Chapter 2. Areawide Land Management Policies

HERITAGE RESOURCES

GOALS

The Alaska Historic Preservation Act, AS 41.35, establishes the state's basic goal: to preserve, protect, and interpret the historic, prehistoric, and archaeological resources of Alaska.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

a. Heritage Resources Identification

Identify and determine the significance of all cultural resources on state land through:

1. Heritage resources surveys conducted by Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) personnel.

2. Research about heritage resources on state land by qualified individuals and organizations.

3. Cooperative efforts for planned surveys and inventories between state, federal, local, or Native groups.

The last rail between Seward and Anchorage was laid in September 1918.
b. Heritage Resources Protection

Protect significant heritage resources through the following actions:

(1) As part of the agency review process, the Office of History and Archaeology within DPOR reviews authorizations for potential conflict with heritage resources. The office determines if there may be an adverse effect on heritage resources and makes recommendations to mitigate those efforts.

(2) Cooperating with concerned government agencies, Native corporations, statewide or local groups, and individuals to develop guidelines and recommendations to avoid or mitigate identified or potential conflict.

c. Public Education

Historic sites should be evaluated for their interpretive value. Where suitable, interpretive signs or board displays may be erected on heritage sites for the purpose of providing public education or to enhance tourism opportunities.