

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 21 1979
DATE ENTERED	JUN 6 1980

Russian Orthodox Church Buildings and Sites in Alaska

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 16 of 53

2. LOCATION
 - a. NA
 - b. Igiugig
 - c. NA
 - d. Alaska
 - e. 02
 - f. Bristol Bay Division
 - g. 070
3. AHRS DATE: May 18, 1973
4. CONDITION: Good
5. UNALTERED
6. ORIGINAL SITE

This is the smallest of the old R. O. church buildings in the Iliamna area, built about the year 1930. It is a rectangular building, 18' in length, 12' in width, surmounted by a low angle gable roof, with a shed roof vestibule at the entrance (west) end. Three horizontal 6-pane windows on each of the north and south walls provide interior light. The main roof ridge is decked by two crosses mounted on small pedestals designed primarily to provide firm attachments to the roof. A five-bell free-standing tower, built on four posts, stands near the west end of the south wall. (Kreta, Notes; Kreta/Mercurief, Photos; Wallace, 1974, 90, Plate 118).

QUAD: Iliamna

1. St. Nicholas Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-023)
2. LOCATION
 - a. NA
 - b. Nondalton, Alaska
 - c. NA
 - d. Alaska
 - e. 02
 - f. Bristol Bay Division
 - g. 070

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3. AHRS DATE: May 18, 1973
4. CONDITION: Good
5. ALTERED
6. MOVED (c. 1920-1930)

By tradition this church was built in 1896, when the parish was founded. It appears probable that this is a successor building, constructed sometime between 1896, and the 1920's, when this church building was moved from Old Nondalton to this location. The basic floor plan is rectangular, 37' in length and 25' in width, with a truncated octagonal extension at the east (altar) end, and a 10' deep by 12' wide entry vestibule at the west end. The roof is a low angle gable, with a three-sided truncated pyramid shape at the east (altar) end, providing a graceful symbolic cathedral shape to that end of the structure. Two crosses adorn the roof ridge line. While the entire building, including the two roofs (main building and vestibule) are sheathed in corrugated metal, the irregular placement of the north and south wall windows indicates that this building was originally much smaller, and was augmented either in two or three segments, until it became the size and shape now extant. (Kreta, Notes; Kreta/Merculief, Photos; Undated Floor Plan; Wallace, 1974, 90, Plate 113).

The report of an event of near-destruction and apparent miraculous saving of this church in 1974 is symbolic of the esteem of the people for the church building as symbol, and their willingness to sacrifice for its preservation and continuation. Jim Martin wrote in the Anchorage Times, August 8, 1974, this account of the event:

A believer in miracles would have his belief reaffirmed if he used St. Nicholas Orthodox church at Nondalton for an example.

A late afternoon blaze Tuesday swept through the fishing village of Nondalton consuming fuel tanks, a power plant, the area school, tool shops and local co-op store, leaving the town's only church standing in its firey wake.

Nondalton Council President Mike Delkittie, the equivalent of city mayor, said he and several men had run to the center of

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the village to cross-wire an earth moving tractor so they could begin building a fire line around the wood and metal Orthodox church.

The church was situated on a hillside less than 30 yards from the blazing co-op store and flames were creeping through the grass and up the hill toward the back of the church. Delkittie and his men had started the tractor and were near the church when they realized it was too late to save the structure. A giant ball of fire had detached itself from the raging fuel oil tanks and had settled over the church.

"Flame was hanging over the church and we knew it was gone." Delkittie explained, "We couldn't even see the roof through the smoke and flames when suddenly it just lifted and went rolling into the sky."

After the fireball lifted, Delkittie said he noticed the only thing amiss with the church was that the upper nine inches of the cross had been burned off and the piece lay smoldering in the grass beside the building.

Delkittie and several villagers rushed to the church to try and save the contents, believing the danger not yet passed. They were met with a locked door which, Delkittie said in hushed tones, "I'm afraid we had to break down."

The men entered the church and hauled to safety holy icons, candlesticks and religious items before they returned to their work of fireline building, keeping a watch on the church until the fire was contained about midnight.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church . . . has stood through storms and other town fires for 78 years. . . . Most of the villagers attend church weekly as their subsistence salmon fishing and berry picking will permit.

This Sunday everyone in the village plans on attending.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
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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 ° 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.

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Orthodox Russian Church Buildings and Sites in Alaska

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QUADRANGLE NAME: Iliamna (B-8)

LOCATION: Igiugig

NAME OF PROPERTY AND AHRS NUMBER: St. Nicholas Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-042)

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1: 63, 360

UTM REFERENCE:

ZONE: 0 5

EASTING: 3 3 5 3 8 9

NORTHING: 6 5 7 7 9 0 6

QUADRANGLE NAME: Iliamna (D-5)

LOCATION: Nondalton

NAME OF PROPERTY AND AHRS NUMBER: St. Nicholas Chapel (AHRS SITE NO. ILI-023)

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1: 63, 360

UTM REFERENCE:

ZONE: 0 5

EASTING: 3 9 6 5 2 4

NORTHING: 6 6 4 8 8 4 9