

Blackburn School

Built in 1913, moved to Kennecott circa 1915, restored between 2002 and 2005

Moving with the boom and bust of mining towns

In 1913, the Kennecott Corporation supplied materials to construct this building in the tiny community of Blackburn. Located along the railway between Kennecott and the

future town of McCarthy, Blackburn had grown up as prospectors moved into the valley.

By 1915, however, Blackburn was mostly empty—its spring dried up and everyone moved to McCarthy, which was booming as a stop-over on the way to the Chisana gold fields. Kennecott was also booming, so the Corporation moved this building up to its present location on a flatcar. It served as a school for workers' children until the end of the 1921-1922 school year, when the student population had grown again and school was set up in the new and larger Two Room School. This building was then used for storage.

and to Constant !

Photo: Last day of school May 16, 1919.



Forged in the earth, found at the contact zone

Kennecott's copper was a long time in the making, but local prospectors quickly learned to look for it near the "contact zone" where greenstone meets limestone.

Lava outflows originating in the Middle Triassic (230 million years ago) sank and were covered by a warm, shallow Pacific sea. In the Late Triassic (225-215 million years ago), the sea deposited sediment, plant material, and the calcium-rich remains of mollusks, chemical reactions created ore-a blend of metal and rock. Glacial snails, and algae. For millions of years, these two layers were buried by younger sediment, compressed, and heated. The lava morphed into greenstone and the sea sediment became limestone.

Between 150 and 125 million years ago, as Earth's tectonic plates shifted and collided, the greenstone and limestone layers were forced up and tilted into the mountain ranges in front of you.

Circulating fluids deposited some of the copper from the original lava into voids in the limestone, making the contact between the two layers a good clue when searching for copper. In both layers, activity and erosion exposed these deposits, making them available to the Ahtna, the local Alaska Native tribe, and visible to the prospectors who first surveyed this area.

[Above] You can see the contact zone-the geological feature that excited early prospectors-in the hills across the valley. Although those hills contain no copper, the contact zone on this side of the valley, is associated with rich copper deposits.



Tree Line G Greenstone C Contact Zone Limestone



West Bunkhouse

Built in 1917

Home is where you hang your hat.

This bunkhouse housed up to 60 mill workers at any one time—the mine workers stayed in camps high up on the mountain, near the entrances to the mines. The mess hall and kitchen are on this floor. Downstairs are the wash room, toilets, and kitchen staff quarters. Upstairs are two floors of dorm rooms and a small common area.

Although accommodations here may seem rustic to us, the bunkhouse offered luxuries that not everyone had at home, even in the 1930s: electricity, hot water, and steam heat to warm workers through the long winters. Room and board included three hot meals a day and a hospital fee, and cost \$1 to \$150 per day—about 25% of a worker's daily earnings, which ranged from \$3.50 to \$5.50 depending on the year and the job.

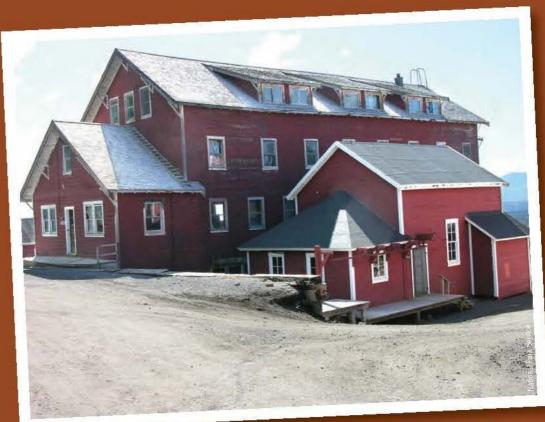
[Top Phole] The skating ink at Kennecott in the 1920s, lit up in the dark of winter. [Phole at Left] A hallway on the dormitory floor upstairs. [In the kitchen doorway] Japanese cook with workers at Jumbo Mine camp, around 1914.



Rescue and Remediation

Rich Kirkwood, owner of the Kennicott Glacier Lodge, saved this building from fire in 1995. Rich saw smoke billowing out of the bottom windows of the Bunkhouse, raised the alarm, and rushed to put it out. Thanks to Rich's quick thinking, only the basement was damaged.

The National Park Service is currently working to restore this building and open it to the public. Because of the fire damage, the basement needs repair. Elsewhere, lead paint is being removed, and the mess hall is being restored. Both the Park and the McCarthy-Kennicott community are interested in adaptive re-use of this building, that is, rehabilitating and adapting it to meet future needs, rather than building new structures.



People of the Copper River region

Ahtna people are deeply connected with this landscape and its resources, including copper. The Kennecott story begins with them.

Ahtna have lived in Alaska for thousands of years. Archeological records provide evidence of human habitation dating back 8,000 years in the Copper River basin, and about 1,000 years in this particular area—as soon as retreating glaciers made it possible. To this day, Ahtna people live along the Copper River in many of the communities through which you passed to arrive here.

As they moved into the area, Ahtna began gathering copper metal nuggets from streambeds and working them to create blades, points, needles, and beads that they

traded across vast distances. Although the livelihoods of all Ahtna depended on the bounty of the land and rivers moose, berries, plants, and especially salmon—copper made some Ahtna families rich and powerful.

Russians were aware of the area's copper possibilities by the late 1700s, but their violent relationship with the Ahtna blocked their access to the resource. A century later, Ahtna Chief Nicolai sold information to a group of American explorers and prospectors, confirming the existence of copper near here.

[Top Photo] Smoking fish in an Ahtna camp, around 1898.

[Photo Above] Without assistance from Chief Nicolai and his people, early American expeditions through the region would likely not have survived, let alone found copper. The hand-written caption on this 1899 photo reads, from left to right: Frank Jackson, Chief Nicolai, Mrs. Chief No. 1, Mrs. Chief No. 2, "Woodland." The man standing behind Nicolai is unnamed.



Two Room School

Built circa 1915-1918, used as a school beginning in 1923, restoration completed in 2004

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Education—a community affair

This school was a busy place, day and night. As many as 20 employees' children attended classes during the day. In the evenings, more than 100 workers filled the school to study for their citizenship exams and improve their English language skills. For many, a job here was a step towards American citizenship.

The grounds around the school were in constant use for ice skating, baseball, field hockey, and handball. Sometimes, the building was used for church service and Sunday school by traveling ministers.



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Recreation Hall

Built in 1916, restored between 2002 and 2004

A place to socialize and celebrate

The twinkle of lights and sound of music enticed managers, their families, and workers to fill the Recreation Hall for dances, symphonies school plays. Christmas page ants, movies, the occasional church service, and indoor sports like basketball, shuffleboard, roller skating, wrestling, and boxing matches Organizing and enjoying these activities together helped create a sense of community an ongeruployees. The Kennecott Copper Corporation provided the Recreation Hall and other comforts to attract and keep workers. In exchange, the Corporation expected them to work hard and stay out of trouble.



Post Office

Built in 1917, restoration completed in 2006

Keeping in touch with home

The vast majority of Kennecott workers were far from home and family, so the Post Office was an important link to their loved ones. Workers sent letters and money orders—after

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all, they were here to make and save money. They also received news and mail-order goods. Mail traveled by train and, in later years, by air. Some long-term staff had brass mailboxes here, but most letters were sent to their recipients via general delivery.

To send news or to wire money home more quickly —and at greater expense—workers went to the Wells Fargo telegraph service in the Railway Depot.

[Photo Below] "Snowbird at the post office, 1937."

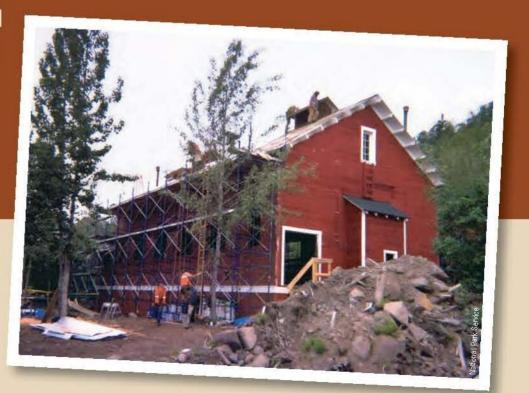
A community restoration effort

Even without much maintenance since the mines closed, the Recreation Hall was still used by residents of McCarthy-Kennicott as a gym, performance, and exhibition space through the 1980s and 1990s. However, by 1999, the structure was suffering. Friends of Kennicott, a community organization formed to protect the site's history, raised funds and supplied materials. The National Park Service maintenance team, composed mostly of locals, lovingly restored the Hall in 2002-2003.

Today, the Recreation Hall is owned by the National Park Service and managed by Wrangell Mountains Center in McCarthy. Available for use by the community, the National Park Service, and for private functions, it is an example of how everyone in the valley can pull together.

"The growing partnership between Friends of Kennicott and the National Park Service has allowed us to do more than either of us could have accomplished alone."

-Friends of Kennicott



Rise, Fall, and Resurrection of an Icon

Kennecott's Concentration Mill through time

1911 The railway tracks have been laid, and a sacking the distinguished to the tracks to the loading. The

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train brings in equipment to fill them. A chute allows

high-grade one to bypass processing in the Mill and

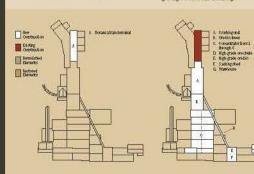
so straight to the bottom for sade ing.

Before the railway 1906 to 1911

The camp is established and construction of the Mill and aerial tramways begin. The most powerful machine available is a small steam-powered sawmill hauled up by pack train. The Mill is not empty for long as the train brings in power generators and concentrating equipment, beginning in 1911.



1909 The Bonanzatram terminal and an aerial term tower are erected on the hill. Below the mare the log portions of the office building and a log st mature which had several functions over time. The path for the railwayhas not yet been graded.



The height of operations 1912 to 1925

As miners pull increasing amounts of ore from newly opened mines, the Mill must keep up. Output more than doubles thanks to increased manpower and machine capacity. Meanwhile, profits soar as World War I fuels demand for copper. Kennecott re-invests in technology, making the Mill ever more efficient. Production peaks in 1925 at 300,000 tons of ore and 30,000 tons of copper.

1915 The Jumbo train terminal is complete at the top of the Mill. Below 2,4, ct/b dam prevente Mill tailings from spilling onto the track. A chute dow at he south side brings limestone tail inge containing lowgiade on across the tiades, to be treated at the new Leaching Plant (the building with the emokestack).

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1917 A new Mancock jig addition emerges from the Mill'Soouth face, halfwag-up the hill Accessible tracks, the Leaching Plant bas been expanded and a series of conveyor belts built to deliver old tailings.

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1924 Mill equipment is continuously added to and improved, and exterior additions are built to accommodate & The Hancock jig addition halfwap up the hill is expanded. Account he trades, a Fictation Plant has been added to the Leadhing Plant to t mat Mill talings, and both are in fall swing.



Slowing down 1926 to 1938

New one discoveries slow down. Mill equipment is improved but there are no major additions. Kennecott closes in 1938.

1938 The last year of operation. Kennecdt had desed from 1592 to 1995 as the G mat Depression

affected be copper market, and re-opened with a

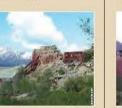
No major new additions alter 1926

Hainborance included splacing table floors, increase timbers, sheathing, and painting

smaller work force. Be shally, the ore state out.

Decline 1938 to 1989

The site is abandoned in 1952. Surface rights are sold in 1957 and change hands multiple times. Kennecott is subdivided for sale in 1977.





Restoration

1990 to present

emergency stabilization

of key buildings, followed

by National Park Service

Friends of Kennicott launches

acquisition of the site in 1998.

1976 Time and weather continue the work begin by people. In 1987, Ray Tiptochair was contracted to demolish the site's buildings. He salvaged mate rial and equipment, and to mofithe Mills cost, eventually resulting in the damage seen in this photo. Through the 1960s, othe abuildings were also de molished.





Refrigeration Plant

Built circa 1917, restoration completed in 2006

A high-tech solution for keeping meat cold

Refrigerated train cars delivered huge sides of beef and other meats to Kennecott. Staff transferred the meat onto hooks that hung on a track outside, and then ran the hooks along the track into this freezer room. The track is still visible overhead. The meat went to the mill camp's mess hall kitchens, to the mine camps via aerial tram, and to family cottages.

Despite having a glacier out the back door, Kenncott froze meat using cutting-edge technology: ammonia refrigeration. Food freighting costs were enormous, 1 trains were not reliable in poor weather, and the workers absolutely depended on the food stored here—no chances could be taken.



About 50 people are buried in the Kennecott cemetery. Many died on the job. The Corporation was unable to contact some workers' families, especially during the war. Other families could not afford to have their loved ones returned.



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Store

Built in 1917, restoration completed in 2006

A monopoly, but a fair price

This store served everyone in the mill camp and mines. Worker's clothing and household items were displayed along one long wall, and dry goods and food along the other. Families living in the cottages could get their standing orders

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delivered to them via horse-drawn cart Mine workers sent down their orders and goods were shipped up via aerial tram. Most workers had their purchases subtracted directly from their paychecks, or used company scrip, like a company currency.

Despite its absolute monopoly, the store charged fair prices, and in the 1930s it operated at a very slight loss. The expense of the goods was due to shipping costs, like today. The store was an important service. Without it, the Corporation could not have retained a workforce.



Warehouse

Built in 1917

A repository of supplies for the mines and Mill



All hardware was sent up on the train.

entered the Warehouse through the south doors

(to your left), and exited through the north doors (to your right). Some supplies were kept upstairs near the accounting offices. Raw materials such as lumber and pipes were stacked in covered sheds outside. To request materials for a job, workers came to the desk at the north end of the building with a requisition signed by their supervisor. Everything was meticulously accounted for in the ledger.

Shipping expenses exaggerated the value of every bolt and screw, so nothing was wasted and items were often reused. However, when the mines closed in 1938, it was not economical to take hardware out by train, and there was some hope the mines would reopen one day. Much was left behind.

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Manager's Office

Log portion built prior to 1906, framed section built in 1916, restored 2001-2009

The "brain" of Kenne cott

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Kennecott Cemetery Location Key and Biographies

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Grave marker is inscribed 76,000/W MARLE BORN, 1881, DED. MARY 29

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ROWN PROF FINTS ARAI 30 4307 Daniel Koch was born in the Midded United Mates in 1871. He was prospecting all early

as 1901 in the Partianks and Kandshina. Aladia vigenty in 1921, he was working as a mining angineer at furnecot. He died at the Kannacolt Hospital in 1922. Cause of deaths kidney disease. Koch's fumene was held at Kaninacott, Burled Y January 1921.

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tar Pryte was born 1894 in Sweden. He immissioned to the United States in 1914 and became a naturalized citarin four years fator After being invokutarily evicified in the ILIS Army in 1979, Prytz inquested a job of of his contribution to the war effort through employment with the Kinknecott Copper Corporation. He died three years later falling a diff while huntrig illuned 20 October 552.5

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0 Grave marker is incolbed 7942/09. LARSON BORN 1883 DED APRIL 1924

Nelvor Lancon was born 19 June 1983 in Norway, by 1910, he was working as a farm laborer for the Unders family in Carsion. Montana, in 1918, he was employed as a mill worker in Seattle, Washington, leaking for Yatshitan, Alaka 29 September 1923. On 24 March 1974. Carson was hared in Costions at a mater for the Kennwoott Copper Corporation. After 18 days of working in the states, he sufficiated from inhaling powder gas, Buried 15 April 10.34

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AND/PSOV JOIN 1898 DED AMP 1925 Carl Anderson was born 1808 in Sweden. He

had previously worked as a mean before being Relied by the Kannecold Copper Corporation n the 1920s. Carl was a frequent visitor to McCarthy and was referred to as 'Bry' Cart Andemon by the locals. On 14 May 1925. Perattergend to kill formell by skehing for throat. He was moved to a guarded unit at the Kennecott Hospital. On 21 May 1925. Anderson encaped from the hospital and jumped from a OF IN NAMES

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Arthur Proved was been 1248 in the Midward United States. He was prospecting as early as 1904 in the Copper River valley. In 1915, with his partner, Cooper, he leaved the upper end of 15 Taylor's Rei Greek claim. He built a cabin on thigh Guich and proportied at Hy Guich as well, by 1900, he was working as a machinicit at Caninecoll. He worked in the Kennecolt mail time Markinght show while he contenant prospecting for politi at Res Creek. That same or he married a comar named flemha. Their with Generat A. Frinell use been 1923. Cause of

Cove marker is incribed W MiMORY OF CADINGE KOND ROWS JULY, 15, 1883, DKD AME 27. 1226

George Xono was born 21 December 1680 in Educhina, separt By 1918. He was sorting as a cock at Vennecott In 1926, he suffered a mintal heart attack in the private ment builting

Konchundial barial expertise time \$76,25-m 1506. The most costly burst prior to Konoh was \$15.80 in 1923, in comparison, George Konoh build expenses are relatively loss in regards to the monumentality of his grave marker This suggests that family members or frends must have easily the mount drugture to be constructed at a later date

Grave multiple a microbed, 20758 MAREDWIN BOTH, 1867 DED ALEY 18 1936

Peter McKeown was been 1867 By 1916, In ous employed as a laborar for the Alaika Roal Commission and living in Condoval. He died in the Kannetott Hospital July 17, 1976 Buried 30 A.W. 1924

Crave marker a microhed "EASSES" NOWN BORN 1885 DED AUX 29 1926

Caming "Caming" Brown was horn 9 Januar 1685 in Indiana. In 1918, he worked as a lead miner in Burke, 15aho, By 1924, Cassas was a rever in the Minel Cause of death: aneurom

O Grave marker is interibed 30F AURIDAC KINN 1805 DED ARY 1937

Roe Junezec was born 1895 in Russia. In 1927, her errail hered as a money by the Kenelecott. Copper Corporation, Cause of death menorghy. two months after his amical

Gave marker streamed WANK GRAMOS active ratio pero pero and 1937 Frank Grands was been 1990 in Genetal On-

12 May 1927, he was herd as a much er in the Konnecott Mines. The following October, he wait crushed when a large work fell from to feet above him in the Bonarica Mine Buried 4 November 2022

> Issungtion on the marker is it workle. First. sciented in 1998 to be that of 1990 Miccs 80KN 1860 DED DEC 1927."

Ind Mills was born 1860 in England. He arrived Grave marker summitted 10LKAS APRAKAS SON 1983 DID AUG 1923 in Alasha in 1957 and was working at a miner in Opheka Guildh in 1900. By 1926, Mills was long in Tidkal. Alaka vorting a group of place cams at Boulder Creek. Over the writer of he contacted pneumonia. His companions took has to Kennecut Hispital where he ded a Brow Group Latter

Crown marker is intorbed 'OHAS' 'OHARES' CONNELL POWN TABS, DED APR 1928

Charles Covell was born 1885 in Flinos. By 1904, he was a bartender at Wood's saloor in Several Aladia By 1910, fie was working at a miner in Copper Cetter Cause of deal cardioculmonary alments, sluned 23 April 1928.

Craw marker is incoded to DX (AMI) MATTION BOAY 1654 CAD XINE 1978

April Literature year from 1883 in Scienters, his intrigrated to the United States and war. hand as a moter by the Centrecott Copper Corporation in 1923. And was working the Lambo Mine when he was regidered by follow more: Arthur McGerna in 1926. McKerna was Jed guilty of second degree murder and serie to the Mitchiel Island Perspectiany in Washington

SEASE.

Secret Gallup visit born in forwart me Court marker has been whitewashed between 1005-1070 His father was born in making inscription Begide. Rot seconded in 1908 to be that of VRANK EINSMANL ORD New York and his mother in Permit Agena, Bu 1920, Gallup was morking at Kermachill at a NOV: 1528 teaching Calle of deathy unincom-

Frank Brigham was born 1800 in the United Ghates' Not papernets there should' after his barts initiang Foreik and No older Brother, Charlet, orphans. Both boys were adopted by relations corph and Sobithia Bincham, Semiert in Soland nty California in 1830, Joseph ded, and the family exceed to I strength California, firster, 1886-1896, Frank Bingfum worked as a pork packer and porter in Sah Hancoco illy 1900, he eft California and was employed as a toillain above at a naval station war Skapvas, Alatka from 1910 until the 1920s, he ran the Willow Dresk Roachouse. He leased the roachouse to

Cleude Staurt in 1915. Cause of death: Chronic Modularditis after receiving treatment at the Kennetott Hospital Buried 19 November 1928. D Graue evolute is inconnectly inter be IDAGE CONDINONY 1883 DWD XAE 37

Samuely 1929.

Kernerod Libres

Bogsphy unknown

OWD AM TOTT

1036." This is actually the bured plot of Herman E -Chinnan Herman (Ranys) 8: Chesman was born 22: September 1891 in Klanach, Cregos, In 1921, e was living independently in Son Benlurdino California. Ad age 21, he enloted in the U.S. Army: from 1912-1915, he served in the Causity

a server named Martanet and confined as a

Channan was hired as a machinet by the

machinet in Plumie, California in AJy 1928.

Crave marker a flegible, Mot recorded in

Burnary Carlane your hours 1956 in Malu By 1947

e wat employed as a laborer in Arichorage,

Control to 1910. After nearly test years

aboring in the mines. Cesare was crushed b

rulus Faturia via born 1883 in Greece.

In 1917, he out employed as a coal miner in Remon, Vanhangton, Ratukat moved to Alati a

in 1919 and was hered as an ore sortex in the Kannecott Minm in 1923, He died 1929, after

becoming entangled in a stop chain in the

Grave martian to intentions SAM OSDIF

minigrated to the United States in 1994. In

Concernation was addressed moving

Crae rarter a munited 5 A GALLIF

iption depitie. The plot was recorded in

Sam Outif was torn 1878 in-Geosce He

BORN HERE DED AUG. 1929.

Mines: Cause of death: Elocal-clot.

Even hund at a miner by the Cannacilli Conner

falling rock in the Mither Lode Mine. Buried 18

1908 to be that of 'T C/SAVE BOAY, 1996 DED JARY 1909

G Gran mater was addresated, making Jejona and you honorably discharged. enorgition dispible. Pot recorded in 1938 at Shorts thereafter, he returned to San Bernading that of MATTHEW REAVOURS DED. ARE schere he incrimed as a more machined at the in Reed Gold Mine Co. In 1920, he manuel

This site was the originally the temporary buried location of A-W Dennis, deceased October 1931. Denne' body was shipped to Juneau in Kerrecott Copper Corporation: Cause of death-presentoria. Buried 19 December 1928. 3.4, 1985. The burnel pilot is now the permanent writing place of Matthew Bernoulae

Craw marker a marked BADY HAURTY

Eatly Halbert was the child of Howard Lee

Craw matter is insorbed WOMAND L MALETT DORE 1899 DED JULY 1937

billiourd for sightfunctions have 14 insures 1976.

in Johnsonburg, Pennsykania His father Lee was born 1649 in terw itok and worked an a painter kie mother, Rorence, was born in

Rotroutuaria 1843 and kept house with her

som, Experiter Howard, and Sexuald. Sometime between 1902-1910. Howard's father Leo ded.

Dallotta with some Disorday, Howard, and Joseph

her youngest in September 1918, Howard

Rowner resetting at participan County, North

faithant was lowed in a house in Montheast.

Movements infrare he received as a bell hop. In

1924, he returned home to care for his eiderly

nother Rorence in Fargs, North Dakota, There Howard married a victorian named Avis, In 1924

he wat engicised as an electrician at Kannecolt

Cause of deathy crushed by a units pole

2.04 10.00

Contractor

Bernouline was been 1941 ton Percentures. In 1928, he cas long in Batanore, Manland and working in the transportation indiatry ine es friend as a incher in the Kennedolft Miners i 1936. South after his arts if it Kennecott, he was crushed by a train on the Copper floer and North Making

Grave marker is viergible. Port recorded in 1958 to be that of KAY Y SAKAGANER. SAKLARAR DOLD JOINT WAY THAT WAY WAY THE previous transfittane of Laura M. Chos Gan 1932) whose body was moved to Seattle in

Kai Sakuta wai bom e Japan in 1882 He resided in Controla before womong as a cock at Kennecott in TVCh. Cause of deathy stomach (and)

Crain motor sub of designed miking the incommon displace. For seconds in 1923 to be that of VADOLF WITHSON OWD 3,018

Adolf Peterson was born 13 March 1886 in Soundarn, Kiel immegration to the United States in 1905 and was sociorizing as a meter in Alaska 1919, he was hered as muchar in the Kennecott by 2210. By 2304, he was need as a mucher to the Kennecott Cooper Conjunation, In 1937 he sufficient in a run of op and muck while submitting in the miner.

The market was whitewarked makings the records on display. For recorded in 1938 to be TRUE to be that of 144,504 MILLER DED MAR that LE TOCAL SUMMER DED ALSO 19281

> Out Spar equition 1875 in Nonsus He equi hind as a miner in Cordova, Alaska in 1926 Its the Kannostit Copper Corporation, Steer regain working as the station matter in the blackwards shap in the 1030x. Cause of right psounona: Buried 1 September 1038

This sign has been generously developed and donated by the Piccess of Marks

Conversion & recorded HALDEY CARNE Harry Carrie was born 1884. He resided an flume. Blood and helium heises hund at a more

The Roman and copper plate marker.

Kannacott from Superintencient Poltor He war discharged from the arfantsy on the basis

B

6

28

Kennecott Cemetery Site Map

In silence, we remember







ALL PROFILE FACILIES AND RELEY FORMEL, LAN, DO BELL'ENTRET NAMES DE TOP PONDE PERMETE DETAIL NOMES DE L'OCTOR, MELTER PONDE E SUCCESSIONNES DE LOUR UNITS A DOTOR DE LANS CONTRACTOR PONDEL MILITO À MOLTE, CAMP (DEMETE ANNAL MALE CONTRACTOR)



10 20'

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