

PH0054925

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Alaska
COUNTY: City & Boro of Juneau
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE SEP 19 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
326 5th Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Juneau

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Alaska

CODE: 02

COUNTY: *Southcentral Dist.*
City and Boro of Juneau

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The Orthodox Church in America

STREET AND NUMBER:
Diocese of Sitka and Alaska, Box 479

CITY OR TOWN:
Sitka

STATE:
Alaska

CODE:
02

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
District Recorder

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Juneau

STATE:
Alaska

CODE:
02

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State

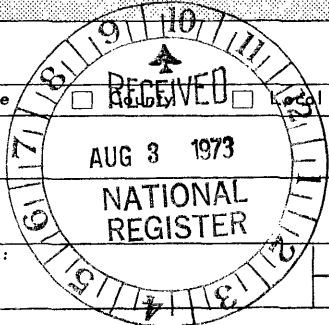
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Juneau

STATE:
Alaska

CODE:
02



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

SEP 19 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

Senators: Ted Stevens/Mike Gravel
Congressman: Don Young

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church is a small wood frame structure built on an octagonal plan with a small covered entryway extending from one of its eight sides. Seven of the eight sides have large eight-light windows running from just below the eaves of the shingled roof to halfway down each side. Above the eaves small cupolas on four of the eight panels elaborate the roof as it slopes up to the onion dome which is capped by an Orthodox cross. A smaller cross tops the belfry that is on the covered entryway.

Legal Description: Block 24, Lot 3, Townsite of Juneau



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1893

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Believed to be the oldest surviving Russian Orthodox church in Alaska, St. Nicholas is significant in local history as a material record of the influence of the Orthodox Church.

The principal chief of Juneau, Ishkhanalykh, is reported to have contacted the Russian priest at St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, Father V. Dukhov, in 1890, expressing a wish to join the Orthodox faith. The Sitka Indian chief, Khlianlych, who was acting as intermediary, added his own belief that if Chief Ishkhanalykh were baptized first, the other Juneau natives would join the Church.

On July 26, 1892, Nicholas, Bishop of Alaska, visited Juneau and was met by a delegation of Juneau chiefs who said they wished to be baptized and that they would donate land, lumber, and labor for a church. Asking the reason for this enthusiasm, Nicholas was told of a local tradition:

A young Indian man had a vision. A venerable old man came to him and advised him to go to Sitka and to be baptized. The young man followed the advice. A few years later he became sick, and on his deathbed he called for the elders of his tribe and told them that the same venerable old man came to see him again and told him to advise all other Indians to be baptized. The young man died, but his message did not die with him. Other Indians started to have the same vision, and the urge to be baptized spread like a wild fire.

Nicholas, impressed, agreed to the construction of a church and left a priest at Juneau. Three days later, Chief Ishkhanalykh and his wife were baptized and received the Christian names Dimitrii and Elizaveta.

In 1893, Bishop Nicholas provided \$2,000 for church construction and Chief Ishkhanalykh gave the land. Other natives of Juneau provided lumber and labor. By November 22, 1893, the church and priest's house passed inspection of the building committee and early in 1894 Bishop Nicholas consecrated the church in the name of St. Nicholas, Protector of Mariners.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kreta, Joseph P.
 1973 Personal communication.
 Shenitz, Helen A.
 1967 "The Legend that Built the Church" in Capital City Weekly,
 June 9, 1967, Vol. I, No. 9, pp. 1-2

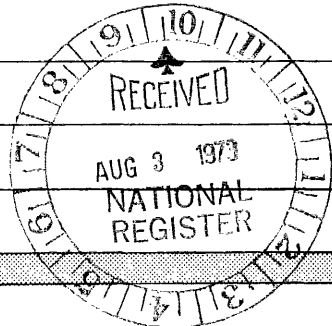
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		58 ° 18 ' 12 " N	134 ° 24 ' 28 " W	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: -1

(LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES)

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Amos Wallace

ORGANIZATION: St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church DATE: April 10, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Juneau STATE: Alaska CODE: 02

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Owner notified

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Theodore G. Smith
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: July 23, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

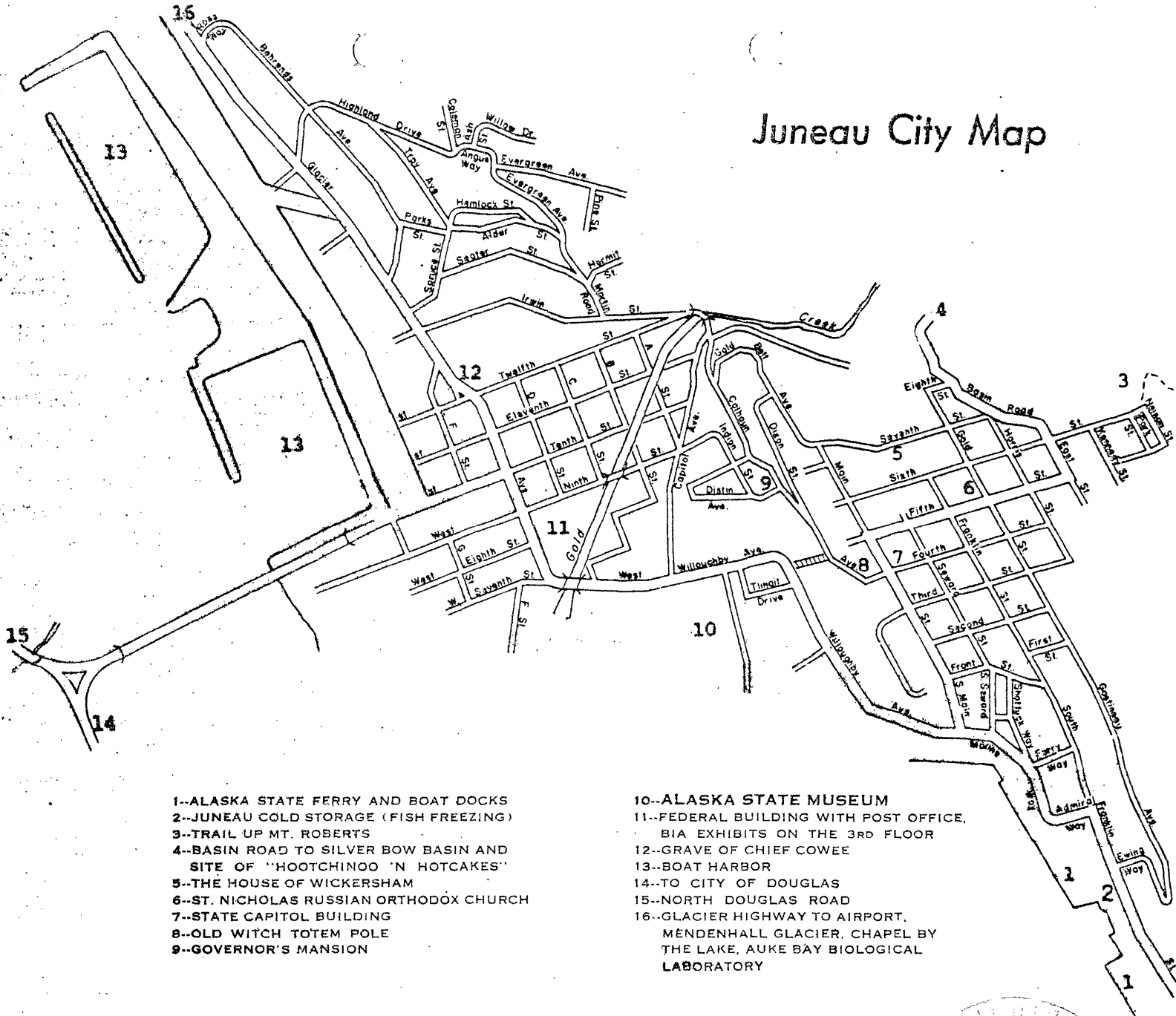
Robert M. Utley
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 9/19/73

ATTEST: Wm J. Mintz
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 9 7 73

Juneau City Map



- 1--ALASKA STATE FERRY AND BOAT DOCKS
- 2--JUNEAU COLD STORAGE (FISH FREEZING)
- 3--TRAIL UP MT. ROBERTS
- 4--BASIN ROAD TO SILVER BOW BASIN AND SITE OF "HOOTCHINOO 'N HOTCAKES"
- 5--THE HOUSE OF WICKERSHAM
- 6--ST. NICHOLAS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
- 7--STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
- 8--OLD WITCH TOTEM POLE
- 9--GOVERNOR'S MANSION

- 10--ALASKA STATE MUSEUM
- 11--FEDERAL BUILDING WITH POST OFFICE, BIA EXHIBITS ON THE 3RD FLOOR
- 12--GRAVE OF CHIEF COWEE
- 13--BOAT HARBOR
- 14--TO CITY OF DOUGLAS
- 15--NORTH DOUGLAS ROAD
- 16--GLACIER HIGHWAY TO AIRPORT, MENDENHALL GLACIER, CHAPEL BY THE LAKE, AUKE BAY BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

