

PH0672254

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 12 1976
DATE ENTERED	FEB 14 1978

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Brooks River Archeological District (49 Mkl)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Katmai National Monument

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Alaska

VICINITY OF

CODE

03

COUNTY

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region

STREET & NUMBER

523 Fourth and Pike Building

CITY, TOWN

Seattle

VICINITY OF

Washington 98101

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Archeological Survey in Katmai National Monument, Alaska, 1963

DATE

1963

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region

CITY, TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington 98101

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brooks River is a rapid flowing, 1.5 mile long stream which drains Brooks Lake into Naknek Lake. Salmon run almost continually between Spring and Fall and collect in great schools in the pool below the nine-foot high falls midway up the stream. Much of the area is thickly forested with stunted spruce, alder, birch, and willow. The timber is interrupted occasionally by extensive stretches of thick, head high grasses. Fluctuation of the level of Naknek Lake has left a series of stranded beach ridges above the present beach north of the mouth of the river and a complex series of terraces along the Brooks River. The archeological remains are scattered [REDACTED]. Although the first surveys defined a number of discreet sites, it soon became difficult to separate one from the other and all have been subsumed within a single site designation.

The most prominent remains are a large number of circular depressions, which measure between one and ten meters in diameter and from .5 to 1.5 meters in depth. The University of Oregon mapped 1014 depressions in their 1963 survey and determined through testing a representative sample that 60 percent represent the remains of collapsed pit houses. The remaining 40 percent are natural. The excavation in areas adjacent to pit clusters has also shown areas of stratified midden to occur [REDACTED].

The University of Oregon has conducted extensive investigations; testing in 1953 and 1954, and more testing plus full scale excavations over six field seasons from 1960 to 1967. Nearly 10,000 artifacts, numerous housepits, and other features have been recorded. A 4,500 year span of occupation is represented which has been divided into eight phases:

Brooks River Strand Phase (2500 to 1900 B.C.)--wider cultural affiliation unknown.

Brooks River Gravels Phase (1900 to 1000 B.C.)--affiliated with Arctic Small Tool Tradition; this phase marks first settlement of precursors of Eskimos.

Smelt Creek Phase (200 B.C. to 100 A.D.)--similar to Norton culture of Cape Denbigh.

Brooks River Weir Phase (100 to 600 A.D.)--clearly evolved from the preceding phase and continued in the Norton tradition.

Brooks River Falls Phase (600 to 1000 A.D.)--again, an outgrowth of the preceding phase and in the Norton tradition.

Brooks River Camp Phase (1000 to 1400 A.D.)--affiliated with the Thule tradition, a culture immediately ancestral to that of modern Eskimos.

Brooks River Bluffs Phase (1400 to 1820 A.D.)--Thule culture and modern Eskimo.

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STATE <i>Alaska</i>	
COUNTY	
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*Brooks River Arch. Dist* (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

7. A number of the above occupations represent seasonal camps for caribou hunting, in the case of the earliest phase and largely salmon taking in the remaining.

A portion of the locale has been severely disturbed [REDACTED] Archeological investigations have also been extensive, but this is an enormous site and the overwhelming portion of it has not yet been disturbed.



# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The district is significant because it has yielded information which documented a cultural sequence spanning some 4,500 years, a sequence which indicated for the first time the broad outlines of prehistoric Eskimo culture (Arctic Small Tool through Norton through Thule) were present on the Alaska Peninsula. This district has the potential to yield a great deal more information: relationships with the Pacific Eskimo of Prince William Sound and with Aleut Prehistory, relationships of the, as yet, enigmatic Brooks River Strand Phase, changing subsistence, and settlement patterns through time, and many others.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A Summary of Archaeology in the Katmai Region, Southwestern Alaska"  
 by D. E. Dumond, University of Oregon, Anthropological Papers No. 2. 1971

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 315

UTM REFERENCES

A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	B	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	D	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The district is [REDACTED]

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

Charles F. Bohannon, Regional Archeologist

August 25, 1975

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region

206-442-1006

STREET & NUMBER

523 Fourth and Pike Building

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Seattle,

STATE

Washington 98101

# 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES  NO  NONE

Deputy William [Signature]  
 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

TITLE

Deputy Assistant Secretary  
 Deputy Assistant Secretary

DATE

MAY 3 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Robert B. Pettig  
 Robert B. Pettig

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

2/14/78

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]  
 Charles [Signature]

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

2-9-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER