UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Russian Orthodox Church Buildings and Sites in Alaska

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QUAD: Karluk

- 1. Ascension of Our Lord Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. KAR-032)
- 2. LOCATION
  - NA а.
  - Karluk Ъ.
  - NA с.
  - Alaska d.
  - e. 02
  - f. Kodiak Division 150
  - g.
- 3. AHRS DATE: May 18, 1973
- 4. CONDITION: Good
- 5. UNALTERED
- 6. ORIGINAL SITE

This church, Ascension of Our Lord Chapel, Karluk, is a contemporary of the distinguished Holy Resurrection Church, Belkofsky, which is documented elsewhere in this form, and is also proposed for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The first R. O. chapel is believed to have been constructed here prior to 1800. This present church was built in 1888, with materials supplied by the Alaska Packers Company, and the design and construction attributed to one Charles Smith Hursh. While sharing a number of design elements in common with the Belkofsky R. O. church, this structure is a more fully realized design for a small church, embodying eclectic features of one main stream of R. O. rural church design. (Kreta/Merculief, Photos).

The main body of this church is a rectangle 37'11" long by (approximately) 27' wide, with a square altar extension, 16'9" wide by 14' deep, and an entranceway vestibule 11'8" deep by 12'7" wide, that rises to a second tier cupola and third tier bell tower, of architectural distinction. (Kreta, Notes; Kreta/Merculief, Photos; Wallace, 1974, 30, Plates 29, 30; Undated Floor Plan).

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The north and south walls of the main building are each fenestrated by two doublehung 12-pane window sashes, ornamented by decorative surrounds similar to, but more ornate than, those gracing the Belkofski church windows. Each window surround is trangulated at its top border, with a Greek cross below the apex in the space at top center. Identical windows are in the north and south walls of the east (altar) extension, and facing westward from the outer perimeter of the west wall, in the space between the vestibule wall and the main chamber north and south walls. The main roof is a medium-high angle gable covered by galvanized Saddling the roof ridge line, three-quarters of the distance toward the metal. east end, is a fully realized octagonal oriel surmounted by a pyramidal roof, from whose peak spires a cross mounted on a small bulb-shape, marking it as a later addition, based on a Byzantine architectural tradition. Two additional windows, the same as those in the first level body band, light the oriel, one each in the north and south octagonal surfaces. Two identical double-hung window sashes grace the north and south walls of the altar (east) extension. (Ibid.)

The entranceway vestibule is unique in design among R. O. church designs in Alaska. The first level has a center doorway frame that imitates the window surrounds, including the Greek cross beneath the apex border. The door itself is double leaf, with small glass top panels over three-quarter height vertical wood panels in each door. The exterior corners of the vestibule space are squared Doric order columns, upon which the low-angle gable roof is finished at its front (west) end with a severely plain pediment. Set atop this is a squared oriel, lighted on its north, west, and south faces by circle lights of four quarter sections, again an adaptation of a design feature of the R. O. church at Belkofski. The oriel is surmounted by a truncated pyramidal roof, into which is set an open cupola and bell tower, from which spires the church's high cross.

The actual fabric of the church structure is log, covered over with a form of novelty siding. There is tradition that this is actually the second church in this location. Possibly this relates to an enlargement of the structure which is not apparent in photographs, or else to the addition of siding to the original building -- possibly the present siding, possibly an earlier siding. The relationship of the design of this structure to that at Belkofski speaks for a pre-1890 date, and it should be presumed that the idea of an earlier building probably relates to a first smaller section of the present building.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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QUAD: ILIAMNA (B-8)

St. Nicholas Chapel, Igiugig (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-042)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Center point of building is sited on unplatted lot 800 feet north 7 <sup>o</sup>east of northeast corner of Igiugig aircraft landing field, 150 feet east of T-intersection, on north side of road, as sited on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Igiugig 1963".

QUAD: ILIAMNA

St. Nicholas Chapel, Nondalton (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-023)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 4876, enclosed. Also sited on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Nondalton 1962".

QUAD: ILIAMNA (D-3)

St. Nicholas Chapel, Pedro Bay (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-022)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on unplatted site at northwest corner of remote Alaskan Native village of Pedro, 170 feet north of high tide line at head of Pedro Bay, as sited on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Pedro Bay 1968".

QUAD: KARLUK (C-2)

Ascension of Our Lord Chapel, Karluk (AHRS SITE NO. KAR-032)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on mainland side at extreme west terminus of town road as sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 469, enclosed. Sited also on BLM Photographic Atlas, "Karluk 1965".

QUAD: KODIAK (D-2)

Saints Sergius and Herman of Valaan Chapel, Monk's Lagoon, Spruce Island (AHRS SITE NO. KOD-196)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Building is sited on U.S. Survey map sheet 470, enclosed.

Form No: 10-300a (Hev. 10-74) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FOR NPS USE ONLY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE RECEIVED AUG 2 1 1979 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES JUN 6. 1980 DATE ENTERED **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM** Orthodox Russian Church Buildings and Sites in Alaska 10 **ITEM NUMBER** CONTINUATION SHEET PAGE 4 of 15 Iliamna (D-3) QUADRANGLE NAME: Pedro Bay LOCATION: NAME OF PROPERTY AND AHRS NUMBER: St. Nicholas Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-022) QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1: 63, 360 UTM REFERENCE: ZONE: 0 5 EASTING: 4 3 8 1 0 6 NORTHING: 6 6 2 7 8 0 6 QUADRANGLE NAME: Karluk (C-2) LOCATION: Karluk NAME OF PROPERTY AND AHRS NUMBER: Ascension of our Lord Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. KAR-032) QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1: 63, 360 UTM REFERENCE: ZONE: <u>05</u> EASTING: 4 1 2 9 4 9 NORTHING: 6 3 8 1 4 3 7

