

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0300079 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED **MAR 14 1975**
DATE ENTERED NOV 20 1975

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Rainey's Cabin

AND/OR COMMON

Ivar's also Skarland's Cabin

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

University of Alaska Campus

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

College

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF
CODE

STATE

Alaska

COUNTY

North Star Borough

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

University of Alaska, Fairbanks

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Fairbanks

VICINITY OF College

STATE

Alaska

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of Institutional Studies and Physical
Facilities Development

STREET & NUMBER

University of Alaska

CITY, TOWN

College

STATE

Alaska 99701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Campus Historical Site, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

DATE

spring 1970

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

University of Alaska Archives

CITY, TOWN

Elmer Rasmussen Library College

STATE

Alaska

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There is some question as to whether this log cabin has three rooms and bath or four rooms and bath, because the large double fireplace, made of smoky quartz, either divides the front room into two rooms or is merely placed toward the end of the large front room. The floor plan incorporates a "three-step-up" construction design. The front room - or rooms - is raised three steps above the level of the kitchen, bath and bedroom, and opens southward onto a flagstone terrace. As if to compensate for the lower floor level, the north slope of the shallowly pitched roof extends almost twice as far as the south slope.

The cabin, with its notched log construction, was intended by Dr. Rainey to be finished with varnish to maintain the natural color of the logs; but in the early 1960's Ivar Skarland painted the outside with red paint. The University of Alaska also at that time poured a concrete slab floor for the basement which extends, beneath the front room(s), the length of the cabin.

The most striking element of the interior of the cabin is the huge stone fireplace. Reminiscent of Dr. Rainey's earlier archeological work in Haiti are several small, clay idol figures set among the stones.

A small structure associated with the cabin is a cache which was erected just a few feet from the kitchen door. Louis Giddings, in about 1948, built the poles and moved the Rainey's bid doghouse up from the southeast corner of the big yard on the south side of the cabin. It had been an insulated doghouse for Mrs. Rainey's large dog. Placing the doghouse on the poles, Giddings created the cache which was thereafter used to store food and other small items.

The University of Alaska is presently replacing the oil furnace heating and private water system with campus steam lines and water lines. Rainey's original wood stove and fireplace heating system had already given way to an electric stove and oil furnace by the mid 1960's. These improvements, necessary for comfortable living in sub-zero temperatures, have not effected the basic plan or character of the cabin.

(see continuation sheet for a basic floor plan sketch)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1936 to present BUILDER/ARCHITECT F. Rainey and T.S. Batchelder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Froelich Rainey's cabin is associated with the lives of persons significant to our understanding of Alaska's past. This charming cabin was built by T. S. Batchelder for Mrs. and Dr. Rainey, first professor in Anthropology at the University of Alaska, in the summer of 1936. During subsequent years the cabin has been lived in by a series of scientists who have contributed greatly to our knowledge of Alaska. The cabin has also served as a general meeting place for students and researchers of Alaska's natural and human history, many of whom have become leading members of their respective disciplines. The cabin continues to represent a spirit of hospitality and humanity at its best.

Such important figures as David Hopkins, Troy Pewe, and Robert Black would stop by the cabin each spring on their way to their geologic investigations in various regions of Alaska. Anthropologists, who established the foundation for studies in Alaskan prehistory, lived and warmed themselves by the fireplace. Among them were: Dr. Froelich Rainey, presently Director of the University of Pennsylvania Museum; Dr. Helge Larsen, currently Director of the Danish National Museum; and the late Dr. Louis Giddings, of Brown University. In an outstanding gesture of humanitarianism, Froelich Rainey actually moved out of his home to allow Drs. Larsen and Giddings to live there for a year each while they were teaching classes for the University of Alaska Department of Anthropology in the 1940's. During later years Otto W. Geist, an early paleontologist at the University, occupied the cabin with Ivar Skarland, Chairman of the Department of Anthropology. Students of Alaskan anthropology continued to visit the cabin through those years. Among them were Wendell Oswalt, presently with the Department of Anthropology of the University of California at Los Angeles, and James VanStone, currently Director of the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1971 Cashen, William R.
 "Cashen's Corner", in Alaska Alumnus, published by the
 University of Alaska Alumni Association, College, Alaska.
- 1937 Farthest North Collegian, February 1, 1937, University
 of Alaska, College, Alaska.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 001 # _____

*UTM OR WGS
12 22 157*

UTM REFERENCES

A	06	4	60	2	50	7	19	2	8	50	B							
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING								
C												D						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Aliquot parts description SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 6, T.1S., R.1W.
 Fairbanks Meridian

Cabin and minimum ground surrounding located on West Ridge
 (Rainey's Ridge) due west of Moore Hall dormitory roughly
 500 feet away

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Glenn Bacon, Staff Archeologist

March 7, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Alaska Division of Parks, Department of Natural Resources

DATE

(907)

STREET & NUMBER

323 E. 4th Avenue

TELEPHONE

(907) 272-4676

CITY OR TOWN

Anchorage

STATE

Alaska 99501

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

March 7, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Active

DATE

11/20/85

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

NOV 10 1975

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

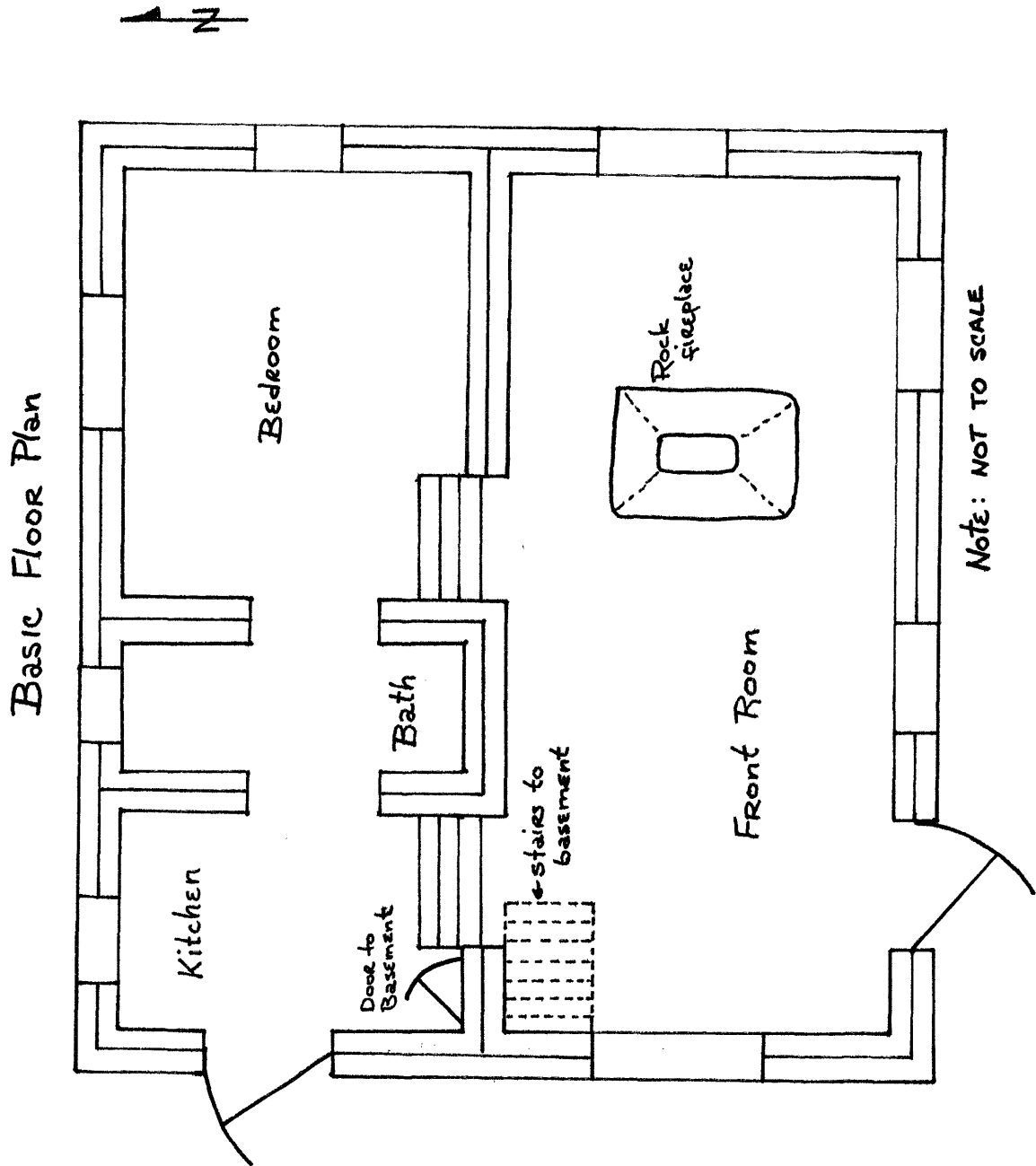
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Alaska	
COUNTY North Star Borough	
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(Number all entries)

7. (continuation of description)



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(Number all entries)

8. (continuation of statement of significance)

The spirit of congeniality and hospitality, continued by residents of the cabin, encompassed the entire University community each summer when on the 4th of July the log cabin was the scene of a festive picnic. But perhaps the greatest social triumph the cabin has witnessed was the reception that Skarland, Mehler and Geist staged at Commencement 1951. In addition to University President and Mrs. Terris Moore and the regents, guests of honor were the honorary degree recipients that year: General Nathen F. Twining, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Governor Earl Warren of California and Henry Bradford Washburn, noted explorer-geographer. Governor Ernest Gruening and many other dignitaries were also present. The general, two governors and accompanying dignitaries marveled at the cabin and the view, but most of all they were taken by the informality of the affair. This was the Alaskan hospitality they had heard about - at its best.

Widely known as "Ivar's" in the 1950's and early 1960's, the log cabin was the warm-up stop for faculty, students, and townspeople who might be skiing or hiking or even out driving on a Sunday afternoon. The latchstring was always out and a warm fire blazing in the huge fireplace. And the host, Ivar Skarland, would be most hurt if visitors did not accept a glass of wine or a cup of coffee to take the chill out of their bones.

In keeping with the wishes of the late Ivar Skarland and the history of the cabin, the University of Alaska presently has plans to establish the cabin as a residence for visiting professors of Anthropology.

