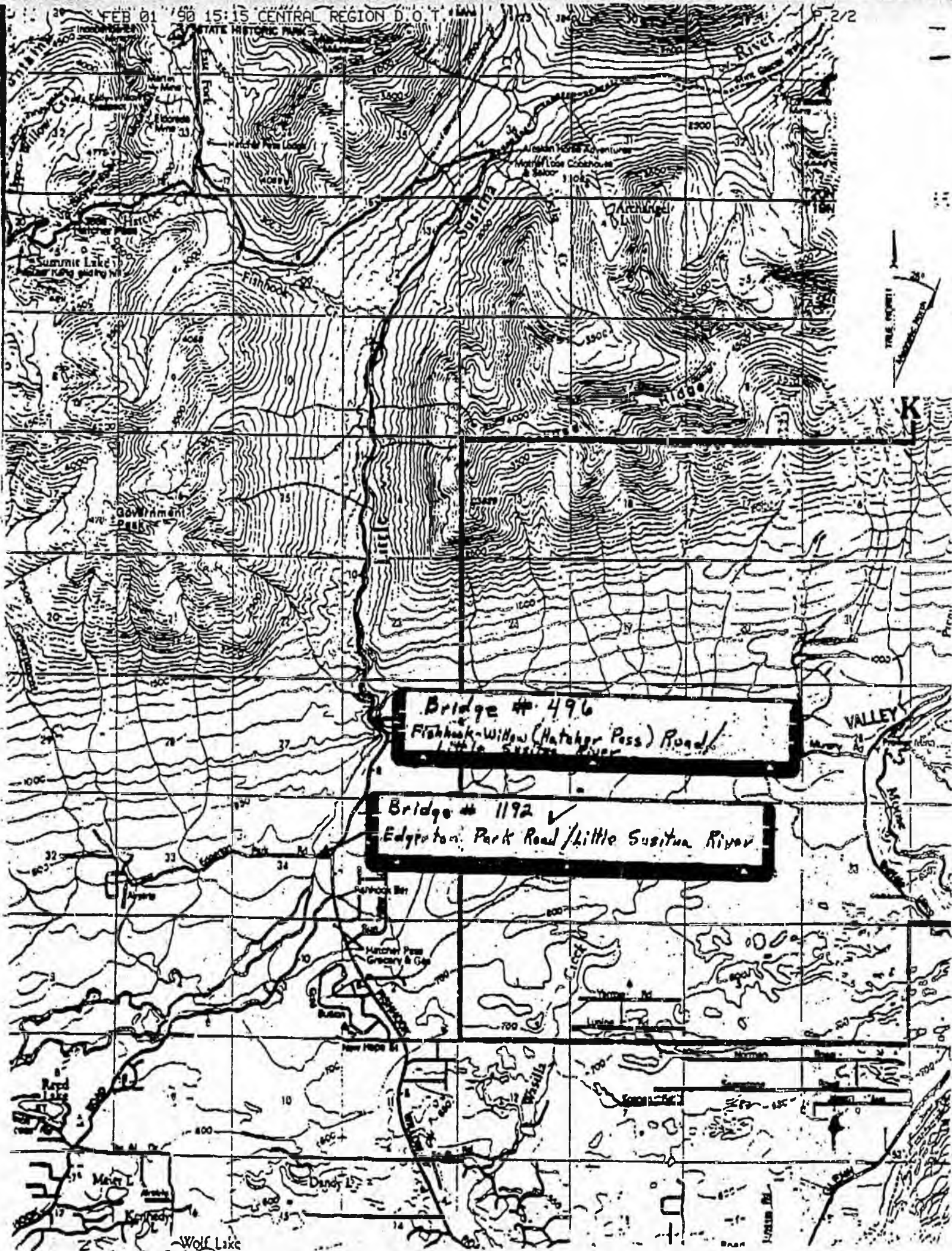
C H U G A C H

Sleeping Sister
Mountain

Mendon

N A

STATE HISTORIC PARK



Bridge # 496
 Fishhook-Willow (Hatcher Pass) Road /
 Little Susitna River

Bridge # 1192 ✓
 Edgerton Park Road / Little Susitna River

Wolf Lake

THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE



In Memoriam

* ROBERT "BOB" BLODGETT *

The Seventeenth Alaska Legislature honors the memory of Robert "Bob" Blodgett who died on Friday, Jul. 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 grandchildren 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.



Ben Henderson SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
Richard E. Eliason PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Date: January 24, 1991

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

DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN
FILMED BUT ARE AVAILABLE IN THE
ORIGINAL FILE INCLUDE:

**Letters of Support
Bob Blodgett Name-Teller Hwy.**

City of Nome

Correspondence 10/5/90

Resolution 10/24/90

Resolution 10/12/90 re/w Mayors' Confer.

Dept. of Transportation & Public
Facilities, Correspondence 9/11/90
& Attachments