



**Chilkoot Trail and Dyea National Historic Landmark
Skagway, Alaska**

The Chilkoot Trail was traditionally used as a trade route between the Tlingit people of Alaska and the Carcross Tagish First Nation people in Canada. As more miners and prospectors came to the area, the Tlingits faced mounting pressure to allow foreigners to use the trail. In 1879, an agreement was reached that would allow miners to use the pass, with the understanding that Tlingit and Tagish packers would be hired to assist. Dyea's real boom began in the fall of 1897 as word spread of the wealth of the Klondike. For months, jammed boatloads of prospectors disembarked in Dyea and streamed north over the Chilkoot Pass. On April 3, 1898, a deadly snow slide near the summit brought worldwide negative publicity and travelers began steering away from Dyea in favor of Skagway. Today, visitors to Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park can hike the first 33 miles of the trail, witnessing sites and passing by artifacts left behind by gold seekers.