

PH 247014

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 9 1975
DATE ENTERED NOV 20 1975

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

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

1 NAME

ISTORIC **The Kink**

AND/OR COMMON **The Kink**

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER **E. of Fairbanks, part of
North Fork of the Fortymile River, Fairbanks District BLM**

CITY, TOWN **Fairbanks, Alaska** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE **Alaska** VICINITY OF **Alaska** COUNTY **Upper Yukon Div. 170** CODE **02**

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 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Recreation

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) **Bureau of Land Management, Fairbanks District**

STREET & NUMBER **P.O. Box 1150**

CITY, TOWN **Fairbanks, Alaska** VICINITY OF STATE **Alaska 99707**

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Bureau of Land Management, Fairbanks District Office**

STREET & NUMBER **1028 Aurora Drive**

CITY, TOWN **Fairbanks, Alaska** STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE **Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (Site Number EAG 051)**

DATE FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **Alaska Division of Parks**

CITY, TOWN **Anchorage, Alaska** STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The North Fork River is a major tributary of the Fortymile River in the eastern Interior of Alaska. Originally, the southeasterly path of the North Fork River was interrupted by a rock ridge 100 feet thick at the base and over 100 feet high. This rock ridge caused a two and three quarter (2 3/4) mile oxbow meander to the west.

Around 1904, a group of workers with the financial backing of an English investment corporation, used powder charges to blast a fifteen (15) foot wide opening through a rock ridge, changing the course of the river. The opening eroded to a forty (40) foot width by 1905 and today is approximately fifty (50) feet wide.

The artificial channel that was created resulted in the draining of the two and three quarter (2 3/4) mile meander, leaving only two (2) standing pools of water.

The original channel had a steady gradient along its path of six (6) feet per mile. The new channel now includes two (2) falls, one of fifteen (15) feet and one of two (2) feet. For recreationists floating the river, this new channel requires a portage around the falls, although fish, predominantly Arctic Grayling, are able to navigate these obstacles with minimal effort.

The remains of a small mining settlement associated with the work at the Kink and the expected mining of the ox-bow is also visible today. One cabin is standing and seven foundations can be seen. The cabin contains remnants of use including an old stove, bed, cupboards, utensils, food staples, cloths, and tools. Old hand equipment and refuse dumps associated with early mining and trapping, are also scattered around the area.

10-100

SPERUNOH 1

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 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				Gold Mining

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fortymile River Basin, located in the eastern Interior of Alaska has a rich gold mining history dating back to 1886. In that year, a man by the name of Franklin, made the first significant discovery of gold on the South Fork of the Fortymile River, at a creek now named Franklin Gulch. This discovery triggered a minor stampede of prospectors into the Fortymile area. Even today gold mining remains a significant source of income to the area's inhabitants.

The river channel which was bypassed in approximately 1904 by blasting through a rock ridge, was suspected of containing very profitable amounts of gold. This proved false, however, after draining of the channel. When prospects showed no type of gold mining to be financially feasible, the site was abandoned.

While appearing to be an easy task to complete with today's technology, the Kink was a major engineering feat in that time and place. It was accomplished in a relatively uncharted wilderness without benefit of machinery or any developed transportation or communication system. This area typically has harsh winters broken only by short, unpredictable summers.

When all other remnants, artifacts, and reminders of this colorful "goldrush" era of Alaskan history are gone, the Kink will remain. It serves as a permanent monument to the major undertakings by man that were common in the pursuit of gold at the turn of the century.

Today, the Kink retains the remoteness of that early era. It is 19 air miles from the nearest road and 82 air miles from the nearest settlement with communication capability. This segment of river has been proposed for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and received significant use by canoe and rafting enthusiasts.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Prindle, Louis M., The gold placers of the Fortymile, Birch Creek, and Fairbanks Regions, Alaska.

"U.S.G.S. Bulletin #251" Washington Government Printing Office, 1905.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM OK - W N
12-22-75

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 280

UTM REFERENCES

A 07 450750 7140800
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C 07 449125 7139850

B 07 450750 7139800
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D 07 449125 7140875

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Portions of Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20 T. 6 S., R. 29 E., Fairbanks Meridian

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Roger L Trimble, Forestry Technician

April 15, 1975

ORGANIZATION U.S. Department of the Interior

DATE

Bureau of Land Management, Fortymile Resource Area

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN P.O. Box 307

907 883-4181

STATE

Tok.

Alaska

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

William Shaver, Deputy SHPO
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Douglas Wheeler

TITLE Deputy Assistant Secretary

DATE SEP 5 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 11/20/75

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11-14-75

Shawn Adams
acting

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

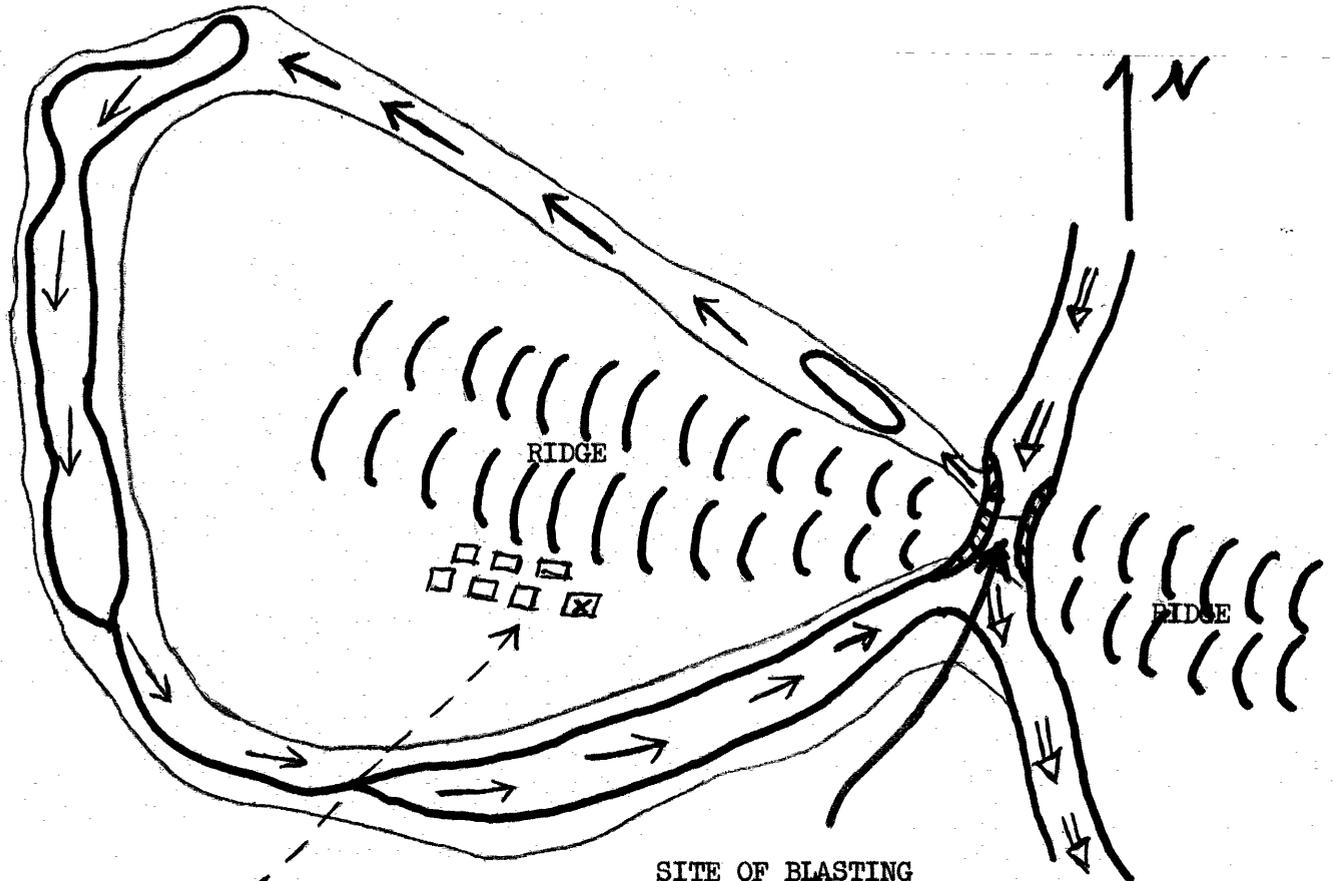
PAGE

THE KINK

North Fork of Fortymile River

UTM References.

- A. 07 450750E/7140800N
- B. 07 450750E/7139800N
- C. 07 449125E/7139850N
- D. 07 449125E/7140875



Remains of Cabin and equipment

SITE OF BLASTING THROUGH THE RIDGE

Map Scale--1"=1200'

- → Old River Course
- ⇨ ⇨ Present River Course