

# Domestic Geographic Name Report

- 1 Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.
3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544.
5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic  
Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, VA 22092

Action Requested

Proposed New Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Application Change: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Change:   X

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Name: Souvenir Peak

State: Alaska

County or Equivalent: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Administrative Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Area Covered:

Latitude:   61   °   47   ‘ 18.67 “ N

Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ‘ \_\_\_\_\_ “ NS

Longitude:  149  °   3   ‘  9.03  “ W

Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ ° \_\_\_\_\_ ‘ \_\_\_\_\_ “ WS

Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Heading End \_\_\_\_\_

Section(s)  26&35  Township(  20N  Range(s)  2E  Meridian  Seward  Elevation  5804’

Type of Feature (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Mountain

Is the Feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?  
Yes   X   No \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, how is it listed? Arkose Peak (GNIS ID: 1854183)

Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):  
The 5,804-foot summit at the NE end of Arkose Ridge. 3.5 miles ESE of Idaho Peak.

Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date).	Other names (variants)	Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date).
		Arkose Peak: USGS 1979, 2016, 2023.
	Tsida K’ae Dghilaaye’(Ahtna name): Shem Pete’s Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena’ina, 2016 (pg 297).	

	<b>K'ae Dghelaaye':</b> <i>Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2003.	
<b>Souvenir Peak:</b> Will Hersman's <i>History Corner, Mountaineering Club of Alaska Scree</i> , 1986, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2019.		

**Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:**

This proposal was submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee to change the name of the current "Arkose Peak" to "Souvenir Peak" to recognize the name in local use. Located in the Talkeetna Mountains and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the summit rises 5,804 feet.

Although the federal Board of Geographic Names (BGN) approved the name "Arkose Peak" for this peak in 1969, USGS maps mislabeled the name. Over the subsequent 50 years, the incorrect location became accepted as correct, and the originally named "Arkose Peak" was called "Souvenir Peak" by the local population instead.

According to the proponent, "It was published in Willy Hersman's *History Corner* article that appeared in the August 1986 edition of *Scree*, the monthly newsletter of the MCA. The name "Souvenir Peak" had been used for nearly 20 years (since at least 1968) but had been applied to various other features. Since Hersman's article was published, the local mountaineering and skiing community has called the 5,820-foot peak 'Souvenir Peak.'" The name appears in other MCA publications between 1986 and 2019.

The current "Arkose Peak" (proposed Souvenir Peak) and the neighboring Arkose Ridge are reported as the Ahtna name "Tsida K'ae Dgilaaye" in *Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* (Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2016, pg. 297) by James Kari and James A. Fall, with principal contributor Shem Pete. Here, "Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye" means "Grandmother's Place Mountain" in Ahtna (Kari & Fall, 2016, pg. 297). "Arkose Peak" also has an entry in Orth's *Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (1976), stating that the local name was reported in 1962 by USGS (pg. 87). There are no other records of different names for the 5804-foot summit.

**Is the recommended name in local usage?** Yes   X   No        If Yes, approximately how many years?   40-50  

**Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?** None Listed

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:** N/A

**Additional information:**

The mountain is on State land in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in the Hatcher Pass Planning Area.

**Organizations for Consultation:**

Chickaloon Native Village

Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.

Cook Inlet Tribal Council

Knik Tribal Council

Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Native Village of Eklutna

State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water

State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Alaska State Parks, Mat-Su/Copper River Basin Region

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Steve Gruhn

Chair of Geographic Names Committee

8/4/2023

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

## Mountaineering Club of Alaska

---

Copy Prepared by (if other than above)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Judith E. Bittner

SHPO

(907) 269-8721

---

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

---

Authority for Recommended Name:

Mailing Address and Telephone

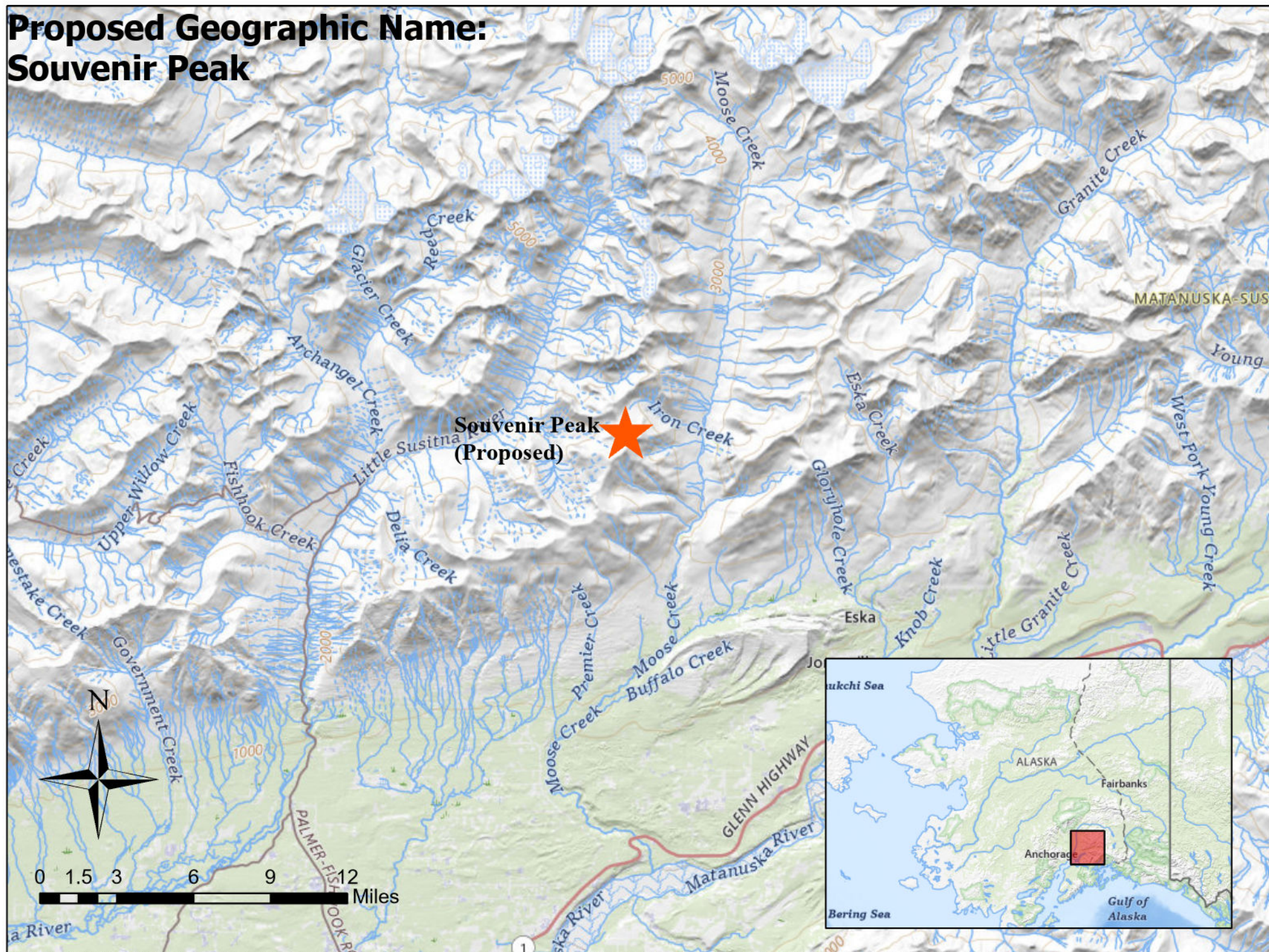
Occupation

Years in Area

---



# Proposed Geographic Name: Souvenir Peak





## Change application of Arkose Peak

### Proposal Information

---

Proposed name	<b>Arkose Peak</b>
Proposal type	application change to recognize present-day use
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6108
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

---

Primary coordinates	61.770844, -149.069003
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,316 ft.
Feature description	Between the head of Lone Tree Gulch and the head of Iron Creek
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Anchorage D-6 SW 1:25,000
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- None

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: Arkose Peak: USGS 1985, 1994, 2023

### Case Summary

---

This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) Geographic Names Committee, is to change the application of the name Arkose Peak. The current and proposed locations are within the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

In 1969, at the request of the MCA, the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5,804-foot peak in Sections 26 & 35, Township 20 North, Range 2 East; however, since 1985, USGS topographic maps have mistakenly placed the label, applying it instead to the 5,325-foot peak in Section 3, Township 19 North, Range 2 East, approximately 1.3 miles to the southeast of its intended location. Because of the longstanding discrepancy, the incorrect location has become known locally as Arkose Peak. The peak that was the subject of the 1969 decision has acquired the name Souvenir Peak (q.v.).

The proponent writes, “now that the Anchorage D-6 SE and Anchorage D-S SW maps have been published (2023), local map users are questioning the placement of the ‘Arkose Peak’ label on the location now commonly known as Souvenir Peak.”

He further states, “because the name Arkose Peak is now in common use for the 5,325-foot peak at the southeast head of Lone Tree Gulch, we propose to adjust the placement of the BGN-approved name Arkose Peak to that location.”

The proposed location is also closer to the main part of the ridge named Arkose Ridge.

No information has been found regarding the origin of the word “Arkose,” although the 1969 case brief includes the notation “[proposed] because of the type of granitic rock present.” The Alaska Board on Geographic Names minutes from the 1969 decision stated “Arkose Peak was approved by the [Alaska] Board. It was originally submitted as ‘Archois Peak’ but [a member] moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error.” *The Dictionary of Alaska Place Names* (Orth, 1967) does not list the peak, and for the ridge simply notes “Local name reported in 1962 by USGS.”

Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5,325-foot peak	5,820-foot peak
“Souvenir Peak”	5,820-foot peak	N/A

## Stakeholder Input

---

Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

## Change Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak

### Proposal Information

---

Proposed name	<b>Souvenir Peak</b>
Proposal type	make official name in local use
Current official name	Arkose Peak
GNIS ID	<a href="#">1854183</a>
Proponent	Steven Gruhn, Chair / Mountaineering Club of Alaska Geographic Names Committee
Date proposed	8/4/2023
BGN case number	6109
Quarterly Review List	453

### Feature Details

---

Primary coordinates	61.7885220, -149.0525085
Feature class	summit
Feature size	Elevation 5,804 ft.
Feature description	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. ESE of Idaho Peak, 3.5 mi. WNW of Eska Mountain.
Name history	Unknown
USGS primary topo map	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
State(s)	Alaska
County(s)	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
PLSS	Secs 26&35, T20N, R2E, Seward Meridian
Land ownership	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

### BGN decisions

- Arkose Peak (1969)

### Other Names

- Unpublished names: Souvenir Peak (local use)
- Published names:
  - Arkose Peak: USGS 1979, 2016, 2023
  - K'ae Dghelaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye': Shem Pete's *Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina* 2nd edition, 2003
  - Souvenir Peak: Will Hersman's *History Corner, Mountaineering Club of Alaska Scree*, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2019

### Case Summary

---

This proposal, submitted by the chair of the Geographic Names for the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, is to change the name of Arkose Peak to Souvenir Peak to recognize the name in local



use. The summit has an elevation of 5,804 feet and is located in the Talkeetna Mountains and in Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Although the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for this peak in 1969, USGS maps mislabeled the name and over the subsequent 50 years, the incorrect location became accepted as correct. The name Souvenir Peak came into use for the BGN-approved Arkose Peak. According to the proponent, “It was published in Willy Hersman’s *History Corner* article that appeared in the August 1986 edition of *Scree*, the monthly newsletter of the MCA. At that time the name Souvenir Peak had been in use for nearly 20 years (since at least 1968) but had been applied to various other features. Since Hersman’s article was published, the local mountaineering and skiing community has called the 5,820-foot peak Souvenir Peak.” The name appears in other MCA publications between 1986 and 2019.

### Stakeholder Input

---

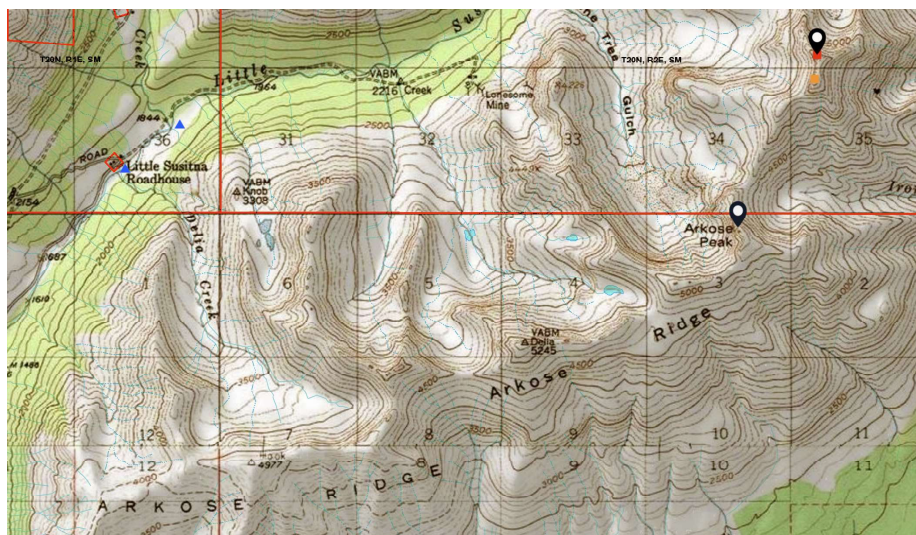
Local government	Matanuska-Susitna Borough
State Names Authority	Alaska
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X
Other	Alaska Department of Natural Resources

**Name current Arkose Peak (GNIS Location) to Souvenir Peak**  
**Change application of Arkose Peak to reflect local use and topographic map location**



Change location of Arkose Peak from 5,804-ft. peak to 5,316-ft. peak to reflect local use. GNIS notes that following the 1969 decision, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the wrong peak.

**Name 5,804-ft peak as Souvenir Peak to make official a name in local use.**



## Current GNIS and Topo map Locations



Name	Local application	GNIS application
Arkose Peak	5316-foot peak	5804-foot peak
"Souvenir Peak"	5804-foot peak	N/A

# Feature Details

Feature ID	1854183	
Name	Arkose Peak	
Class	Summit	
Feature Code	Summit	
Location	Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Alaska	
Citation	Source Type	Text
	Reference	US
	Originator	U.S. Board on Geographic Names
	Distribution Date	January 1, 2000
	Title	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions
	Edition	
	Original Citation	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.
Entry Date	March 30, 2000	
*Elevation	1766 meters / 5794 feet	
Designations		
History	Note: the BGN approved the name Arkose Peak for the 5850-foot peak at 614719N, 1490320W; however, the label was mistakenly applied on USGS topographic maps to the 5350-foot peak at 614617N, 1490409W. The 2016 US Topo shows the name at the correct location.	
Description	At the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi SE of Idaho Peak, 13 mi N of Palmer, Chugach Mountains.	

Census Code	Class Code	GSA Code	OPM Code
-	-	-	-

# Variant Names

											Name	▼	Asc	▼
Name	In Part	Originator	Reference	Series Name	Publication Date	Source URL	Title	Edition	Notes	Additional Information				
Archois Peak	No	U.S. Board on Geographic Names	US	-	January 1, 2000	-	Geographic Names Post Phase I Board/Staff Revisions	-	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.	Board decisions referenced after Phase I data compilation or staff researched non-controversial names.				
K'ae Dghelaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-				
Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye'	No	Kari, James and James Fall	AK	-	December 31, 2003	-	Shem Pete's Alaska : The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina	2nd	Fairbanks, Alaska : University of Alaska Press	-				

# Decisions

Name	Date	Authority	Type
Arkose Peak	May 13, 1969	Board Decision	Official



# Decision Cards

Filename	
----------	--

# Coordinates

Sequence	Coordinates	Map	State
1	61.7885220, -149.0525085 / 61° 47' 18.68" N, 149° 3' 9.03" W	Anchorage D-6 SE	AK

# Government Units

Sequence	State or Equivalent	County or Equivalent
1	Alaska	Matanuska-Susitna Borough

# Map

+

-

Measure

Feature ID: 1854183

Official Name: Arkose Peak

Sequence Number: 1

Location DD: 61.788522, -149.0525085

Location DMS: 61° 47' 18.68" N 149° 3' 9.03" W

61.7969383°, -148.9877999°, 14z

Layers

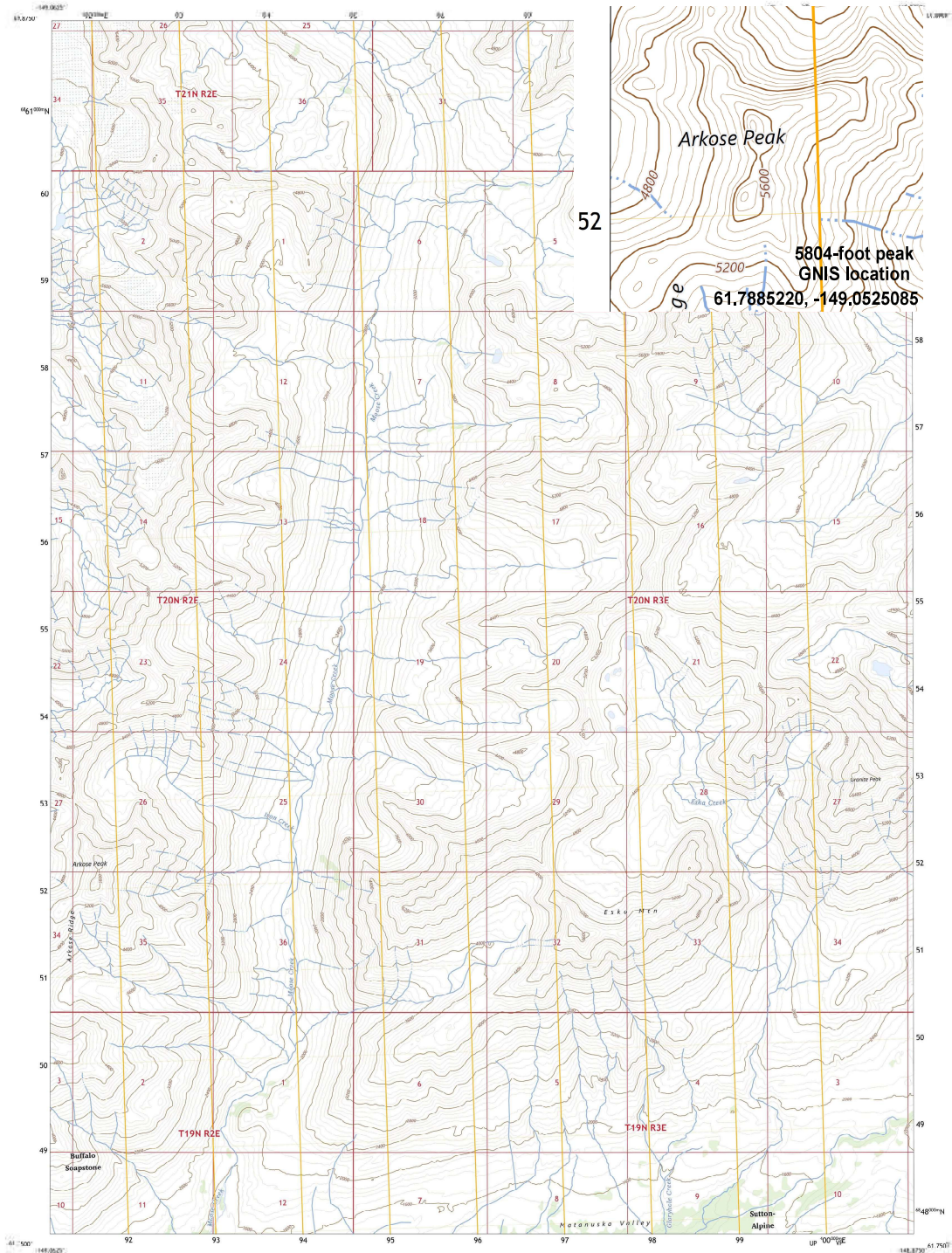
Powered by Esri | The National Map Base Layer, The National Map + Aerial Imagery", Usa Topo



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The National Map  
US Topo [2023]

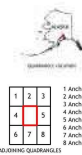
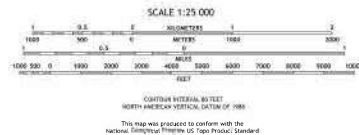
ANCHORAGE D-6 SE QUADRANGLE  
ALASKA - MATANUSKA-SUSTINA BOROUGH  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
1:50,000-meter grid/contour/contour interval, Zone 18  
This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be  
generalized for this map scale. Please verify with government  
information may not be shown. Obtain permission before  
entering private lands.

Imagery: SPOT, 5 September 2010 - September 2010  
Roads: Alaska Dept. of Transportation, 2010  
Hydrography: National Hydrography Dataset, 2001 - 2018  
Boundaries: National Wetlands Inventory, 2015  
Public Land Survey System: 2021  
Wetlands: FWS National Wetlands Inventory Not Available



ANCHORAGE D-6 SE, AK  
2023

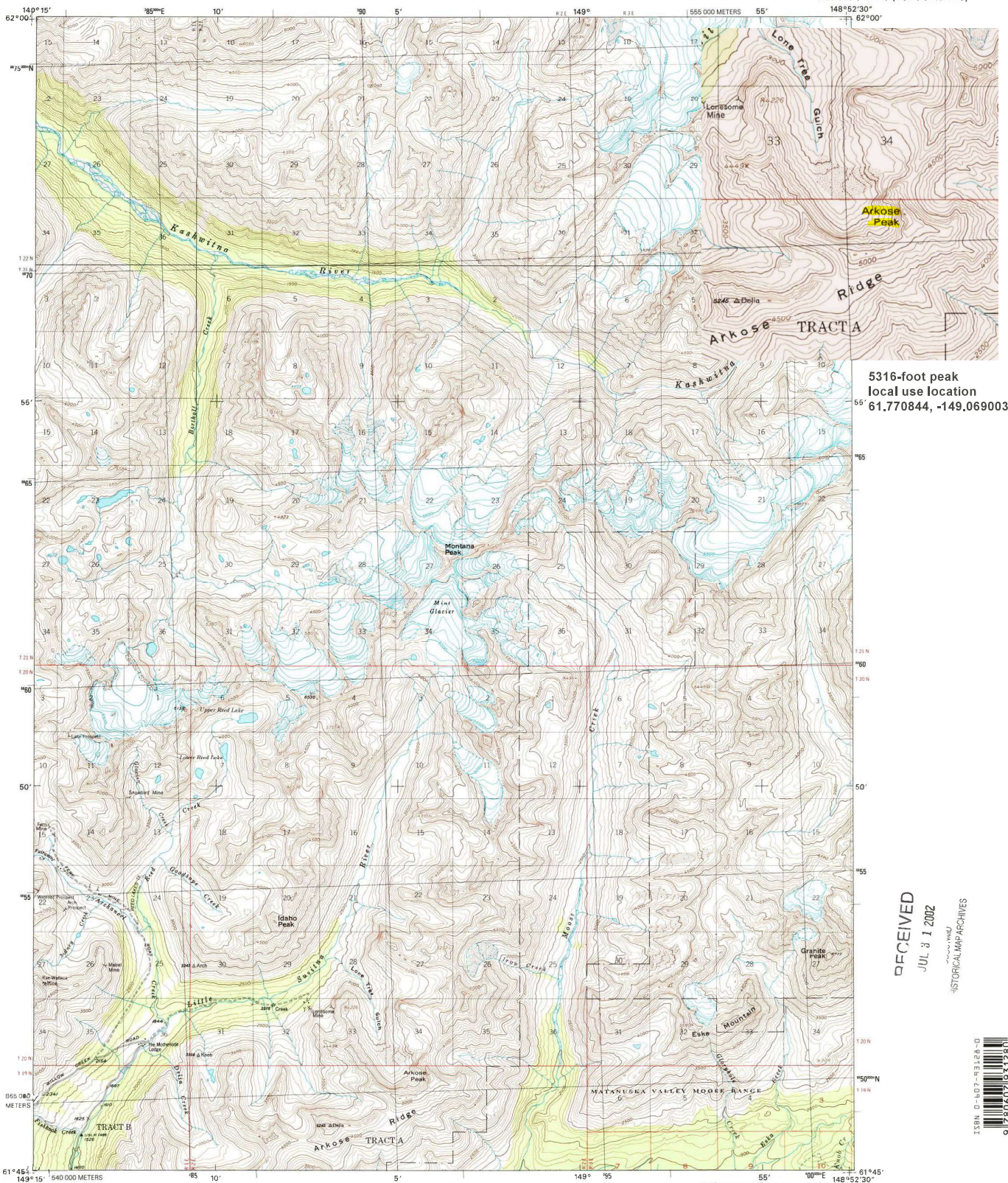






U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY [1994]

ANCHORAGE D-6 QUADRANGLE  
ALASKA-MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
1:63 360 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

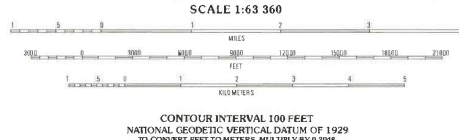
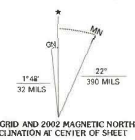


5316-foot peak  
local use location  
61.770844, -149.069003

RECEIVED  
JUL 3 1 2002  
HISTORICAL MAP ARCHIVES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
Topography compiled 1989. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1984 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1950. South edge current as of 1993. This map has not been field checked. Boundaries current as of 2000.  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 5 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 6. 5 000-meter sides: Alaska Coordinate System of 1983 (zone 4).  
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software.  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.  
Protracted land lines are predetermined by the Bureau of Land Management, Folio S-1, Seward Meridian.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway hard surface	Unimproved road
Secondary highway hard surface	4 wheel drive
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	Trails
	State Route

1	2	1 Talkeetna Mountains A-5
3	4	2 Talkeetna Mountains A-4
5	6	3 Anchorage D-7
		4 Anchorage D-5
		5 Anchorage C-7
		6 Anchorage C-6
		7 Anchorage C-5

ANCHORAGE D-6, AK  
1994

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

AUGUST 1986

Volume 29, Issue 08

### AUGUST MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, August 20th at 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets, Anchorage. After the business meeting, Mark Findlay will give a slide show on a June 1986 Valdez to Whittier kayak trip.

### MINUTES FOR THE JULY MEETING

The meeting was held July 16th, 1986 at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, and was called to order by President Mark Findlay at 7:42 p.m. The reading of the minutes for June was waived.

Mark extended his thanks to Willie Hersman for filling in for him at the June meeting.

The club welcomed new members and guests.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

\$ 245.00 - Petty Cash  
716.20 - Checking Account  
4,018.23 - Money Market Account  
\$4,979.43 - Total MCA Monies

Individual membership is \$10.00. Family membership is \$15.00

Send to: P.O. BOX 102037  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
Attn. Treasurer

### I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Hiking Committee

The Crow Pass hike was changed from July 19th to July 20th. Twin Peaks hike will be rescheduled from July 26th to another date (check the hiking schedule).

### II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Willy Hersman has applied for the Personal Use Cabin Permit, but has not received anything yet.

## ICE CLIMBING CLASS

The annual MCA technical ice climbing school will be held the last weekend in September. The course will consist of one classroom session, which is MANDATORY, and two days of ice climbing at the Matanuska Glacier. This class is for learning the basics about vertical ice climbing (i.e. waterfalls and gullies) only. No glacier walking techniques will be covered! Due to the limited availability of equipment, we are forced to limit the size of this year's school to 44 students. Present dues-paying members will have priority. They will be able to sign up at the August meeting. Further details will be published in next month's SCREE. Those interested in instructing should contact Paul Denkwalter at Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking (AMH) at 272-1811.

## HISTORY CORNER

While recently working on an update of the master Peak Index for the SCREE, I found several accounts of first ascents which were quite confusing to me, sometimes because of the way they were written, sometimes because the maps then were probably inadequate. Persistence usually cleared up the confusion, but the worst of these puzzling accounts concerns the first ascent of Arkose Peak, the peak at the north end of Arkose Ridge above the Little Susitna drainage in the Talkeetnas.

I wasn't the first to be perplexed, Vin and Grace Hoeman made efforts to find out the story as well back in 1969. Grace made two trips to the area and thought she had cleared it up in an article she wrote in June 1969. She climbed twice the double-summit peak above Lone Tree Gulch (5850') to find only a cairn. She wrote, "There's no doubt in my mind that what the 1961 party climbed is indeed Arkose." The trouble is Arkose Peak is at an elevation just above 5300'. She still had the story wrong.

The account of July 1961 describes a peak with a double summit at about 6000 feet. True, Grace climbed the same one, at least by comparing the descriptions, but it's not Arkose. An article written in December 1968 took the liberty of naming many peaks between the roadhouse and the Mint Glacier. Some of those names faded away, some were not peaks at all, but they did give our peak in question the name of Souvenir Peak, which they claimed was 5715' high. This name cropped up again in a Dec. 1970 article.

It appears to me that Arkose was first climbed in 1960 by an MCA party, with an account by Helga Bading entitled "Little Montana Peak" (Aug. 1960, pg. 2), where she gives the elevation as about 6200'. The only two members on both first ascents were Helga and John Dillman. John confirms the fact that in 1961 he and Helga and Gwynn Wilson climbed the 5850' peak above Lone Tree Gulch, now known as Souvenir Peak; the other climb in 1960 is less certain.

Based on all the descriptions found in the old SCREES, the record should reflect: Arkose Peak (5300') F.A.: 1960 (Bading, Erickson, Dillman, Putschler, Dahlke, Gessel) and Souvenir Peak (5850') F.A.: 1961 (Bading, Dillman, Wilson). Gee, I'll bet you were wondering about that one, right? Right!

Willy Hersman

APPROVED MAY 13 1969  
Promulgation authorized  
Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names

UNITED STATES  
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
Case Brief (Domestic)

Recommended Name: Arkose Peak

Source

State: Alaska Civil Division: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

\_\_\_\_\_ sec. \_\_\_\_\_ T. \_\_\_\_\_ R. \_\_\_\_\_ meridian ( )

Lat. 61° 47' 20" N., Long. 149° 03' 00" W. \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ " N., Long. \_\_\_\_\_ " W. \_\_\_\_\_

Description: mountain, highest elevation over 5,800 ft. ( ) ( ) ( )

at the NE end of Arkose Ridge, 3 mi. SE of Idaho Peak

and 13 mi. N of Palmer

	Verification of Names in Descrip.	Check	
		Dec.	WkCd
	<u>Arkose Ridge</u>		<u>✓</u>
	<u>Idaho Peak</u>		<u>✓</u>
	<u>Palmer</u>		<u>✓</u>

Not: - Archois Peak

Summary, indicating submitting person, or agency, source for locating the feature; reason for submittal of the name and pertinent facts of the case, for presentation to DNC.

Alaska Board, Anchorage (D-6); approved by the Alaska Board; "Arkose Peak" was proposed originally, because feature "is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge" and because of the "type of granitic rock...present"; however, the Alaska Board changed the name to "Archois Peak" but gives no reason for doing so; not in a USNF

Submitted by: Alaska Board  
Prepared by: Lyle  
Reviewed by: Berringer

Date: Nov. 13, 1968 Docket List No. 124  
Date: Jan. 28, 1969 Date Approved by Sec.  
Date: 2/19/69 of Int.

Promulgation Date:

Alaska Bd. on 5-6-69 said the spelling should be "Arkose"

6902

(1a) Archois Peak 1968 Nov. 13, letter ☒ memo

USC&GS USFS DGN USGS

(1b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Alaska State Geogr. Bd.

Other:

Field names report Dec. 18 1967

Annotated maps ( ) ( )

(2a) Shown but not named 1950(68) USGS Anchorage (D-6) 1:63  
(2b) Shown but not named 1962(66) USGS Anchorage 1:250  
(2c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2d) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2e) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USGS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:  
(2f) not shown 1954(64) USGS Alaska State Base

(3a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(3b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 AMS \_\_\_\_\_ 1:250

(4a) NOT IN NATIONAL FOREST 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(4b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USFS \_\_\_\_\_

(5a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 USC&GS \_\_\_\_\_

(5b) not shown 1968 Aero Ch. Anchorage 1:500

(5c) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Coast Pilot \_\_\_\_\_

(6) not shown 1964 Off. State Road Map Not Shown

(7a) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(7b) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ County, sh. \_\_\_\_\_

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 Rand, McNally Com. Atlas, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 U.S. Postal Guide, p. \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_ 1960 U.S. Census, Table 7, Pop., Vol. 1

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ BGN Decision

(12) not listed 1967 Dictionary of Alaska Place Names



3/1/68

*app*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES WASHINGTON 25, D. C.		Proposed name <del>Arkose Peak</del> <i>Archaic Peak</i>		
<b>PROPOSAL OF NAME FOR AN UNNAMED DOMESTIC FEATURE</b>		State <u>Alaska</u> County _____		
Location of Feature		Pronunciation, if not obvious (use Webster's Dictionary symbols)		
Latitude <u>61</u> ° <u>47</u> ' <u>19</u> " N.	Longitude <u>149</u> ° <u>03</u> ' <u>20</u> " W.			
Section(s) <u>26.35</u> , T. <u>20 N.</u> , R. <u>2 E.</u> , <u>Seward</u> Meridian				
Description and extent of feature: Mountain peak 5850 plus or minus 50, including also peak 5750 plus or minus 50, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of it and all slopes rising to these summits.				
Distance and direction from prominent features or towns: 13 miles north of Palmer, 3 miles SE of Idaho Peak at the northern end of Arkose Ridge.				
Basis of knowledge that the feature is unnamed: Anchorage D-6 quad, local knowledge				
<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">                             Reason for Choice of Name:                             <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> descriptive</span> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (state reason): Provides a definite terminus for Arkose Ridge, the only other place-name usage of arkose in Alaska.</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for a nearby feature</span> <span><input type="checkbox"/> for a person</span> </div> </td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> </table>			Reason for Choice of Name: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> descriptive</span> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (state reason): Provides a definite terminus for Arkose Ridge, the only other place-name usage of arkose in Alaska.</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for a nearby feature</span> <span><input type="checkbox"/> for a person</span> </div>	
Reason for Choice of Name: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> descriptive</span> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (state reason): Provides a definite terminus for Arkose Ridge, the only other place-name usage of arkose in Alaska.</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <span><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> for a nearby feature</span> <span><input type="checkbox"/> for a person</span> </div>				
If the name is descriptive, state why it is appropriate: This type of granitic rock is present				
If named for another feature, state for that other feature:				
1. Name <u>Arkose Ridge</u> Lat. <u>61</u> ° <u>44-46</u> ' _____" N. -- Long. <u>149</u> ° <u>03-13</u> ' _____" W. Section(s) <u>3,4,7,8,9,12</u> T. <u>19 N.</u> , R. <u>2 E.</u> , <u>Seward</u> Meridian				
2. Any known variant spellings or other names:				
3. Number of years known by present name: on 1951 AMS map, so at least 16				
4. Relation of the two features: Arkose Peak is the highpoint and northeastern terminus of Arkose Ridge.				

If the name commemorates a person, state:

1. Full name of the person: \_\_\_\_\_  
(do not propose name of a living person)

2. Date of the person's death: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Last residence: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Association, if any, of the person with the feature to be named: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Brief biography: \_\_\_\_\_

List any  
Attached  
Identification  
Aids

Marked map: easily located on Anchorage D-6 (have C-6 available)

Marked photographs:

Other:

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Individual or private organization

Name J. Vin Hoeman. Chairman. Committee on Geog. Names

Date 18 December 1967

Address Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
2500 Glenwood, Anchorage, Alaska 99504

Government agency (State or Federal) ☐

Check appropriate box

Field officer of a mapping agency ☐

Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name and title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY

WALTER J. HICKEL, GOVERNOR

POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

November 13, 1968

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

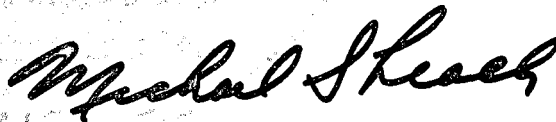
The Alaska State Geographic Board has considered and approved the following name proposals at recent meetings:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ✓McHugh Peak         | ✓Mount Alpenglow     |
| ✓Aniakchak Peak      | ✓Matanuska Peak      |
| ✓Sharktooth Mountain | ✓Cul-de-sac Glacier  |
| ✓One Shot Gap        | ✓Shelf Glacier       |
| ✓Institute Peak      | ✓Spyglass Hill       |
| ✓Archois Peak        | ✓Tranquillity Pass X |
| ✓Artillery Hill      | ✓Byron Peak          |
| ✓Crystalline Hills   | ✓Resurrection Peaks  |
| ✓Dogsled Pass        |                      |

A completed Form 9-1344 "Proposal of Name for an Unnamed Domestic Feature" is enclosed for each name proposal.

Would you please forward copies of any decision lists indicating approval to this Board.

Very truly yours,



Michael S. Leach  
Acting Chairman, Alaska  
State Geographic Board

MSL:ss  
Enclosures (17)  
cc. J. Vin Hoeman, Chairman  
Mountaineering Club of Alaska

# STATE OF ALASKA

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOCAL AFFAIRS AGENCY

POUCH AB—JUNEAU 99801

KEITH H. MILLER, Governor

April 25, 1969

Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Board on Geographic Names  
Room 1040, GSA Building  
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Kilmartin:

At the recent April 22, 1969, Alaska State Geographic Board meeting, the Board approved the U. S. Geographic Board's decision, the spelling Meyers Chuck. *Done*

The following disapproved names were deferred pending further research: \* Banks Lake, \* Cascade Creek, \* Mary Lake, \* Milk Creek, and \* Snipe Lake. These names have been disapproved due to duplication of names. Action was also deferred on the name Antler Lake until further information can be obtained.

Action was referred to Docket 124. All were approved by the Board.

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes from the April 22, 1969 meeting.

Very truly yours,

Alfred E. Widmark  
Chairman, Alaska State  
Geographic Board

by: Phyllis Ann Kunz  
Phyllis Ann Kunz, Secretary

Enclosure

*A - Kose Peak*

*Withdrawn - 5-13-69*



ALASKA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

May 6, 1969

The Alaska State Geographic Board Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Present were: Jean Jeffers, Department of Highways; Phyllis Nottingham, State Library; Mr. Hagmeier, Department of Education, and Al Widmark, Local Affairs Agency.

The minutes of the previous meeting, April 22, were read and stand approved as read.

A letter of March 20, 1969 from Mrs. Barbara D. Kalen to Mike Leach was read regarding the naming of two mountain peaks, Nimrod and Jeffrey. It has been assigned to Mike Leach to answer this letter.

Action was referred to Docket 122. The board approved the name Antler Lake.

Action was referred to Docket 124. Arkose Peak was approved by the Board. It was originally submitted as Archois Peak. Phyllis Nottingham moved that the Federal Board be notified that the name Archois was a typographical error. Jean Jeffers seconded it and it was unanimously carried.

Crystalline Hill, Docket 124, was approved by the Board. It is the name originally submitted and was approved as such.

A letter from Mr. Kilmartin was read. The following names from Docket 121 were approved by the Board:

Aiken Creek	Kugel Creek
Aiken Lake	Kugel Lake
Anmer Creek	Myrtle Creek
Conclusion Creek	Niblack Lake
Four Falls Lake	Spruce Creek
Harley Creek	

From Docket 122, the following names were approved by the Board:

Gossan Ridge	Olive Lake
Lake Luella	Weather Ridge
Mount Ascension	

Mr. Widmark also read another letter from Mr. Kilmartin regarding the acceptance of the following Alaskan names for Federal use: from Docket 121, Lake Paul; Docket 122, Little Nugget Creek; Docket 123, Eulachon River; and Docket 124, Aniakchak Peak, Artillery Hill, Cul-de-sac Glacier, Dogsled Pass, Institute Peak, Matanuska Peak, One Shot Gap and Shelf Glacier.

Action on the remaining names on Docket 121, 122, 123, and 124 was deferred.

Mr. Widmark adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. until the next

# **Shem Pete's Alaska**

*The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina*

2016 Edition

by **James Kari** and **James A. Fall**

*Principal contributor*

**Shem Pete**

*Additional place names and commentary by*

Daniel Alex	Alec Peter
Mike Alex	Henry Peters
Nickafor Alexan	Annie Ronning
Emma Alexie	Fedosia Sacaloff
Alexandra Allowan	Dick Secondchief
Tommy Allowan	Morrie Secondchief
Harry Balluta	Jim Sinyon
Pete Bobby	Johnny Shaginoff
Sergei Californsky	Mary Shaginoff
Maxim Chickalusion	Alberta Stephan
Nellie Chickalusion	John Stephan
Ella Chuiitt	Leo Stephan
Fedora Constantine	Pete Stephan
Peter Constantine	Sava Stephan
Miska Deaphon	Terry Stephan
Bobby Esai	Frank Stickwan
Hester Evan	John Stump
Fred Ewan	Jake Tansy
Betty Gilcrist	Arthur Theodore
Charlie Hubbard	Bailey Theodore
Peter Kalifornsky	Lillian Theodore
Ben Neely	Mike Theodore
Dick Mishakoff	Andy Tyone
Jim McKinley	Jack Tyone
Katherine Nicolie	Jim Tyone
Billy Pete	Katie Wade

Revised second edition  
© 2016 University of Alaska Press

Second edition  
© 2003 University of Alaska Press

First edition  
1987  
Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska and The  
CIRI Foundation.

Address correspondence to:

University of Alaska Press  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-0120

#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Kari, James M., editor of compilation. | Fall, James A.,  
editor of compilation. | Pete, Shem, approximately 1896-  
1989, contributor. | Alex, Daniel, contributor. | Alaska Native  
Language Center.

Title: Shem Pete's Alaska : the territory of the Upper Cook  
Inlet Dena'ina / [compiled and edited] by James Kari and  
James A. Fall ; principal contributor, Shem Pete ; additional  
place names and commentary by Daniel Alex [and 51  
others].

Description: 2016 edition, revised second edition. | Fairbanks,  
Alaska : The University of Alaska Press with the Alaska  
Native Language Center, 2016. | "Second edition 2003,  
University of Alaska Press; first edition 1987"—Title page  
verso. | Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

Identifiers: LCCN 2016017304 (print) | LCCN 2016017707  
(ebook) | ISBN 9781602233065 (paperback : alkaline  
paper) | ISBN 9781602233072 (e-book)

Subjects: LCSH: Dena'ina Indians—Alaska—Cook Inlet.  
| Names, Dena'ina—Alaska—Cook Inlet. | Names,  
Geographical—Alaska. | Names, Geographical—Alaska—Cook  
Inlet. | Dena'ina language—Glossaries, vocabularies, etc. |

Alaska—History, Local. | Cook Inlet (Alaska)—History, Local.  
Classification: LCC E99.T185 S54 2016 (print) | LCC E99.  
T185 (ebook) | DDC 916.4/34—dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016017304>

Printed in the United States of America  
All rights reserved

#### Translations from Dena'ina Athabascan

Shem Pete  
Billy Pete  
Katherine Nicolie  
Sava Stephan  
James Kari

Maps  
Matt Ganley, Map Alaska: [www.map-alaska.com](http://www.map-alaska.com)

Music transcriptions  
Thomas F. Johnston, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Design  
Dixon J. Jones, UAF Rasmuson Library Graphics

#### Front cover

Lynx Lake and lakes west of Willow, photo by Fred  
Hirschmann AK-6838. See Plate 5 and Fig. 61.  
Inset photos: top, see page 394; bottom left to right, see Plate  
24, Fig. 3, Plate 9 and Map 17.

Back cover  
See Fig. 5.

#### Vignette backgrounds

Close-up of dentalia shell necklace worn by Shem Pete at  
the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. potlatch on October 17, 1985.  
Dentalia shells are called *k'enq'ena* and the necklace is called  
*t'uyedi*. Photo by Kathy Kiefer.

Detail of a large birchbark basket, the elegant utility vessel  
of the Dena'ina, called *Ich'ehi* or *q'ey Ich'eha*. This basket was  
made by Emma Alexie of Lime Village. Digital image by Kim  
Armstrong, UAF Rasmuson Library Photographic Unit.

Preparation of the 2003 edition was funded in part by a grant  
from the State of Alaska, administered by the Department of  
Community and Regional Affairs, through the 1985 Cultural  
Heritage Program of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. Funding was  
also provided by Cook Inlet Region, Inc., and by Alaska Native  
Language Center, College of Liberal Arts, University of Alaska,  
Fairbanks, and a grant in 2001 from The CIRI Foundation.

## Contents

LIST OF MAPS AND TABLES	VII
FOREWORD BY WILLIAM BRIGHT	XI
PREFACE TO THE 2016 EDITION	XII
PREFACE TO THE 2003 EDITION	XIII
INTRODUCTION TO THE 1987 EDITION	XV
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	XVII
TERMINOLOGY AND FORMAT	XVIII
SYMBOLS, ABBREVIATIONS, COMMON DENA'INA WORDS	XIX
THE DENA'INA AND AHTNA SOUND SYSTEMS AND ALPHABETS	XXI
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
Shem Pete <i>Elan Shit'i</i> , 'I Am Shem Pete'	1
Billy Shem Pete	6
Sava Stephan, Sr.	8
The Dena'ina Language Area, Dena'ina Dialects, and Prehistoric Migrations, by James Kari	10
‡Prehistory of the Greater Upper Cook Inlet Region by Douglas Reger and Brian T. Wygal	15
The Russian Presence in Upper Cook Inlet, by James Kari and James A. Fall	17
Upper Inlet Dena'ina Regional Bands, Subsistence Patterns, and Traditional Leaders, by James A. Fall	22
Upper Inlet Dena'ina Bands and Band Names, by James Kari	27
Dena'ina Place Names and Territorial Knowledge, by James Kari	30
A Note on Map Production for <i>Shem Pete's Alaska</i> , by Matt Ganley	36
<b>1 Western Cook Inlet</b>	<b>49</b>
Chief Simeon Chickalusion, 1880–1957	59
Tanik'edi, a Dena'ina Technique for Salmon Fishing in Cook Inlet, by Nickafor Alexan	64
Beluga Hunting in the Tyonek Area, by James Kari and James A. Fall	75
Quyushi Uqu Ch'el'ani, Beluga Hunting, by Shem Pete	78
<b>2 Lower Susitna River</b>	<b>81</b>
The Wrangell Map of 1839, by James Kari	85
Early Historic Dena'ina Log and Pole Buildings, by D. C. Beard	94
Susitnu Htsukdu'a—The Susitna Story, by Shem Pete	96
<b>3 Fish Creek</b>	<b>99</b>
Notes on Dena'ina Watercraft, by James Kari	102
Baytnidahan and Red Shirt, by Shem Pete, translated by Billy Pete	106
<b>4 Alexander Creek Drainage</b>	<b>109</b>
Ghuliy—Potlatch Wealth, by James Kari	115
<b>5 Lower Yentna River</b>	<b>119</b>
Shem Pete, Dena'ina Singer and Composer, by Thomas F. Johnston	125
<b>6 Skwentna River to the Rainy Pass Area</b>	<b>131</b>
Htal—the 1932 Trip to Rainy Pass, by Sava Stephan	140
‡Introducing the Proto-Dene <i>Lex Loci</i> with Selected Dene Place Names South and West of the Alaska Range, by James Kari	144

Kind of a hot spring through the timber in there, and it's kind of a village meeting place."

**14.11 Kisidlentnu** • 'Point Current Creek'

*Wolverine Creek*

**14.12 Kisidlen Bena** • 'Point Current Lake'

*Wolverine Lake*

**14.13 C'ek'aali Cene** (Ahtna) • 'Whetstone Flat'

*bluff on north side of Matanuska River between Palmer and Moose Creek*

Jim Tyone: "It is like it has been filed by the wind."

Johnny Shaginoff reported that a village site was located on this bluff near the mouth of Moose Creek. "It was a well-known place for Natives. All big high bluffs have names."

**14.14 Chidaq'atnu** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'etna** (Ahtna) •

'Grandmother's Place Creek'

*Moose Creek, formerly called Tsadaka Creek*

This name is distinctively Dena'ina in origin, based upon the word **chida** 'old lady, grandma.' Note however that Orth (1971:987) stated, "Tanaina Indian name meaning 'moose,'" reported in 1898 by Capt Glenn." Mendenhall (1898, Map 58) wrote this as "Tsadaka."

Castner (1899:199): "Above Moose Creek on our [north] side of the Matanuska was an old camping place of the Matanuskas used in their journeys up and down the river."

According to Johnny Shaginoff and Katie Wade, there are burials on both sides of the mouth of Moose Creek. Some graves have washed out. Several people died here during the 1918 flu epidemic.

There is a modest king salmon run in Moose Creek. The fish were harvested with spears, according to Katie Wade.

**14.78 Chidaq'a Denyi** (Dena'ina); **Tsidek'e Dyii**

(Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Canyon'

*Tsadaka Canyon on Moose Creek*

Cole et al. (1985:75): "As early as 1894, trappers and prospectors heard about the rich coal veins in the Matanuska Valley from local Indians."

In the 1940s the Wade and Larson families lived near the Premier Mine and hunted and harvested berries throughout this area.

**14.15 Chidaq'ashla Bena** • 'Lake of Grandmother's Little Place'

*Wishbone Lake*

A trail leads up from the Moose Creek homestead of the Shaginoffs and Wades up to Wishbone Lake, a popular fishing spot.

**14.16 Chidaq'ashla** • 'Grandmother's Little Place'

*Wishbone Hill*

Katie Wade said that this is thought of as a dangerous area. Many hunters have gotten lost here. A giant with feet that are turned backwards is said to have lived in the area.

**§14.79 Tsida K'ae Dghilaaye** (Ahtna) • 'Grandmother's Place Mountain'

*Arkose Peak and ridge*

The name of this ridge at the head of Moose Creek is implied from the suffix **-shla**, 'small, little' for 14.16, Wishbone Hill. Typically a hill or mountain noted as 'small' is paired with a nearby larger named feature.

According to Johnny Shaginoff, a trail led up Moose Creek and over the mountains to the upper Kashwitna River. The Larsons from Talkeetna used to travel this trail. "I know some people went through. Jack Larson went up Moose Creek, came down Kashwitna. He used to trap beaver someplace on Kashwitna." See 8.44.

**§14.80 Tanilent** • 'Where Current Flows to Water'

*rapids probably above Moose Creek*

Name provided by John Stump.

**§14.81 ‡U'el Naak** Dghiltaazi (Ahtna) • 'Bar That Is Turning With It'

*bar on Matanuska River at Sutton*

Name from the text by Jim Tyone. See p. 226.

**14.17 Ts'es Tuk'ilaght** (Dena'ina); **Ts'es Tac'ilaexde**

(Ahtna) • 'Where Fish Run Among Rocks'

*Eska Creek; Sutton*

A name written by Mendenhall in 1898 as "Chistookalat," or "Spring Creek," is clearly the Dena'ina name for Eska Creek.

The salmon fishery on the Matanuska River was on a much smaller scale than it was for the Dena'ina peoples on Knik Arm or for the Ahtna on the Copper River (for which see Simeone and Kari 2002:). The Chickaloon Ahtna did not spend much time salmon fishing. Some salmon were harvested here and at a small stream now called Mile Seventeen Creek (ponds near Eska Creek mouth) and at Little Granite Creek. Mary Shaginoff noted that she did little fishing following her family's move to Chickaloon in 1915. Johnny Shaginoff said that the salmon are good only the first two or three days of the run. In the past, salmon from the Eska area were mainly used as dog feed. The people in this area obtained dried salmon through trade with the people downstream at Niteh. See also Fall (1981:178, 203–205, and 1987:31, 36).

Katie Wade notes that the main traditional method of harvesting the salmon in the sidestreams and ponds along the Matanuska River was the fish spear. She also notes that the Ahtna-style **ciisi** or dipnet did not seem to have been used for any salmon fishing on the Matanuska River. Katie has noted that along the Matanuska River **ba'** or spread and scored dry fish was made only when there were enough good quality fish, and that they did not make **dzenax** or **nelk'oli**, the two styles of fermented fish that are made by the Ahtna on the Copper River.

**14.18 Neltsii Ce'e** (Ahtna) • 'Big One That Is Made Like a Face'

*"Mount Sutton," mountain elev. 4415', "Crag"*