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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

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Unanguq Tunuktauq The Alcuts Speak



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Bering Straits Native Corporation applies for 234 sites under ANCSA



ANTHROPOLOGIST KATHRYN KOUTSKY of the University of Alaska worked with John Garrison, assistant vice president of lands for Bering Straits Native Corporation, on the historical and cemetary site selections. Here the pair are working with regional maps.

-Photo By MARGIE BAUMAN

Agreement in principle to acquire controlling interest in Modular Pacific Corporation reached

WASH.-An agreement in principle to acquire controlling interest in the Modular Pacific Corporation has been reached, it was announced today by Robert Willard, President and Chairman of the Board of the Angoon Business Development Corporation; and John A. Beyer, Chairman of the Board of Modular Pacific.

The transaction involves the General Construction Company, of Seattle, which will acquire the remaining outstanding stock of Modular Pacific.

The Angoon Business Development Corporation is a Bu siness subsidiary of Kootznoowoo; Inc., organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement

Attempt made to increase funding

WASHINGTON-Sen. Gravel, D-Alaska, is joining other senators in an attempt to increase funding for a program to provide vocational training for Indians and Alaskan natives.

Known as the Indian Action Team Program (IATP), it would train Indians for work with their tribes and train natives to work with their villages or corpora-

In Alaska, the Kenai Natives

Kootznoowoo, Inc. represents the Alaska Natives of

Angoon, Alaska. Beyer said Beyer said that Modular Pacific will continue with the same management and that under joint ownership of Angoon Business Development Corporation and General Construction Company, Modular

Pacific's business prospects, financial strength management capabilities will be substantially enhanced.

Modular Pacific is a Seattle based producer of factory-built Commerical homes and structures with markets that include Alaska, Hawaii and the



ANCHORAGE—During a recent visit to Alaska, Robert Redford met with Willie Hensley, and Eskimo from Kotzebue, to discuss the current world-wide search for Alaska Indians, Eskimos, and Alaiuts. Hensley, a former Alaska State Senator, was instrumental in Congressional passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1971. He spoke with Redford about his concern that, unless these people can be reached very soon, neither they nor their children will even share in the benefits granted them by the Act as the rightful heirs of Alaska's original inhabitants. Redford offered to do whatever he could to help inform Alaska Natives that their applications must be submitted to Pouch 7-1971, Anchorage, Alaska, by January 2, 1977.

By MARGIE BAUMAN

NOME-Efforts to locate and document evidence of numerous historical and cemetary sites in the Bering Straits region appear to by paying off, with selection of more than 200 sites to date.

As of the June 30 deadline set by the U. S. Dept. of Interior, Bering Straits Native Corporation had applied for 234 sites under Section 14(h) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Alaska Native Claims Settlement

The possibility remains that the deadline may be extended for a second time, to Dec. 18, 1976, or that the Interior Department could allow a waiver on red tage involved for the on red tape involved for the sites already selected. Diane Hemnes, vice president of lands for BSNC, said both alternatives had been discussed with Interior officials, the latter in hopes that Interior Secretary Thomas Interior Secretary Thomas Kleppe would use "secretarial discretion" in processing the site applications.

Selection of 14(h) sites was because complicated. Interior Department had not advised BSNC on the allocation figures for sections 12(b) and 12(c) of the act, forcing BSNC to make large overselection for those sections, Hamnes said. Research on 14(h) selections

began more than a year ago. with much time spent gathering nformation from village information

information from village residents who knew detailed history of their immediate area.

The historic Bering Straits region was a "natural" for such selections, Hemnes sid. such selections, Hemnes said.
Though now buried beneath the
Bering Sea, the land bridge to
Siberia at one time offered the
easiest land route for settlers
to the area. Many sites documented for selection were significant to the economy and
social life of the area's first residents.

What kinds of sites were selected? Here are some examples:

(Bendeleben Anivaayuq Mountain) in the Bendeleben Mountain Range, historically significant both as a landmarker and for its close association with the oral literature of the area. As a landmark, Aniyaayuq pro-vided direction to hunters, being the last mountain visible headed south into Norton Sound.

"Feelings and associations round Aniqaayuq which resent a concrete represent demonstration of the validity of ancient stories," wrote anthropologist Kathryn Koutsky of the University of Alaska, as she assisted in site selection. "It is said that at the top of this mountain lie driftwood, claims and the remains of a raft and the remains of deposited on the summit at the time of the great flood.

"The story of the great flood is an important part of the oral

literature. Briefly, it tells of a man who had a dream warning him of the impending disaster and instructing him to build a raft to save the people from the waters. The raft was constructed and when the flood arrived, the people were save," Koutsky wrote.

Itudub-yagillaq (Low Pass) also in the Bendeleben Mounrains, is described as a histori-cally significant portage used as a passage between Fish River on the southern side of the Seward Peninsula and the Kauwerak people of Kuzitrin River on the Northwest side

of the peninsula.

The portage begins at the head of a small stream which empties into Boston Creek, crosses a low divide to the north fork of Minnie Creek, which then flows into Kuzitrin Lake. The site application notes that Kuzitrin Lake was used by Kauwerak people and the Fish River Tribe for large cooperative caribou drives during the annual caribou migra-

Taukauak, in the Bendeleben Mountains, was another historic portage used continuously

Wallis removed from August primary ballot

Representative Tim Wallis notified the lieutenant governor recently to remove his name from the August 24 Primary Election Ballot.

Citing his new responsibilities as president of Doyon, Ltd., the regional native corporation for Interior Alaska, Wallis said he will finish his present term as a representative from Fairbanks, District 20, but he will not run for re-election.

The Athabascan executive is not disclaiming politics, how-ever, Wallis advised the lieutenant governor that he intends to remain as politically active as necessary to do the best job for his people.

As successor to John Sackett, who presided over Doyon during its first five formative years, Wallis sees his job as carrying through with the major resource development programs Sackett initiated.

Wallis is president of DNH Corp. and a member of the board of directors of Doyon, Ltd.