#### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

#### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

# Name

historic Utkeagvik Church Manse

(AHRS SITE NO. BAR-004)

and/or common Utkeagvik Presbyterian Church Manse; The Pastor's House

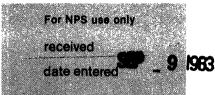
#### Location 2.

street & number	(None) Off Momega	ana Street, <del>near No</del> r	+h_Slope_Borough_	not for publication
	Building, facing		e	
city, town Bar	row	vicinity of	congruttional-diatriat	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
state Alask	a co	ode 02 county	Barrow-North Slope Division	<b>code</b> 040
3. Clas	sification		,	
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public X private both Public Acquisition N/A in process being considered	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	erty		
United name c/o Ut	Presbyterian Chur keagvik Church	rch, USA (907)	852-6566	
street & number	P.O. Box 236			
city, town Bar	row	vicinity of	state	Alaska 99723
5. Loca	ation of Leg	gal Descripti	ion	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	istrict Recorder's O	ffice	
street & number	State Court Build	ding		
city, town Fa	i rbanks	•	state	Alaska
6. Repi	resentation	n in Existing	Surveys	
title Alaska He	ritage Resources S	Survey has this p	roperty been determined el	igible? <u>X</u> yes n

Office of History and Archaeology, Division of Parks

# OMB NO. 1024-0018

EXP. 12/31/84



Anchorage city, town

depository for survey records 619 Warehouse Avenue, Suite 210

date June 30, 1974

AK 99501 state

federal X state county \_

\_ no

local

### 7. Description

Condition		Check one
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Check one \_\_\_\_\_ original site \_\_\_\_ moved date .

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Since it was built in 1929, the Manse has been the residence for the pastor of Utkeagvik Presbyterian Church. The basic house is a twostory, gambrel-roofed, Dutch Colonial-style, rectangular in shape, with a gabled-dormer entry vestibule, a front porch, and side and rear additions. The exterior finish of the house is wood shingles painted green, with white window frames, panelled door and trim. The windows are generally six-over-six double-hung wood sash. There are two "noses," (which are small boxes with openings into the house for ventilation) on each of the four sides of the house.

The north (front) facade of the house has two first floor windows, the entrance vestibule and front porch. On the front porch is a white balustrade with turned newel posts (which is omitted at the wooden opentread steps), and an original shoe-brusher or boot cleaner. The front door retains the original doorknocker as well as an old-fashioned doorbell.

The east side has four windows (two on the first floor and two on the second floor); and a balcony and fire ladder from one of the upper floor windows. A one-story gable-roofed addition is also on this side.

The south (rear) facade has two double hung windows and two smaller sixlight fixed sash, all serving first floor rooms. There are also a single six-light fixed sash and a flush door on the south facade of a shedroofed addition at the south side east corner.

The west side of the house has two fire escape ladders below the two upper floor windows. On the wall between the tops of the two ladders, at second floor windowsill height, sets a wooden birdhouse which has been on the house since the late 1930s. Three first floor windows are spaced alternately with the fire ladders.

The house has five rooms on the ground floor and six rooms on the second floor. All the rooms upstairs have sloped ceilings; four are bedrooms, one is a bathroom, and the sixth is a storeroom. On the ground floor, the southwest room is the living room, and the adjacent northwest room is the pastor's study. The northeast room is the dining room, and the east addition is the kitchen and pantry. The back, or south, addition is a food storage room, and the south center room is the bathroom.

An excerpt from <u>North to the Orient</u> by Anne Morrow Lindbergh gives us a vivid impression of the Manse as she found it in November of 1930. "I stamped my numb feet on the wooden steps of her home as she (Molly Greist) pushed open the door. The warmth of a kitchen fire, the brightness of gas lamps, and a delicious smell of sweet potatoes and freshly-baked muffins poured out around me and drew me in. A long table spread for our 'Thanksgiving dinner' filled the living room. White cloth, rims of plates, curves of spoons, caught the light from swinging lamps above.

### 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance-C	heck and justify below		
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	iandscape architectur	e religion
1400–1499	archeology-historic	conservation	iaw	science
1500–1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture
1600–1699	<u> </u>	education	military	social/
17001799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian
<u> </u>	commerce	exploration/settiemen	• • •	theater
1900-	communications	industry	politics/government	transportation
		invention		other (specify)
••••••••				

Specific dates 1894, 1921, 1930 Builder/Architect U.S. Presbyterian Board of Missions/

Dr. Henry Greist

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Presbyterian Manse is significant for its rich association with important people and events in the history of Barrow and the north slope of Alaska. One of the most important persons associated with the Manse is Dr. Henry W. Greist, who lived in Barrow from 1921-1925 and again from 1929-1936. Dr. Greist was not only the pastor of Utkeagvik Presbyterian Church; he was a mainstay of the community.

In 1925 the old manse of the Utkeagvik Church burned down. In 1928, Dr. Greist traveled to New York to raise sufficient funds from the Home Mission Board to build a new manse for the church in Barrow. On the way back from New York, he stopped in Seattle, and there "supervised the purchase of building materials . . . assisted an expert mechanic in cutting this in accord with the architect's specifications, marked each piece as to intended location, and then shipped all necessary stuff into the arctic by freight schooner". The house was built entirely by local Eskimo men under Dr. Greist's supervision. Work began in the late summer of 1929 and was completed in August of 1930. One interesting fact about the manse is that it was "built on clear ice many feet thick as base of foundation" (Greist 1929: 1).

During his years on the North Slope, Dr. Greist was pre-eminent as pastor, physician, surgeon and dentist. He guided the Barrow community in all walks of life; with the Manse as his headquarters. Medically, the Manse served as an outpatient clinic during the years that the Greists were residents. From 1930-33 alone, 1,462 outpatient calls were handled in the front rooms of the Manse. Molly Greist has decribed it in this way: "I have had two and three in my home on deerskins on the floor in my living room, . . . The men came with broken bones or cuts or severely frostbitten faces to be fixed up in my kitchen (Greist 1936).

The Manse was a place where people could come for spiritual healing. Sunday School was held in the living room on Sunday, Bible Study Class met there on Wednesday nights, and the Session of the church met there for their monthly meetings. The house was always open to those seeking guidance, fellowship, compassion, or just a cup of tea.

Initially started in 1894, the Presbyterian Church in Barrow is important to the historical development of leadership and social institutions on the north slope of Arctic Alaska. It has been been intimately involved in the growth of schools and medical facilities. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Presbyterian Church provided crucial financial

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Interviews and research records of Jill Kinsinger, VIM, Administrative Assistant, Utkeagvik, Barrow, assisted by Dr. Wendy H. Arundale, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Church files, Barrow, Alaska.

# **10. Geographical Data**

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#### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

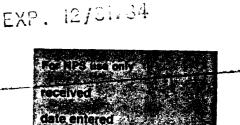
### National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Utkeagvik Church Manse (AHRS SITE NO. BAR-004)

Continuation	sheet

Item number

7



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looked around quickly and felt the flavor of the American home - chintz curtains drawn aside, pictures of 'woodland scenes' on the walls, bright pillows on the sofa, and there, in the window, a box of climbing nasturtiums." (Lindbergh 1935: 54).

Over the years, a few changes have occurred within the house, but the original architectural character and integrity have been retained. The two additions to the house were added in the late 1930s. The fire escape ladders were added in the late 1940s. All other exterior features are original.

The interior of the house has gone through minor alterations. Electric lights were not installed in the Manse until 1934. In the early 1940s an ice cellar was dug under the rear addition to keep meat during the summertime; it is still there but no longer in use. At that same time, a warm storage cellar was built under the original kitchen with a stove pipe that stuck up into the kitchen for ventilation.

The original coal stoves were replaced in the 1940s with DuoTherm oil stoves, and in 1965 these were replaced by a forced-air natural gas furnace. In 1970, the original walls of gypsum plaster were replaced with celotex insulation board, and although some new insulation was added, the original insulation of 2" thick cork squares remains in the walls. When the new walls were put in, the inside holes for most of the "noses" had to be covered over; but three ventilation holes still remain in the south and west rooms of the house. In 1980 the east addition was converted from a storage area into the kitchen; and the original kitchen became the present dining room.

Originally the Manse had no sewage disposal. According to Nan Klerekoper, who lived in the Manse from 1936 to 1945, the sinks and tub "ran out by gravity through a square wooden pipe through the closet under the stairs and just emptied out on the ground." (The gray water still runs out on to the ground.) There is regular plumbing with running water in the kitchen and bathrooms. Originally the toilet facilities were "honey buckets"; but now the bathrooms contain composting toilets.

Facing north, the Utkeagvik Presbyterian Church Manse is located in the center of U.S. Patent #2979. It is bounded on the south by the church and the North Slope Borough building, on the west by an open field and Momegana Street, and on the east by the hospital. To the north about 300 yards is the Chukchi Sea.

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support for expediting the North Slope Native land claims; and establishing the North Slope Borough as a significant political entity in Alaskan politics. Throughout these efforts, the Manse was the a focal meeting place of the region.

In addition to Dr. Greist and other missionaries; several other important historical figures were associated with the Manse. Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh visited the Greists and stayed at the Manse on their trip in 1930. In North to the Orient, she talks about the visit to Barrow and provides a very vivid description of the Manse. Following their visit the Lindberghs gave two chandeliers to the Greists as gifts. (They still hang in the living room.) Others who visited the Manse in Barrow during its earlier years are Roald Amundsen, famous Norwegian explorer; Knud Rasmussen, Danish explorer and ethnographer; and Will Rogers and Wiley Post, who were on their way to Barrow when their plane crashed about 18 miles west of town.

The Manse is significant architecturally, as one of the first two-story houses in Barrow and the only one of its particular Dutch-Colonial style. It is also one of the very few wood shingle houses on the North Slope.

Because the Manse was the first pre-cut house to be built in Barrow, it helped set a precedent for pre-fabricated housing, which is now the most common approach to building on the North Slope. Finally, the Manse is a unique blend of traditional temperate zone architectural style, enhanced with specialized arctic-building techniques. Outwardly, its appearance is quite conventional. But a closer look reveals such features as triple-paned windows, ventilation noses, ice cellar, and cork insulation. The result of this unique blend is a very comfortable, liveable house that has long served the Church, its pastors and the community with rare distinction.