

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park
Skagway, Alaska



Tales of a Stampeder

A Deputy Ranger Program



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Directions and Requirements



Welcome to Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park!



Do you have what it takes to join the gold rush? Explore Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park and learn about the lives of the stampedeers and imagine what it may have been like to join this incredible journey!

To become a Deputy Ranger, you need to...

- Explore Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park;
- Complete four or more activities in this book;
- Complete one or more of the in-park activities below and get a Ranger Signature(s) _____.

 - Watch a park movie.
 - Attend a Park Ranger-led walking tour.
 - Attend a Park Ranger-led Talk or Program.
 - Go on a tour or a hike in Skagway or Dyea.

Bring your completed booklet back to the Visitor Center to become a Deputy Ranger!

Which Route Would You Take?

The Trails of '98



Trails to the Klondike Gold Fields 1897-98

- EDMONTON "BACKDOOR ROUTES"
- ALL AMERICAN "GLACIER ROUTES"
- ASHCROFT ROUTE
- ALL WATER ROUTE "RICHMAN'S ROUTE"
- CHILKOOT AND WHITE PASS ROUTES

There was more than one way to get up to the gold fields in Dawson City. If you could afford it, you might take the "Richman's Route", which was the all water route. However, you faced the perils of decrepit, overladen ships in icebound waters. You might have attempted the Edmonton route, widely advertised as the "backdoor" into Dawson. However, this might have left you trailblazing through the Canadian wilderness for upwards of two years, arriving in Dawson a year after the gold rush had ended. Perhaps you may have tried one of the All-American routes over the Valdez glacier; one of the shortest, but most perilous routes to the goldfields. Or you could follow in the footsteps of the stampeder who travelled to Dawson City via the Chilkoot and White Pass trails, beginning their journeys out of either Dyea or Skagway.

If you were a stampeder who decided to come north during the Klondike Gold Rush, which route would you have taken? Why?

Who Would You Be?

Many of the participants of the Klondike Gold Rush had colorful nicknames that spoke of their unique personalities. Such examples include names like Swiftwater Bill, Skookum Jim, Diamond Tooth Gertie, Soapy Smith, Ham Grease Jimmy, and the Evaporated Kid. If you were a stamper, what kind of nickname would you like to have? Think about where you're from, what you enjoy doing, or perhaps some unique characteristics that you may have. Maybe you have a childhood nickname that has stuck with you through the years. Create your own stamper nickname in the space below.



Jefferson Randolph
"Soapy" Smith



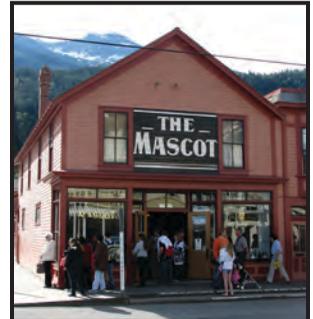
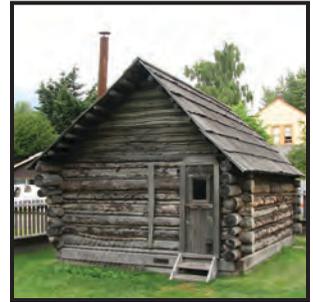
"Klondike Kate"
Rockwell



"Skookum Jim"
Mason a.k.a. Keish

Historical Structure

Match each building with its description on the following page. Then, see if you can find this building in Skagway and take your picture in front of it. If you need help finding a building, feel free to ask a ranger.



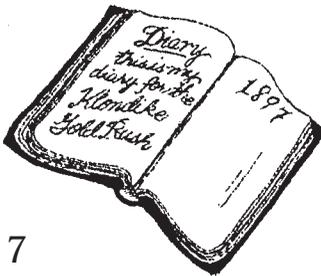
Scavenger Hunt



- 1. White Pass and Yukon Route Railway Depot**
Constructed during the 1898 gold rush boom, the railroad depot now serves as the visitor center for Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.
- 2. White Pass and Yukon Route Railway Administration Building**
This elaborate building was designed by Seattle architect Henry Dozier and completed in 1900. Today this building houses a gold rush museum.
- 3. Martin Itjen House**
This house, built in 1901-1902, was owned by Martin Itjen, a former stampeder and Skagway's "Father of Tourism." Today, the Museum Store can be found in the Itjen house.
- 4. Mascot Saloon**
Built during the gold rush, this saloon was one of 80 that could be found here in Skagway.
- 5. Lynch and Kennedy Dry Goods**
Originally built as army barracks in 1900, this structure was bought by partners Lynch and Kennedy who sold men's attire and dry goods.
- 6. Goldberg Cigar Store**
This structure best typifies an early gold rush era building. It was an unpretentious cigar shop - or "cigar shop" may have been a euphemism for crib, or home for a prostitute.
- 7. Moore Cabin**
Built by Captain William Moore in 1887, this log cabin was the first structure built in Skagway. Reproductions of late 19th century newspapers adorn the walls as the originals once did.
- 8. James Bernard (Ben) Moore House**
Ben Moore, the son of Captain Moore, lived here with his family from 1897-1907. The house is open to the public and depicts life in a pioneer home around 1904.

Journaling Activity

Did you know that the Klondike Gold Rush was one of the best recorded events of the late 19th century? Men and women who participated in the stampede kept detailed diaries and journals of their travels and adventures. Take some time to reflect on what it may have been like to participate in the gold rush. How is your adventure today different from that of a stamper's? How is it the same? Write or draw your impressions in the space below.



Ton of Goods

Each person traveling to the gold fields was required to bring a year's supply of food with them. The following list is an example of what a typical stamper might have brought with them on their journey north. Circle the items that you would have brought with you had you been a stamper on the trail.

FOOD

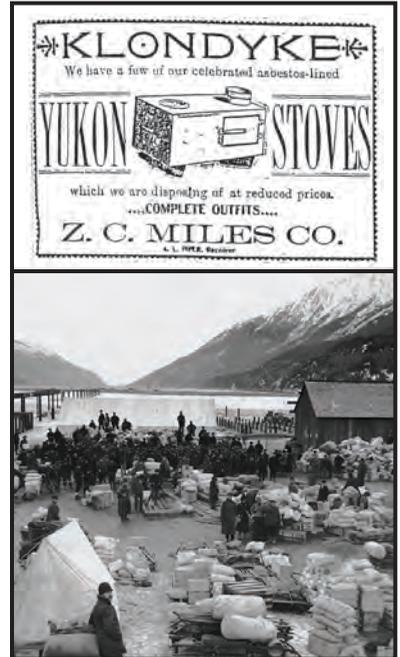
Bacon, 100-200 lbs.
 Flour, 400 lbs.
 Dried fruits, 75-100 lbs.
 Corn meal, 50 lbs.
 Rice, 20-40 lbs.
 Coffee, 10-25 lbs.
 Tea, 5-10 lbs.
 Sugar, 25-100 lbs.
 Beans, 100 lbs.
 Condensed milk,
 1 case
 Salt, 10-15 lbs.
 Pepper, 1 lb.
 Rolled oats, 25-50 lbs.
 Butter, 25 cans
 Assorted evaporated
 meats and vegetables

EQUIPMENT

Stove
 Gold Pan
 Granite buckets
 Cups and plates (tin)
 Knives, forks, and
 spoons
 Coffee/tea pot
 Picks and handles
 Saws and chisels
 Hammers and nails
 Hatchet
 Shovels
 Drawknife
 Compass
 Matches
 Small assortment of
 medicines

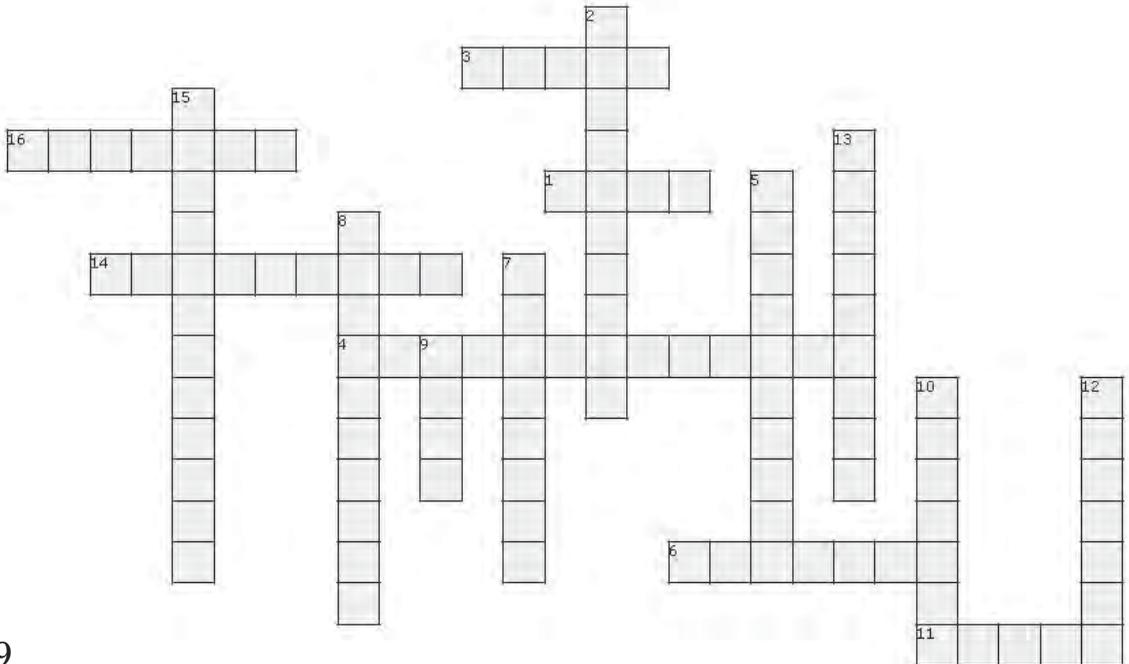
CLOTHING

1 heavy Mackinaw
 coat
 3 suits heavy
 underwear
 2 pairs heavy
 Mackinaw trousers
 1 dozen heavy wool
 socks
 6 heavy wool mittens
 2 heavy overshirts
 2 pairs rubber boots
 2 pairs heavy shoes
 3 pairs heavy
 blankets
 2 rubber blankets
 4 towels
 2 pairs overalls
 1 suit oiled clothing
 Assorted summer
 clothing



In addition to the items you just circled, what else might you have brought along? What would you have left at home? Is there something you couldn't live without? Would you be willing to pack it over the trail?

Klondike Gold Rush



Crossword Puzzle

Across:

1. The town of _____ is the trailhead for the Chilkoot Trail.
3. Construction of the White Pass and _____ Route railroad was begun in 1898 and still operates today.
4. This woman baked apple pies at night and sold them to Stampeders craving a taste of home for \$10 a pie.
6. Both the Chilkoot Trail and the White Pass Trail end at Lake _____, the headwaters for the Yukon River.
11. The Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park visitor center is located at Broadway and 2nd Avenue and once served as the original train _____.
14. The _____ Trail begins from Skagway.
16. The poet who immortalized the Klondike and the Yukon with his tales of the frozen north was named Robert _____.



Down:

2. This con man ran a gang of criminals in Skagway until his death in a shoot-out on July 8, 1898.
5. This author passed through Skagway and experienced the horrors of the Dead Horse Trail.
7. The 33-mile _____ Trail is still enjoyed by thousands of hikers each year.
8. George _____ Carmack, along with his companions Skookum Jim and Dawson Charlie, was the discoverer of the Klondike Gold Rush.
9. The man who is generally credited with shooting and killing Soapy Smith was Frank _____.
10. Sam Steele, leader of the Northwest _____ Police, mandated that every stamper bring a ton of goods with him.
12. The natives who inhabited this area before the gold rush began were called the _____.
13. The Palm Sunday _____ claimed the lives of nearly 80 men on the Chilkoot on April 3, 1898.
15. Captain _____ was the discoverer of the White Pass Trail and the founder of Skagway.

Cheechako?



Do you think the gold rush is going to be a cake walk? You might be a cheechako.

Do you have what it takes to make it over the trails to Dawson City? Take this quiz to find out if you are a cheechako (greenhorn) or one of the old prospectors known as sourdoughs.

1. What kind of bread do you like?
 - a. wheat
 - b. white
 - c. sourdough
2. Which would you rather wear?
 - a. mackinaws
 - b. mosquito netting
 - c. the latest fashions from Paris
3. What do you consider cold?
 - a. today's temperature
 - b. quicksilver freezing
 - c. whisky freezing
4. If you saw a shell game on the street corner, you would...
 - a. walk the other way.
 - b. lay down all your money.
Today is your lucky day!
 - c. hazard \$5...what could it hurt?
5. Would you be willing to pay \$5 for a sack of flour?
 - a. no sweat
 - b. depends on how hungry you are
 - c. not on your life!
6. How many pounds can you pack up the Chilkoot Trail?
 - a. 20 pounds
 - b. 50 pounds
 - c. somebody needs to carry me!
7. What is the Klondike?
 - a. a region
 - b. a delicious frozen treat
 - c. a river
8. How do you plan on finding gold?
 - a. plucking nuggets off the ground, of course!
 - b. panning in the creeks
 - c. blasting it out of the mountains!
9. If you had been the one to discover gold, who would you have told?
 - a. everyone!
 - b. no one! This gold is mine!
 - c. just my partners
10. Having just enjoyed a performance by Klondike Kate, you show your appreciation by
 - a. politely applauding
 - b. whistling loudly and calling for more
 - c. showering her with gold nuggets (be careful not to hit her!)

ANSWERS
1.) a. 2, b. 1, c. 3
2.) a. 3, b. 2, c. 1
3.) a. 1, b. 3, c. 2
4.) a. 3, b. 1, c. 2
5.) a. 3, b. 2, c. 1
6.) a. 2, b. 3, c. 1
7.) a. 3, b. 1, c. 2
8.) a. 1, b. 3, c. 2
9.) a. 1, b. 3, c. 2
10.) a. 1, b. 2, c. 3

Or Sourdough?

Now add up all of your points from the previous page!

10-16 points

CHEECHAKO

You are the greenest of the greenhorns. Why are you even here again? You'd probably be suckered out of all your money by Soapy Smith's gang and you most likely purchased a load of useless gear in Seattle. You might be better off turning around and going home.

17-23 points

STAMPEDER

You may not have known what to expect, but you are learning quickly. If you can manage to pack your ton of goods over the trail, you might just make it to Dawson City in one piece.

24-30 points

SOURDOUGH

You've been through all of this before and you're an old pro. You have the patience and the grit to make it over the passes and it's just a matter of time before you stake your claim on the Klondike.



If you stick with it long enough, you may be lucky enough to transform from a cheechako to a sourdough!

Finding Your Way

It is time to put your new knowledge to good use! Using what you've learned, could you have made it to Dawson City? Choose your route and traverse this maze to reach the Klondike Gold Fields.

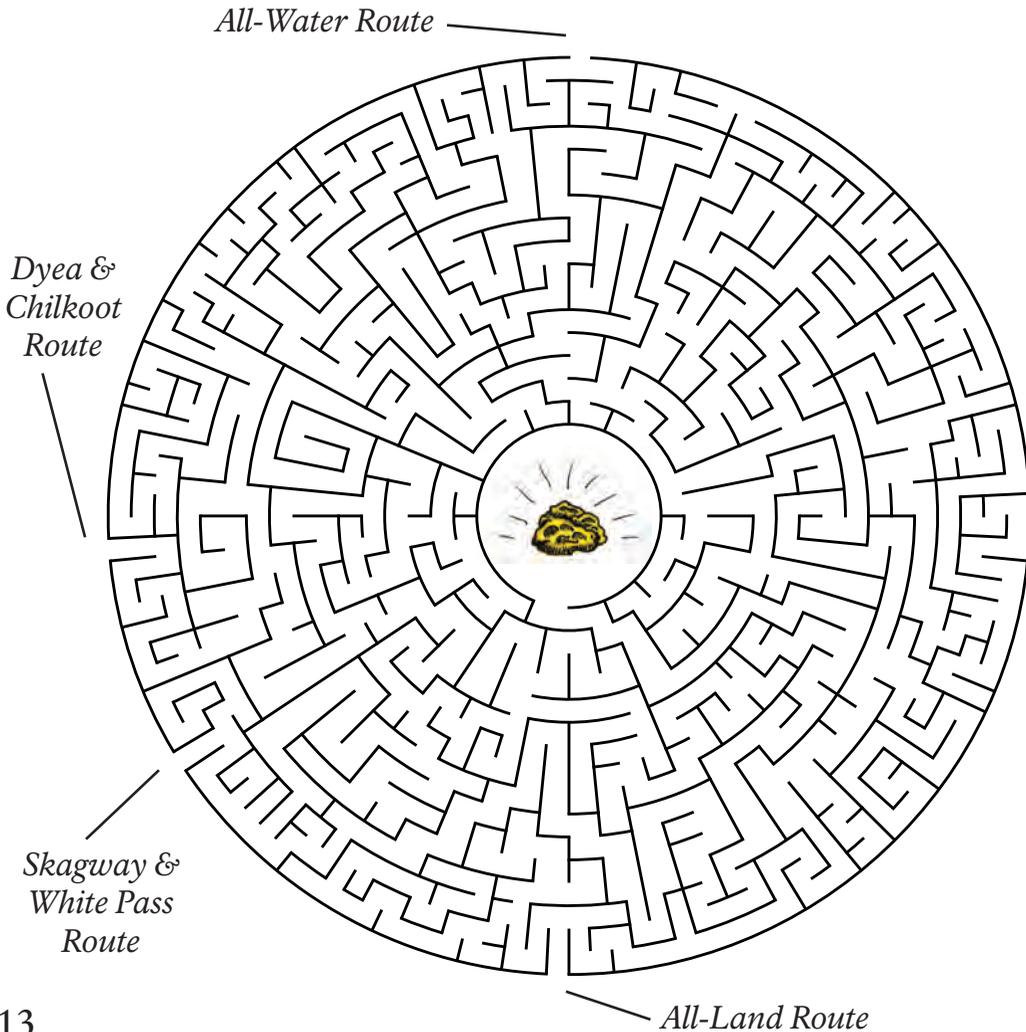


Photo Credits

Cover “Two Step” Jake Hirsch panning for gold, unknown photographer, Alaska State Library/P44-03-015

“Pilgrim’s Rest,” ca. 1897, Library and Archives Canada/National Archives of Canada fonds/C-16460

NPS Ranger and Pantheon Building, Lauren Barney, photographer.

Page 1 Artwork by Bruce Dansby

Page 4 Soapy Smith, William Norton Collection, Alaska State Library/PCA 226-69.

Klondike Kate, MacBride Museum of Yukon History Collection/YA 3880.

Keish/Skookum Jim Mason, Candy Waugaman Collection, Klondike Gold Rush NHP/DP-116, 10570

Pages 5-6 Klondike Gold Rush NHP buildings, Lauren Barney, photographer.

Page 7 Old Prospector, unknown photographer, Klondike Gold Rush NHP/DP 98, 8421.

Page 8 “Freight Yards at Dyea,” E.A. Hegg, photographer, Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley/1905.17109:18074-PIC

Page 9 “Charles Ainsworth playing Solitaire,” Asahel Curtis, photographer, Washington State Historical Society/1943.42.46171

Page 11 “Gastronomic Club,” H.C. Barley Collection, Yukon Archives/YA 4817.

Page 12 “Two Step” Jake Hirsch panning for gold, unknown photographer, Alaska State Library/P44-03-015

Page 14 “Life in the Klondike during the gold rush. Packing up the Chilkoot Pass, ca. 1898-1899,” Library and Archives Canada/George C. Murdoch collection/C-04490



Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park
Recognizes This

Deputy Ranger



As a Deputy Ranger of
Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park,
I promise to help support the mission of the
National Park Service: to continue to learn
about my country's natural and cultural
history, and to help preserve it for the
enjoyment, education, and inspiration
of future generations.



Deputy Ranger

Park Ranger

