

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

904



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Soldotna Post Office

other names/site number: Lee Homestead Cabin  
Alaska Heritage Resources Survey No. KEN-00239

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2. Location

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street & number: Corner of East Corral Street and Kenai Spur Highway

not for publication: N/A

city or town: Soldotna vicinity: N/A

state: Alaska code: AK county: Kenai Peninsula code: 122

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally      statewide X locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Joan M. Antonson August 5, 2008  
Signature of certifying official Date

Alaska  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register      See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

[Signature] 9/17/08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]       
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====

**5. Classification**

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**Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)**

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property (Check only one box)**

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  1  </u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register   0  

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)   N/A  

100% COTTON  
MELTECH

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Government Sub: post office  
Domestic single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and culture Sub: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

No style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete  
roof rolled roofing  
walls log, shingle

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Soldotna's first post office is a 16 x 18 foot, two-story log building located at the corner of the Kenai Spur Highway and East Corral Street in the heart of the city that has grown around it. Homesteaders Howard Lee and Larry Lancashire built the cabin in 1949. A full length, one story shed roof porch dominates the main elevation. The porch shelters an offset door and six-light casement window. The log construction is evident on the first floor. The second floor has wood shakes and a nine-light casement window centrally located in the gable apex. A shed wall dormer is on the west elevation.

The building's sill logs now sit on a concrete foundation. Initially, the corner posts for the building were large spruce logs placed upright in the ground and upon which the base logs were set. Each wall of the lower story is composed of 15 spruce logs laid in a half-lap formation at the corners. The logs are chinked with foam backer rod and caulked, because oakum, used originally, was unavailable. Maxine Lee insisted on two six-pane windows side by side on the lower story on the west, north, and east sides of the building. A smaller window was put in the south side of the house. During the 1980s, picture windows replaced the six-pane windows. During the 2005 restoration, windows similar to the originals were installed in original window spaces on the west, north, and east sides of the building. For the post office entry, Maxine Lee had a tongue-and-groove Dutch door built. It has been replicated.

**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 5

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The second story is constructed of dimensional lumber. Hand-hewn wood shakes cover the exterior walls. During the 2005 restoration, the Celotex wallboard was replaced with quarter-inch plywood with batten strips. The original 2 x 4 inch rafters remain and a 4 x 4 inch center post was added to stabilize the roof and building. The original tongue-and-groove spruce flooring remains on both levels of the building. The moderately pitched gable roof has slight overhangs and is covered with green rolled roofing, similar to the original. The second owners replaced the original ladder to the second floor inside with a stairway.

The main elevation on the south has a full length, 8 x 16 foot, shed roof porch. It is constructed of three whole log spruce posts symmetrically set, rough-cut lumber, and green rolled roofing. It has a dirt floor. An ADA compliant wood ramp leads to the wood plank door. The door is in the east porch opening, and a six-light wood casement window is in the west side. Between the door and window is a sign providing information on the significance of the building. A second floor nine-light wood casement window is in the gable apex.

Three six-light wood casement windows are centrally located side-by-side on the first floor of the west elevation. The opening is larger than it was originally. The north and east elevations have paired six light wood casement windows in the original openings. A shed wall dormer with a four-light wood casement window is offset on the west elevation. The side walls of the dormer are covered with wood shakes. The north elevation has a six-light wood casement window in the gable apex.

Initially the building had no electricity, running water, plumbing, or mechanical refrigeration. Water was carried from a spring at the mouth of Soldotna Creek one mile away until a well was dug in 1949. Light was provided by white gasoline (Blazo) and kerosene lanterns, and heat was provided by a wood-burning cook stove and a barrel stove downstairs. Refrigeration was available in winter by placing snow and ice in a box on the roof of the porch.

Maxine Lee served as postmaster from 1949 until June 1951. The duties passed to Eleanor (Mickey) Faa, who initially performed her duties in various locations where she lived in Soldotna. In 1954, Mickey Faa and husband Joe purchased a portion of the Lee homestead and, once again, mail was delivered from the building's kitchen door until Joe Faa built a 23 x 35 foot addition. The addition included a kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, and a separate room for the post office. Faa added interior stairs and a dormer window in the original house. They reduced the overhang's size by cutting the enclosed eaves and exposing the rafters. The 2005 restoration again closed the eaves. Electricity was extended to the building in 1955. A new post office building was constructed in 1962, two blocks away. The Faas lived in the house until 1965.

**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 6

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In 1965, Zilla and Justin Maile purchased the building. They added a 20 x 32 foot addition, that was the "Yarn Shop and Bernina Center," a bustling business of sewing and dry goods. The Mailes used the downstairs of the original building as a living room. They replaced the multi-light windows with picture windows. In 1985, as a surprise to his wife, Justin Maile (who was also the city's sixth mayor) had the building painted olive green.

At about this time, congestion from school buses and private vehicles at the adjacent Soldotna Elementary School created a hazardous situation. The school PTA petitioned the School Board for a safer traffic pattern, which in 1989 resulted in the purchase of the Maile lots by the Kenai Peninsula Borough for a bus loading area behind the school. The Faa and Maile additions to the original post office building were removed. The original building, which Zilla Maile gifted to the Soldotna Historical Society on March 5, 1991, was temporarily relocated 100 feet east of its original location. The Kenai Peninsula Borough granted the Soldotna Historical Society \$6,500 to move the building to the Soldotna Homestead Village. Historical society members Marge Mullen, Katherine Parker, and Rusty Lancashire, however, saw value in returning the log building to its original location, restoring it, and seeking to have it listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Letters of support from numerous citizens led to meetings between the society, city, school, and borough officials. These meetings produced a decision signed on December 16, 1992, by Borough Mayor Don Gilman and City of Soldotna Manager Richard Underkofler, which approved the return of the building to its original location.

In 1993, a concrete foundation was built by Dan Green and several volunteers, and the building was returned to its original location. In 1994, Paul Lints replaced 10 rotted logs at a cost of \$4,000. Marge Mullen and other community members organized a salmon feed for the 35<sup>th</sup> Progress Day celebration on July 22, 1996, to raise funds for building restoration. Subsequently, the exterior green paint was removed by Hansen Painting Company and volunteers.

From 1996 to 2004, the building stood unoccupied. It was periodically vandalized, and the condition of the building became a concern. As a result, the Soldotna Historical Society began planning to restore the building. Bids were sought for restoration, and the sole respondent was Holt Construction which bid \$42,500 for all items, including hiring a historical architect. A total of \$2,000 was drawn from the Soldotna Historical Society's general fund, and funds were contributed by board members of the Soldotna Historical Society. An application was made to the Rasmuson Foundation for a grant of \$42,580. The foundation responded that the grant request should be scaled down and that additional funds be raised in the community. Barbara Jewell, on behalf of the Society, applied for a City of Soldotna grant of \$500 which was received, spoke to the Soldotna

**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

Soldotna Post Office

Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 7

Rotary Club which contributed \$663, and sought financial support from the local Veterans of Foreign Wars. An additional \$2,000 was received from an anonymous donor. With this show of support, the Rasmuson Foundation awarded the project \$22,800. Holt generously modified his original bid, and gave in-kind services from his company, Hanson Roofing Company, and Viking Construction Company. Restoration, including furnishings, was completed in September 2005 at a total cost of \$27,963. The building had been listed as one of 10 Most Endangered Properties by the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation for several years.

Through the entire restoration project Marge Mullen and Barbara Jewell corresponded with former postmaster Maxine Lee MacDonald, in Palo Alto, California. MacDonald provided information on materials and furnishings that were used in the original building. The building has been restored to its original appearance using materials that match or closely match those used in the original construction. Furnishings were acquired from local homesteaders and antique shops.

The building is open to the public during Farmer's Market Saturdays from June through mid-September. Marge Mullen and Barbara Jewell relate the building's history to visitors. Student tours are conducted upon request. The Kenai Peninsula Borough maintains the grounds and second-growth small forest nearby and the Soldotna Historical Society maintains the building.

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8. Statement of Significance  
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Exploration/settlement

Period of Significance 1949-1951

Significant Dates 1949

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Lee, Howard  
Lancashire, Larry



**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 9

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)**

The first Soldotna post office, operated out of a homesteader's house, is historically significant because it represents the town's origins. Howard and Maxine Lee homesteaded on the site in 1948. Mail was vital to the pioneering homesteaders who moved to the area in the late 1940s. Maxine Lee took the job as the area's first postmaster. She used part of the family's two story log building as the post office from 1949 to 1951. Mickey Faa, Lee's successor, used the building as the post office from 1954 until an addition that no longer stands was added. In 1962 a more modern post office in a building dedicated for that purpose was built two blocks away. The Lee's cabin is the only homesteading building at its original location in today's City of Soldotna. It was moved from the site at one time, but returned in 1996 and placed on a concrete foundation. Local historical society members restored the building to very close to its original appearance. The period of significance is 1949 to 1951 when Maxine Lee operated the post office, although it was the community's post office again for several years in the mid-1950s.

Historic background

Alan Boraas, Professor of Anthropology Professor at Kenai Peninsula College, University of Alaska Anchorage, characterizes Soldotna as "the last settlement in the United States developed by homesteading." That is a profound definition of the settlers who came to today's Soldotna area in the late 1940s with dreams for a new life. Soldotna organized as a fourth-class city in 1960, and became a first-class city in 1967. Today, the town is the hub of the peninsula. It has a population of 4,000, and an additional 6,000 people live in the surrounding area. The Kenai River winds through town, explaining its characterization "Soldotna, Alaska's River City." Two blocks from the original post office, which served 20 postal patrons from boxes inside the kitchen door, stands Soldotna's fourth post office, which has 3,099 active post boxes and makes 3,538 street deliveries serving the city.

Howard and Maxine Lee, both World War II veterans, arrived in Soldotna in 1948 with their 16-month-old daughter, proved-up on the land, and acquired their 160-acre homestead. The Lee's first winter in the area was spent in a Quonset hut. With neighbor, Larry Lancashire, who lived two miles away, Howard Lee built the Lancashire homestead cabin and then the Lee homestead cabin in 1949. Howard Lee cut and hewed the spruce logs on the homestead property and Larry Lancashire used his mobile sawmill operated by a Jeep motor to cut the lumber for the 16- by 18-foot two-story building.

The homesteaders, led by Marge Mullen, believed the area needed a post office. Maxine Lee was asked if she was interested in applying for the postmaster position and establishing a post office in her new house, which

**USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form**

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 10

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was the largest homesteader building in the area. Maxine Lee agreed and acquired her official postal certification July 1, 1949. Soldotna's first post office had a postal hand-stamp, a mail scale, and a few other supplies in several wood Blazo boxes inside the front door of the house.

The Lee cabin served as post office and home for the family, which expanded to four with the arrival of a son in 1949. Mrs. Lancashire delivered mail to Soldotna once a week from Kenai over a muddy, rutted road. Lee's salary from the post office was \$14.00 a month. Mail day was a special day, with homesteaders stopping for their mail and visiting. Maxine Lee served as Postmaster until June 1951 when she and the children left Soldotna so she could complete her college studies. Later she divorced Howard Lee.

The postmaster duties passed to Eleanor (Mickey) Faa, who performed the duties at various locations where she lived in Soldotna. In 1954, Mickey and Joe Faa purchased a portion of the Lee homestead including the house and, once again, mail was delivered from the building's kitchen door until a 23 x 35 foot addition was built by Joe Faa. This addition included a kitchen, indoor bathroom, three bedrooms, and a separate room for the post office. Faa also built the stairs and added the upstairs dormer window in the original house. Electricity was extended to the dwelling in 1955.

With the discovery of oil in 1957 on the northern Kenai Peninsula, the area's population increased dramatically. Stores were constructed along the Kenai Spur and Sterling highways, homes were built, and in 1960 Soldotna Elementary School was built adjacent to the Faa property. A new post office with 500 postal boxes was built in 1962 two blocks from the original building. The Faas continued to live in the house until 1965. They added 80 acres to their property, and later subdivided it all to establish Aspen Flats Subdivision.

In 1965 Zilla and Justin Maile purchased the house and property from the Faas. In 1989 the Kenai Peninsula purchased the property. The additions were removed. Zilla Maile donated the house in 1991 to the Soldotna Historical Society. The borough gave the society funds to move the building. Historical society members and others in the community worked with the Kenai Peninsula Borough, local school district, and City of Soldotna to return the building to its original location. The agreement called for the historical society to rehabilitate and maintain the building. The Soldotna Historical Society completed restoration work in 2005. The building is opened to the public and for school tours in the spring and summer months. On its original site and closely resembling its original appearance, the Soldotna Post Office is testimony to the City of Soldotna's origins as a post-World War II homesteading community in southcentral Alaska.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Avery, Jeff, United States Post Office, Soldotna, Alaska, interview, November 6, 2007.

Faa Carver, Eleanor (Mickey), oral history. On file at the Soldotna Historical Society and Museum, Inc., Soldotna, Alaska, July 17, 1995.

Gray, Paul, *Soldotna Homesteader Heritage*. Gray Video Productions, Soldotna, Alaska, 1998.

Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Department Records, Soldotna, Alaska.

Lee, Howard, *Reminiscent Rambling of Early Soldotna*. On file at the Soldotna Historical Society and Museum, Inc., Soldotna, Alaska, undated.

Lee MacDonald, Maxine, *Homesteading on the Kenai*. On file at the Soldotna Historical Society and Museum, Inc., Soldotna, Alaska, September 7, 2003.

Mullen, Margaret M., interviews, Soldotna, Alaska, November 1-2, 2007.

Parker, Katherine, "4 Post Offices Testify to Soldotna's Growth," *The Kenai Peninsula Cheechako News*, July 31, 1985, p. 5.

Peterson, Walt and Elsa, *A Small History of the Western Kenai*. Chicago: Adams Press, 1976.

Van Lone, Donna, interview, Soldotna, Alaska, November 7, 2007.

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

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Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A

\_\_\_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

\_\_\_ previously listed in the National Register

\_\_\_ previously determined eligible by the National Register

\_\_\_ designated a National Historic Landmark

\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

\_\_\_ State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_ Other State agency

\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_ University

x Other

Name of repository: Soldotna Historical Society & Museum, Inc.

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10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property .80 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	05	606275	6707705	3	_____	_____
2	___	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

The Lee homestead/post office building is located at North 60 degrees 29 minutes 36.4 seconds, West 151 degrees 3 minutes 57.3 seconds in the NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 29, Township 5 North, Range 10 West (Seward Meridian) in the Kenai B-3 NW Quadrangle. It is on Lot A, Block 4, Aspen Flats Subdivision Addition No. 4, City of Soldotna.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The old post office is owned by the Soldotna Historical Society and Museum, Inc. and is all that is included in the nomination. The building sits on Kenai Peninsula Borough property.

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 13

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Jewell, Corresponding Secretary

organization Soldotna Historical Society & Museum, Inc.

date February 1, 2008

street & number P.O. Box 1986 telephone 907.262.4157

city or town Soldotna state AK zip code 99669-1986

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owners

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Soldotna Historical Society & Museum, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 1986

telephone 907.262.4157

city or town Soldotna state Alaska zip code 99669-1986

name Kenai Peninsula Borough

street & number 144 N. Binkley St.

telephone 907.262.4441

city or town Soldotna state Alaska zip code 99669

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Soldotna Post Office

Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Page 14

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Photographs

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1. Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska  
Barbara Jewell  
February 25, 2008  
Soldotna Historical Society, P.O. Box 1986, Soldotna, Alaska 99669-1986  
Looking north at front elevation
  
2. Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska  
Barbara Jewell  
February 25, 2008  
Soldotna Historical Society, P.O. Box 1986, Soldotna, Alaska 99669-1986  
Looking east at west elevation
  
3. Soldotna Post Office  
Kenai Peninsula, Alaska  
Barbara Jewell  
February 25, 2008  
Soldotna Historical Society, P.O. Box 1986, Soldotna, Alaska 99669-1986  
Looking southwest at back and east elevations

Recommendation: SLR Return Action: SLR Return None

Documentation Issues-Discussion Sheet

State Name: AK County Name Kenai Pen. Resource Name Soldotna Po

Reference No. 08-904 Multiple Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Solution:** - Removed but relocated to original site -  
OK Restoration retains essential characteristics  
& conveys signit. qualities  
OK PNH 7/2/02

**Problem:** Property was removed, <sup>from</sup> then moved to its original location  
Signif. restoration

*km*

**Resolution:**

SLR: Yes No

Database Change:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Soldotna Post Office

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ALASKA, Kenai Peninsula

DATE RECEIVED: 8/06/08      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/25/08  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/09/08      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/19/08  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08000904

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

     ACCEPT           RETURN           REJECT                           DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**The Soldotna Post Office is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement. Representing one of the last American city's settled by homesteading, Soldotna, Alaska began its development in the immediate post-World War II era. The Soldotna post Office, also the home of pioneer settlers Howard and Maxine Lee, was among the first homestead residence built in the community and served as an important focal point for community activity as the postal station from 1949 to 1951. It remains today a rare extant illustration of that first phase of local community development and settlement. The building's thoughtful rehabilitation acknowledges the depth of local recognition and appreciation for early Soldotna history.**

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan      DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE 9/17/08

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y (N)

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





SOLDOTNA POST OFFICE

KENAI PENINSULA, ALASKA

BARBARA JEWELL

2.25.08

Soldotna Historical Society, Box 1486, Soldotna, AK 99669

Looking N

#;



Soldotna Post Office

Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Barbara Jewell

February 25, 2008

Soldotna Historical Society, Box 1986, Soldotna, AK 99669

Looking E.

#2



Soldotna Post Office

Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

Barbara Jewell

February 25, 2008

Soldotna Historical Society, Box 1986, Soldotna, AK 99669

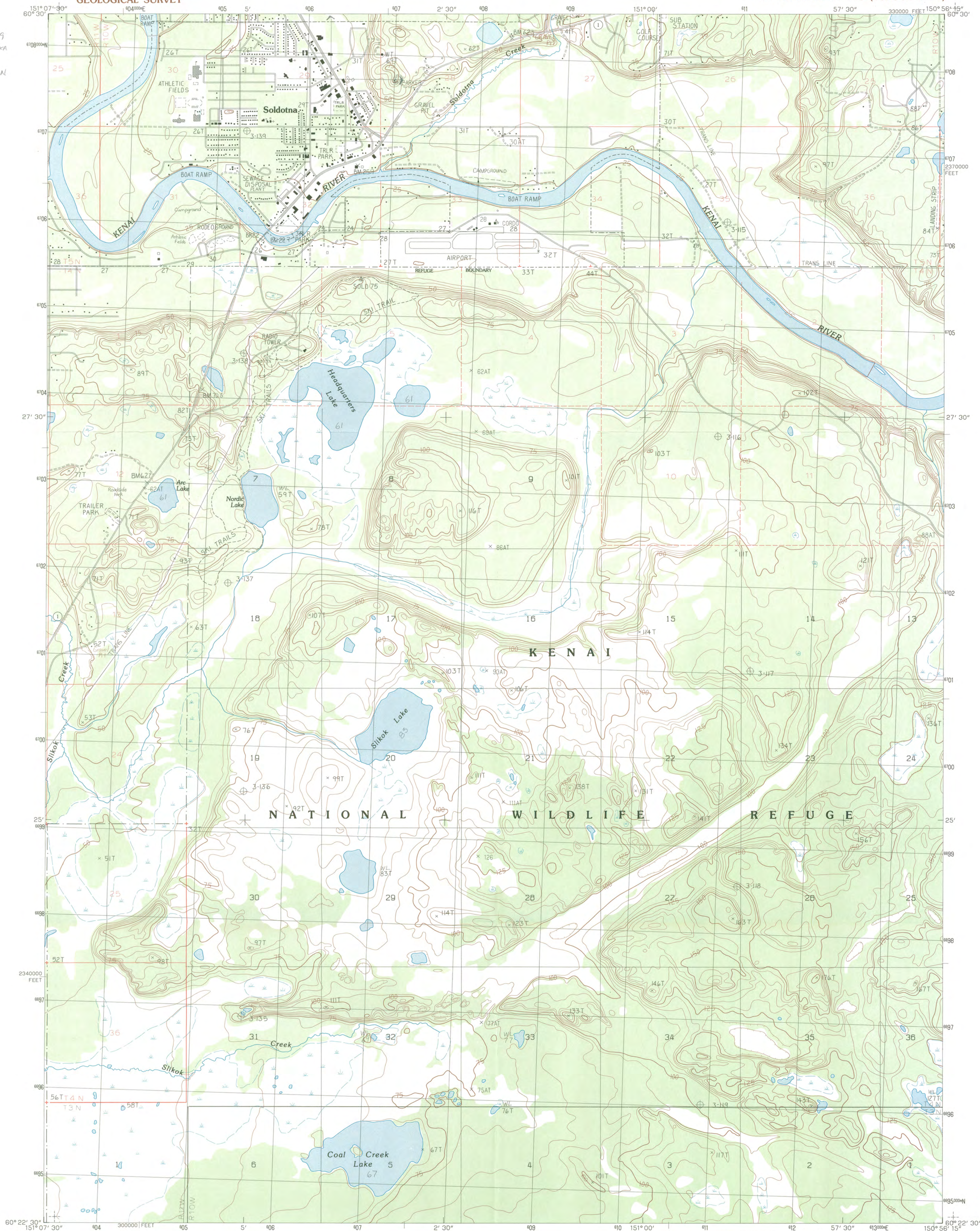
Looking SW

#3

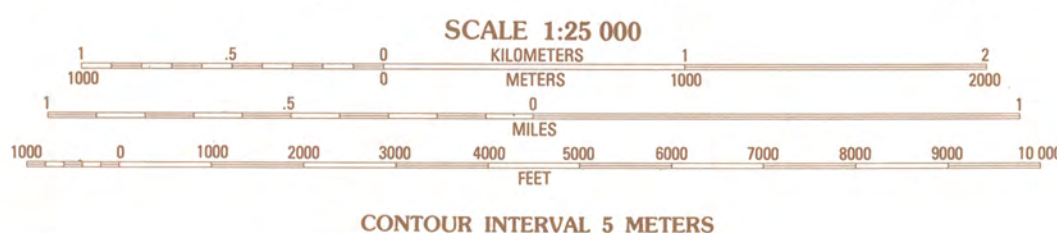
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

KENAI (B-3) NW QUADRANGLE  
ALASKA—KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
1:25 000-SCALE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SOLDOTNA POST OFFICE  
AIRS SITE No. KEN-00239  
KENAI PENINSULA ALASKA  
UTM ZONE 05  
606275E, 6707705N



PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
CONTROL BY USGS, NOS/NOAA  
COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 1975  
FIELD CHECKED 1980. MAP EDITED 1986  
PROJECTION TRANSVERSE MERCATOR  
GRID: 1000-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR ZONE 5  
10,000-FOOT STATE GRID TICKS ALASKA, ZONE 4  
UTM DECLINATION 1°43' EAST  
1986 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION 24' EAST  
VERTICAL DATUM NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
HORIZONTAL DATUM 1927 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM  
To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,  
move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks  
(68 meters north and 121 meters east)  
Gray land lines represent unsurveyed and unmarked locations pre-  
determined by the Bureau of Land Management, Folio S-16, Seward  
Meridian  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any  
Federal or State reservations shown on this map  
Federal reservation boundaries established by the Alaska National  
Interest Lands Conservation Act, PL 06-487, Dec. 2, 1980, are shown  
as compiled by the administering agencies  
Swamps, as portrayed, indicate only the wetter areas, usually of low  
relief, as interpreted from aerial photographs



SCALE 1:25 000  
KILOMETERS  
METERS  
MILES  
FEET

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 METERS  
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER  
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER  
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808  
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD LEGEND  
Improved Road .....  
Unimproved Road .....  
Trail .....  
State Route

1	2	3	1 Kenai (C-4) SE
4	5	2 Kenai (C-3) SW	3 Kenai (C-3) SE
6	7	4 Kenai (B-4) NE	5 Kenai (B-3) NE
		6 Kenai (B-4) SE	7 Kenai (B-3) SW
		8 Kenai (B-3) SE	

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

KENAI (B-3) NW, ALASKA  
PROVISIONAL EDITION 1986

60150-D8-TM-025

**ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**VOTING RECORD FOR NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY AND DISTRICT NOMINATIONS**

Date: March 19, 2008

It is moved that the Soldotna Post Office **qualifies** for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion/criteria A; exception/ exceptions n/a; level of significance local. The property is associated with Alaska Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan theme/themes exploration and settlement.

Moved by: Romer Derr      Seconded by: Candy Waugaman

Vote on motion:

IN FAVOR	OPPOSED	ABSTAIN	RESULT
Parnell		Bittner	Passed 7-0-1
Derr			
Diters			Rejected
Martz			
Moore			Tabled
Roppel			
Waugaman			

If tabled or rejected, reasons or instructions on how to proceed:

Other comments: The owner of the building is the Soldotna Historical Society, which initiated the nomination; the owner of the land is the Kenai Peninsula Borough, which indicated in a letter its concurrence with the nomination.





## KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

144 N. BINKLEY • SOLDOTNA, ALASKA • 99669-7520  
BUSINESS (907) 262-4441 FAX (907) 262-1892

JOHN J. WILLIAMS  
MAYOR

February 28, 2008

RECEIVED

MAR 03 2008

Joan M. Antonson, Deputy State History Preservation Officer  
Department of Natural Resources  
Office of History and Archaeology  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1310  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

OHA

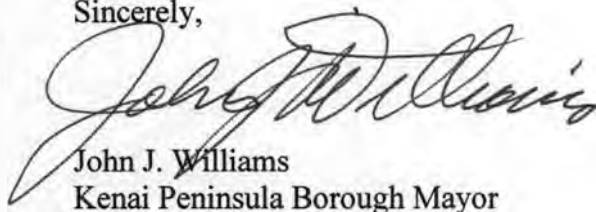
Dear Ms. Antonson:

It is my pleasure to support the Soldotna Historical Society's application for Soldotna's first post office to the Alaska Historical Commission for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Kenai Peninsula Borough owns and maintains the land on which the historic post office resides. In keeping with the 1992 agreement issued by Mayor Don Gilman, the Soldotna Historical Society retains ownership of the building and its upkeep. The historical society vigorously pursued raising funds through the community to receive a Rasmuson Foundation Grant for restoration of the building, which was completed in 2005. The historical society opens the building during the summer to the public and offers other tours to students and various groups upon request throughout the year. This structure is the only homestead-era building, which remains on its original site within the city limits. The historical society is to be commended for its efforts to retain this part of Soldotna's and Alaska's historical heritage.

I trust the commission will give favorable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,



John J. Williams  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

cc: Soldotna Historical Society

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

*DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION*

*OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY*

**SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR**

550 W. 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1310  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3565  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8908

August 5, 2008

Re: 3330-2 Soldotna Post Office



National Register of Historic Places  
Attn: Paul Lusignan  
National Park Service 2280  
1201 I Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Paul:

Enclosed is a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Soldotna Post Office, in the center of the city of Soldotna in southcentral Alaska. The building is owned by the Soldotna Historical Society & Museum, Inc. and sits on Kenai Peninsula Borough property. An officer of the historical society prepared the documentation, with borough support of the property's nomination to the register.

The property is not within the boundaries of a Certified Local Government. The voting record of the Alaska Historical Commission, the state review board, is enclosed. Before the March 19, 2008, meeting at which the nomination was considered by the commission, the building and land owners received letters about the National Register of Historic Places program and results of listing. The Office of History and Archaeology, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, issued a statewide press release about the meeting with specific mention of National Register nomination review. No one attended the meeting or, other than the letter of support from the borough, submitted comments in writing regarding the nomination.

Alaska Historical Commission members determined the Soldotna Post Office eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A. They determined no criteria considerations needed to be addressed. Commission members said the property is associated with the Alaska historic preservation planning theme exploration and settlement. The period of significance is 1949-1951, starting when the building started to be used as the first post office in the area, and ending when the first postmaster resigned. The building is of local significance.

National Register of Historic Places  
August 5, 2008  
Page 2

I you have any questions regarding this nomination please contact Joan (Jo) Antonson, State Historian, at e-mail [jo.antonson@alaska.gov](mailto:jo.antonson@alaska.gov) or phone 907-269-8714.

Sincerely,

*Joan M. Antonson*

Judith E. Bittner  
*Deputy* State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosures: registration form, USGS 1:63,360 map, 3 photographs, AHC voting record, 1 letter of support

cc: Barbara Jewell, Soldotna Historical Society & Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 1986, Soldotna, AK 99669-1986