

# SELECTED RESIDENTS OF AND VISITORS TO THE WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS MOUNTAIN REGION, 1796-1950

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The following list contains biographical data on local residents (and a few more important visitors) gleaned by the author from virtually all published and many unpublished sources over the past thirteen years. Needless to say, conflicting accounts make this a work in progress. Readers possessing additional information or local photos are encouraged to contact Geoffrey Bleakley at [geoff\\_bleakley@nps.gov](mailto:geoff_bleakley@nps.gov). Alaska residents and visitors are invited to drop by Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve headquarters in Copper Center, Alaska, and visit me in person.

**Abercrombie, Capt. William R.** Born in Minnesota in 1857, Abercrombie reconnoitered the lower Copper River and the Valdez Glacier in 1884, then returned to Alaska to lead the U.S. Army contingent which constructed the Trans-Alaskan Military Road (known locally as the Valdez Trail) in 1898-99. While here, Abercrombie invested in several local mining ventures, including a claim situated on the Kotsina River in 1899. He also held a share in the Kennecott property, which he apparently gained through his close relationship with Stephen Birch.

**Abrahamson, --.** One of the first to reach the Chisana district, Abrahamson mined Bonanza Creek No. 12 in 1914.

**Agnew, Benjamin I.** Born in Washington in 1885, Agnew mined in the Nizina district from 1909 to 1912.

**Ahlner, Klas.** Ahlner was employed by the Yellow Band Mining Company as a foreman in 1941. He was hydraulic mining on Dan Creek in 1948.

**Algren, Gunnar.** Algren was mining a claim on Miller Gulch in the Chistochina district in the mid-1930s.

**Alheidt, Henry.** Born in Germany in 1863, Alheidt was living in Cordova when contacted by the 1910 census enumerator. He and Charles Graber worked an unidentified claim near the head of the Bremner River in 1912.

**Allan, Ed.** Allan worked in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Allen, Lt. Henry Tureman.** Allen, who graduated from West Point in 1882, led the three-man party which completed a military reconnaissance of central Alaska in 1885. Leaving Nuchek (on Hinchinbrook Island in Prince William Sound), Alaska, on March 20th, Allen surveyed the Copper and Chitina Rivers before crossing the Alaska Range and descending

the Tanana River. From the mouth of the Tanana, he traveled overland to the Koyukuk River, which he ascended beyond the present location of Bettles. He next descended the Koyukuk to the Yukon River, then down the Yukon to Kaltag, from where he portaged to Norton Sound. He continued down the coast, finally reaching St. Michael on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Allen's expedition is notable for the amount of U.S. territory it explored, only exceeded by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's monumental exploration of the Louisiana Purchase in 1804-06.

**Allen, J. C.** Allen, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, left that party while crossing the Valdez Glacier and spent the summer of 1898 prospecting along the Klutina and Copper Rivers with Joseph Lawson.

**Allis, H. G.** Allis, from Little Rock, Arkansas, attempted to ascend the Copper River during the gold excitement of 1898, reaching the mouth of the Bremner River where he decided to winter. He planned to continue up river on the ice in the following spring, but contracted scurvy, which forced him to return to the states. Before leaving, however, Allis purchased a piece of rich copper bornite ore from Chief Nicolai, which he subsequently had examined by outside experts. Unable to return in early 1899, Allis sent James McCarthy to locate Nicolai's copper source, which was staked and later developed as the Nikolai Mine.

**Alson, Victor.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Alson as a Copper Center contractor.

**Alstrum, James.** Alstrum was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Altman, Max.** Born in New York in 1875, Altman probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him as living in Fairbanks. An early arrival in the Chisana district, Altman mined above Hamshaw's camp on Bonanza No. 6 in 1915.

**Ameye, A. C.** Ameye worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Ammann, Adolph.** Born in Switzerland in 1860, Ammann resided in Catskill, New York, before coming to Alaska in 1898. Once there, he and partner Scotty Crawford were two of the first prospectors to probe the Kotsina-Kuskulana district. Ammann later developed property along the Kluesna River, including the Lost Cabin and Good Enough groups, and explored four nearby claims on Fall Creek. *Polk's* directories for 1907 through 1912 list Ammann as a resident of Kotsina and the assistant manager of the Kotsina Copper Company.

**Amy, Winfield S.** Amy, who was born in California in 1850, joined the stampede to Alaska in 1898. Becoming a member of the so-called McClellan group, he prospected throughout the Copper Basin in 1899. Among other property, Amy shared in the ownership of the Bonanza copper group, which he sold to Stephen Birch in 1900. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Amy as a resident of Valdez. Both Amy Creek, a tributary of the Kuskulana River, and Amy's Landing, on the Klutina River, were named in his honor.

**Anderson, --.** In 1915 Anderson partnered with Al Wright to work Bonanza No. 6 in the Chisana district.

**Anderson, Carl.** Anderson completed undergraduate and graduate degrees in mining and milling before coming to Alaska in 1915 to work for the Alaska Consolidated Copper Company at the Valdez Lode on Nugget Creek. He married his fiancée, Mary Louise, in Cordova in August 1915, and following a honeymoon in Anchorage and a brief stay at the mine, the couple wintered in Strelna. They went back to Nugget Creek that spring, but traveled to Portland, Oregon, in November 1917 for an extended vacation. They returned to Alaska in February 1918 when Anderson took a job with the Josevig-Kennecott Copper Company (owned by Nils and Chris Tjosevig), which had a camp near Kennecott. At the end of the summer, Anderson moved back to Strelna to work for Ole Berg's North Midas Mine, situated just south of the Kuskulana River. Anderson traveled to San Francisco in March 1918 to report for army duty, but was soon sent back to Alaska, as copper was needed for the war effort. Back at the North Midas, he constructed the mill and readied a log cabin for his pregnant wife's return. Louise came home in September and gave birth to their son John at the Kennecott hospital in late October. The couple remained at the North Midas another year, leaving Alaska for good in November 1918.

**Anderson, Charlie.** Anderson and partner Otto Blum supplied wood to the Nabesna Mine during the 1930s.

**Anderson, Hans.** Anderson, from Sioux City, Iowa, stampeded to Alaska in 1898 and mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1915, when he and Oscar Hanson worked the first tier bench on the left limit of Rex Creek No. 8.

**Anderson, Henry W.** Anderson, from Port Angeles, Washington, joined the rush to Alaska in 1898. After reaching the Bremner district in 1902, he and his three partners mined No. 3 above on Golconda Creek. He worked on Monahan Creek that season as well, constructing a thirty-foot dam on No. 3 above. Late that summer, Anderson was hired by Arthur McNeer to work claims in the Nizina district.

**Anderson, Oscar N.** Anderson, who homesteaded near Long Lake in 1916, was one of Kennecott's more important local produce suppliers.

**Anderson, R. L.** Anderson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Anderton, Louis E.** Anderton came to the region in 1922, when he was hired to complete the tunnel connecting the Erie and Jumbo Mines at Kennecott. He eventually moved to the Nizina District, where he worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926. During the late 1930s, he prospected on Rex Creek, where he was badly injured in a mining accident. He later worked an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek in the Chisana district and, beginning in the late 1940s, operated a store and guiding business out of Chisana City. Anderton died in Seattle in March 1961.

**Andre, Chief.** Chief Andre was *denae* of a small Ahtna village located on Old Man Lake--near the head of the Mendeltna River--when visited by U.S. Army explorer Capt. Edwin Glenn in 1898.

**Andrew, Chief.** The son of Tanana Jack, Andrew was *denae* of the small Ahtna village located on the Copper River across from the mouth of the Klutina River. He died in 1950.

**Andrews, John E., Jr.** Andrews mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Andrus, Hamlin F.** Hamlin Andrus, the son of John E. Andrus and a 1908-09 All-American football player from Yale, directed the company's work on Rex Creek from about 1914 through the 1930s.

**Andrus, John Emory.** Born in Pleasantville, New York, in February 1841, Andrus served as the mayor of Yonkers in 1903, and New York's 19<sup>th</sup> District's Representative to the U.S. Congress from 1905-1913. A millionaire, Andrus controlled nearly half of Chititu Creek, the Nizina district's largest gold producer, from about 1909 until his death in December 1934. Mt. Andrus, a prominent summit situated about five miles east of Chititu Camp, was named in his honor.

**Archer, E.** Archer was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Archipel, P.** Archipel worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Arkinstall, H. J.** Arkinstall worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Arnold, James W.** Born in West Virginia in 1861, Arnold rushed to Alaska in 1898. In 1911-1912 he worked as a foreman for the Great Northern Development Company in the Kotsina Basin.

**Ashby, Kathryn Sloan Ingram.** See Kathryn Sloan Ingram.

**Aspen, Ole.** Aspen partnered with Lawrence DeWitt in the teens, freighting trade goods from Valdez to Slana.

**Asplund, Gabe.** Asplund, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Atkenson, Scotty.** Atkenson, a well known McCarthy dog musher, helped Andy Taylor and Henry Olsen freight the supplies for the 1925 Mt. Logan mountaineering expedition.

**Atkinson, Miles.** Atkinson worked an unidentified Bonanza Creek claim in the Chisana district during much of the 1920s.

**Aufinson, --.** Aufinson and a miner named Thorp worked a lay on Chititu No. 5 in 1904.

**Austin, Mrs. F. O.** Austin was operating a Chisna roadhouse in 1907-1908, according to the *Polk's* directory which covers those years. The occupation of her husband is unknown.

## B

**Baasen, Richard V.** Baasen was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. He left the party shortly after reaching Copper Center in June and returned to the States.

**Bacile, Chief.** George Bremner reported that when he ascended the Copper River in 1884, Chief Bacile had just been replaced by Chief Nicolai as the *denae* of the Lower Ahtna. This seems to be the same individual that Lt. Henry Allen called *Messala*. His village was situated on the south bank of Kuslina Creek, locally called Horse Creek.

**Backman, O.** Backman worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Baird, Jim.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Baird spent part of the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center, before leaving Alaska.

**Baird, R. S.** Born in Ohio in 1851, Baird rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In 1899 Baird prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim. The 1900 census reported he was still living in the Copper Basin.

**Baker, S. W.** Baker rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in March 1899.

**Baldwin, Asa Columbus.** Born in Austinburg, Ohio, in 1887, Baldwin first visited Alaska in 1909 as part of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Following employment as a field officer on the international boundary survey and an engineer for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, he turned his attention to mining. He served as a consultant to the Kennecott Copper Corporation and worked placer property on Rex Creek before moving to the Bremner district, where he developed the Yellow Band group in the late 1930s. Baldwin died in September 1942.

**Baldwin, George Ellsworth.** Born in Ohio in 1871, Baldwin came to Alaska in 1899 as a civil engineer employed by the Trans-Alaskan Military Road Expedition, and in that capacity he located much of the Valdez-Eagle Trail. He headed construction activities at Kennecott for Stephen Birch during 1907, which explains why the 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists him as superintendent of the Alaska Copper and Coal Company. He was replaced in 1908 and was later in charge of similar work at the Mother Lode Mine near McCarthy. He also held interests in both the Cliff and Midas Mines near Valdez. Baldwin remained in the region until at least 1912, mining and surveying in the Nizina district, but eventually moved to Philadelphia, where he died in January 1920.

**Ball, George.** Ball was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Ballou, Dr. J. B.** Ballou, who assumed management of the Alaska Commercial Company's Knik Station in 1887 following the murder of George Holt, claimed to have ascended the Copper River and traded with the Ahtna in the early 1880s. No independent confirmation of his story, however, has ever surfaced.

**Baltuff, Edward K.** An early resident of McCarthy, Baltuff worked in the vicinity from 1911 until 1919. He was living in Tacoma, Washington, when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Balzimer, A.** Sometimes called "the Russian Kid," Balzimer leased his Dan Creek copper property to outside capitalists represented by Martin Harrais in August 1918.

**Banta, Guy Lamar.** Born in Oregon in 1879, Banta rushed to Nome in 1899 and moved to Valdez in 1900. Partnered with Pete Monahan and Angus Gillis, he located the Bremner district's first placer deposits on Golconda Creek in the fall of 1901. In early 1902, he and partner Grant Sweet mined No. 5 above. They also operated on Summit Creek that season, working its discovery claim. Later that summer, Banta was hired by Arthur McNeer to help

work claims in the Nizina district. In 1903, Banta and Charles N. Crary worked a lay on Chititu Creek No. 3, but relinquished it when it failed to pay. Banta traveled to Shelton, Washington, in 1904 to marry Jennie E. Swanson, a former resident of Upper Tonsina whom he had met at a dance in Valdez. Banta then found employment managing a copper mine on Latouche Island in Prince William Sound and later worked at the Ellamar and Galena Bay Mines there as well. He left Alaska in 1917 and settled in Portland, Oregon, where he was still living in 1930 when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association. Banta Creek, an upper tributary of Monahan Creek, was named in his honor.

**Banta, Jennie Elizabeth Swanson.** Born in Sweden about 1884 and raised in Minneapolis, Swanson participated in the Klondike stampede, crossing Chilkoot Pass with her sister Josephine Swanson Loomis and brother-in-law Ike Loomis in 1898 when she was just 14 years old. The three moved from Dawson to Valdez in 1900 and opened the Loomis Roadhouse at Upper Tonsina in 1902. Swanson met Guy Banta at a Valdez dance in 1902 and the couple married in Shelton, Washington, in 1904. Over the next 15 years, she lived throughout Prince William Sound, following her husband to mines like Latouche, Ellamar, and Galena Bay. Swanson divorced Banta in 1923, and died in Corvallis, Oregon, about 1964.

**Banta, Isaac “Ike”.** Born in Kentucky in October 1851, Banta traveled to Alaska in 1902 and located the Verle copper lode—named for his seven-year-old daughter--near the head of the Lakina River. Unfortunately, Banta was not an independent prospector, but was instead working for an English concern represented locally by M. T. Rowland, so ownership of the claim passed to it. Banta later served as the town marshal of Waldport, Oregon, where he died in August 1938.

**Banzer, Frank.** Banzer participated in the short-lived Canyon Creek gold rush in 1902.

**Barber, Dr.** Barber was the physician at the U.S. Indian School in Copper Center in 1910.

**Bardsley, Edward.** Bardsley, who was living in Yakutat in 1902, listed his occupation as miner.

**Barkley, James.** Born in New York in 1853, Barkley and partner John B. Miller crossed the icefield lying between Yakataga and Granite Creek in 1905 and prospected the upper Kiagna River. After a short stay, they returned to Yakataga by the same route. Barkley returned in 1906. This time he and partner William Jefferies explored the headwaters of Granite Creek before descending the Kiagna, Chitina, and Copper Rivers. In 1910 Barkley was reportedly living in Cordova. Barkley is probably the guide (who Harold McCracken called Jimmy Barclay) that Cap Hubrick hired to lead McCracken’s party up the Chitina Glacier in 1916. The USGS named Barkley Ridge, a prominent feature at the junction of the Bering Glacier and the Bagley Icefield, in his honor.

**Barlow, F. J.** Canadian Geological Survey geologists F. J. Barlow and DeLorme D. Cairnes visited the White River country in 1913. Attracted by accounts of a gold discovery, the pair ascended Beaver Creek, crossed the international border, and briefly examined the Chisana placer district.

**Barnes, Florence.** An immigrant from New Zealand, Barnes began operating Hotel Holman about 1921, the same year she became postmaster of Copper Center. She purchased the

property from Hans Ditman in 1923, changing the name to the Copper Center Roadhouse and Trading Post. She operated the business until her death in Victoria, British Columbia, in February 1948, while traveling to Seattle to marry her fiancé, George Livingstone. She is buried in Copper Center.

**Barnett, Ed.** Barnett, who was a section boss for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, was living in Chitina in 1911. He was still there in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders. He's supposed to have moved to Valdez in the early 1940s and opened a hotel.

**Barrett, Anna S.** Born in Sweden in 1869, Barrett crossed the Valdez Glacier in 1898 and participated in the short-lived Manker Creek stampede. In 1899 she located the W. D. Torrey lode claim in Climax Gulch off the Klawasi River. She was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900. The early stampeders named St. Anne's Creek, near Klutina Lake, in her honor.

**Barrett, Anthony L.** Barrett, who was born in Canada in 1860, reached Alaska in 1898 and was one of the first prospectors to enter the Kotsina district. He began operating on Rock Creek about 1902, and remained in the area until at least 1915. *Polk's* 1907-1908, 1909-10, and 1911-12 directories identify Barrett as a miner and list his residence as Tonsina. During the teens, he and Young held a group of lode claims near the head of Porcupine Creek. The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Barrett as a Chitina prospector.

**Barrett, John E.** Born in Texas in 1872, Barrett prospected the Forty Mile country in the mid-1890s, and was one of the first to reach the Klondike, where he staked a profitable claim on Sulfur Creek in 1897. After selling his Yukon property, he lived briefly in Colorado before heading for Alaska in 1906. Reaching the Copper Basin, he located the Green Butte copper property on upper McCarthy Creek and established a homestead where that stream entered the Kennicott River. He subdivided his homestead in 1913, founding the community of McCarthy. During the teens, he and Dennis Donohoe explored copper lode claims on Donoho Peak and just north of Hidden Creek. In 1930 he staked the Gold King group on Williams Peak, beginning the first and only sustained effort to develop a gold lode in the Nizina district. Barrett and partner Matthew M. Reese continued their development efforts throughout the 1930s, eventually constructing two camps and completing three tunnels on the property. Barrett left McCarthy in 1943, moving to Washington state.

**Barriclaw, Charles.** Barriclaw worked as a carpenter in Nizina from 1909-1912.

**Bassett, Ed.** Bassett was reportedly operating a restaurant in the community of Nizina in 1912. This may be the same Bassett who partnered with Lumbeck to prospect the second tier bench on Rex No. 11 in 1915.

**Bastell, --.** Bastell worked in the Chisana district in 1915, mining Gold Run No. 3 below with partners named Lewis and Munsell.

**Bates, Ben.** Bates, from Boston, Massachusetts, and an accomplished boat builder, rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the Copper River Valley in May via the Valdez Glacier. He returned to the Basin the following summer with Reuben McClellan.

**Bates, E. M.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Bates as Chitina section foreman for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway.

**Batzulnetas, Chief (*Bets'ulnii Ta* ).** Batzulnetas was *denae* of the Ahtna Village called *Nataelde* (Roasted Salmon Place), which was situated near the mouth of Tanada Creek and is now called Batzulnetas. He hosted Lt. Henry Allen's visit in 1885 before Allen crossed Suslota Pass on his way to Last Tetlin and the Tanana River. He died about 1889.

**Baultoff, John.** An early McCarthy resident, Baultoff is credited by Fred Moffit as having located the original claims at the Tjosevig Prospect on upper McCarthy Creek. He also operated a ferry across the Nizina River. Baultoff Lakes, situated between the Nizina and Chitina Rivers, were probably named in his honor.

**Baumgaertner, Otto C.** Baumgaertner is listed as the patentee on a claim group situated on the Kuskulana Glacier.

**Baxter, H.** Baxter operated a general merchandise store in Chisana City in 1914.

**Bazhenov, Semyen.** An early Russian trader, Bazhenov explored a portion of the Copper Basin in 1803. Ascending the Copper and Tazlina Rivers, he traversed from Tazlina Lake to the upper Matanuska River, which he then descended to Cook Inlet, making him the first and perhaps only Russian to travel that ancient trade route. Bazhenov revisited the region in 1805, but reported no further discoveries.

**Beamer, B. F.** Rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the Copper Basin via Valdez. Returned to Seattle in 1906.

**Beatly, Ward.** Beatly was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Beaton, William P.** Born in Canada in 1863, Beaton was one of the first prospectors into the Bremner district, arriving there in 1902. Although he and his partners focused on Monahan No. 5 below that season, they also recovered a small amount of gold from Beaton Gulch. Beaton later moved to the Yukon River, where he located a claim on a Coal Creek tributary called Beaton Pup, and was living in Circle when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Beatty, --.** One of the first prospectors into the Bremner district, Beatty staked but did not work Golconda No. 1 below in 1902. This could be the Leonadus Beatty who was recorded on the 1900 census as living in Valdez.

**Beatty, Michael A.** Beatty was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Beck, John.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Beck as a resident of Tonsina.

**Becker, Bill.** A resident of Freeport, Illinois, Becker rushed to Alaska in 1898 with Luther Guiteau, Ed Kingsly, and Philo Snow, reaching the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier.

**Behling, E. R.** In 1917 Behling, partnered with J. E. McCabe and Joe Davis, worked Big Eldorado No. 3 in the Chisana district.

**Behrens, Charles F.** In 1899 Baird prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located and recorded a claim.

**Belefontaine, George "Frenchy".** Belfontaine and Jud McClellan built a Chitina cabin for Bill Cameron in 1911. He later operated a fox farm near the Sanford River in the 1920s.



**Bell, Ambrose S.** Born in Wisconsin in 1882, Bell rushed to Alaska in 1898 and began prospecting along the Kotsina River in 1899. He and partner Dick Gelineau eventually located copper claims on Rock and Roaring Creeks. The pair also owned the Horseshoe Restaurant in Valdez, five placer claims in the Chistochina district, and several copper claims on Glacier Island in Prince William Sound.

**Bell, James H.** In 1899 Bell prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located and recorded a claim.

**Bell, Richard.** Born in Tennessee in 1876, Bell probably entered Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator reported him living in Valdez. Bell mined in the Chisana district in 1915, operating Big Eldorado No. 3 below Upper Discovery.

**Bence, John T.** Born in Indiana in 1871, Bence was living in Valdez when contacted by the census enumerator in 1910. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Bens, Peter.** According to Noyes Moulton, Bens froze to death crossing the Valdez Glacier in 1899.

**Benedict, Neal D.** Benedict, a Florida resident, was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898. Although he drafted an account of his local experiences, which he illustrated with 108 photos, the manuscript (entitled *The Valdes and Copper River Trail, Alaska*) was never published.

**Bennett, Bob.** Bennett participated in the short-lived Canyon Creek gold rush in 1902.

**Bennett, C. H.** Bennett mined unidentified Rex Creek property in 1912.

**Bennett, C. L.** In 1899 Bennett prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located and recorded a claim.

**Bennett, George.** Bennett was working for George Blouen as bartender at the Hotel Chitina in 1911-1912.

**Beniinen, --.** Beniinen, the last Russian trader at Copper Fort, was reportedly the father of Horse Creek Mary. He left the Copper Basin about 1849.

**Benson, Peter.** Benson, fell into a creek while trying to reach Valdez during the winter of 1898-1899. Six miles above timberline and thoroughly wet, he was unable to start a fire and froze to death within a couple of hours.

**Beresford, Charles V.** Beresford operated a restaurant in the community of Nizina in 1911-1912.

**Berg, Fred "Blackie".** A Puyallup, Washington, resident, Berg worked the summer of 1939 as a driller at the Nabesna Mine.

**Berg, Hardwick.** Hardwick Berg, who was born in Norway in September 1883 and was probably Ole's younger brother, mined in the Kuskulana district in 1910.

**Berg, M.** Berg, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Berg, Ole J.** Born in Norway in August 1875, Berg placer mined in Dan Creek for several seasons before locating property in the Kuskulana drainage in 1907. Although staked as a

copper prospect, it was the deposit's high gold and silver content which ultimately drove its development. The North Midas Mine was initially successful, but the precipitous decline in copper prices following the First World War forced it to halt production. In 1922 Berg learned of a new gold-processing system and reopened the mine, but it only operated for a couple of seasons before closing permanently in 1925.

**Berry, A. S.** Berry served as postmaster of Elliott Creek from 1907-10.

**Berry, R. G.** Berry was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Berry, William H.** Born in Maryland in 1880, Berry was living in Valdez in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912 before trying the Koyukuk district in the early teens. He later freighted into the Chisana district, where he partnered with Billy James in 1926. A minor investor in the Yellow Band Gold Mining Company, Berry lived in McCarthy until the 1950s.

**Best, Fred W.** Born in Stoneham, Massachusetts, in 1866, Best was working as a mate on a cargo ship when his older brother convinced him to quit and join the Klondike rush. Traveling to Forty Mile, Best tried prospecting, but generally supported himself by working for wages. He was living in the Jack Wade district when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900. Although he purchased the Cassiar Roadhouse in 1903, he soon gave up that business and spent the remainder of the decade hauling freight in the upper Yukon Basin. A former partner of N. P. Nelson and Billy James, Best joined the first wave of stampedeers into the Chisana district in early July 1913. More successful than most, he worked Bonanza Nos. 3 and 7 from then until 1918, when he left Alaska to enlist in the navy at the beginning of the First World War.

**Bierman, J.** Bierman worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Biglow, William A.** Born in New York in 1852, Biglow probably entered Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him living in Valdez. In May 1916 Biglow was reported to have made a new strike on Foley Creek, a tributary of Notch Creek, about twenty miles west of Chisana City.

**Billum, Doc.** Born in the Copper Basin about 1844, Billum, an Ahtna "sleep doctor" or shaman who lived near the mouth of the Tonsina River, provided prospectors with some of their earliest accurate information about copper deposits in the Kotsina-Kuskulana district. One such property was the so-called Billum lode, which was probably the Copper Creek deposit later known as the Mullen. Beginning about 1901, Billum operated a ferry across the Copper River near his home.

**Billy, Banzaneta.** Born on the Tanana River at Salchaket, near present day Salcha, Billy was taken to Batzulnetas by his father. Billy was *denae* (usually translated as chief) at *C'ecaegge*, an Ahtna village on the Copper River at the mouth of Tanada Creek from about 1900 until his death in 1942. Dot Lake resident Gene Henry is Banzaneta Billy's son.

**Bingham, Frank J.** Born in California in 1869, Bingham probably reached Alaska before 1900, when he was reportedly living in the Southern District. In 1907-1908 he was reportedly ranching in Copper Center. He operated the Willow Creek Roadhouse, located at mile 90.9

of the Valdez Trail, from 1909 until about 1915, when he sold or leased the facility to Claude Stuart.

**Birch, --.** Birch cooked at the Tickle Roadhouse from 1909-1912.

**Birch, Mrs. Maude M.** Birch was reportedly running the Our Home Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 162) in 1910.

**Birch, George Howard** While negotiating for control of the Bonanza copper group in 1900, Stephen Birch procured a half interest in some of Dan Kain's future discoveries. Following Kain's gold strike on Dan Creek in 1901, Stephen brought his younger brother Howard to Alaska to help manage the property. Howard, who was a graduate of the Columbia School of Mines, modernized the operation, installing a \$70,000 hydraulic plant in 1912. Unfortunately, it only operated for a few days before the creek flooded, sweeping away virtually all his improvements. The company rebuilt in 1913 and by the following year, it included four frame buildings, a sawmill, and a new hydraulic plant. Birch sold the operation to Lewis Levensaler and John Price in 1924. In addition to his other duties, Birch served as Dan Creek's postmaster from June 11, 1911, until April 30, 1924.

**Birch, Stephen.** Born in New York in 1872, Birch first journeyed to Alaska in 1898 to serve as a civilian guide for Capt. William Abercrombie's Copper River Exploring Expedition. While in Valdez at the conclusion of the 1899 season, Birch was approached by members of the McClellan's group about helping finance the development of their Bonanza lode. Having confidence in the value of the discovery, Birch procured half of Dan Kain's one-eleventh share in December 1900. He also obtained a half interest in the miner's subsequent discoveries, a good deal for Birch, since Kain made his Dan Creek gold discovery the following year. Acting as an agent for H. O. Havemeyer, Birch formed the Alaska Copper and Coal Company and purchased options from other members of the McClellan party, including Reuben F. McClellan, Winfield S. Amy, Jack L. Sweeney, Jack H. Smith, Clarence L. Warner, and Ed A. Gates. He later negotiated a deal with the Morgan-Guggenheim interests which allowed him to organize and head the Kennecott Mines Company. In addition to his other duties, Birch also served twice as Kennecott's postmaster: from March 30, 1908 until February 24, 1912 and from December 15, 1914 until service to the community was discontinued on November 30, 1938. Birch died in December 1940 and was buried in Hartsdale, New York.

**Bishop, Jack.** Bishop worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Bittner, George.** Bittner was active in the Chisana district in 1915, working Bonanza No. 12. He also operated a roadhouse in Chisana City.

**Bjornstad, Martin.** Born near Oslo, Norway, in September 1854, Bjornstad was living in Seattle, Washington, when the Klondike rush began. After a brief stint as a stampeder, he accepted employment as a cook with the U.S. Army's Copper River Exploring Expedition under Capt. William Abercrombie. Bjornstad was in the thick of the action, accompanying USGS geologist Frank C. Schrader and cartographer Emil Mahlo on their loop over the Valdez Glacier, down the Klutina and Copper Rivers to the Tasnuna River, then overland via the Tasnuna Valley and Marshall Pass back to their base in Valdez. Following the expedition, Bjornstad returned to Washington and settled in Bremerton, where he worked as a house painter. He died in 1933.

**Black, James C.** Born in Oregon in 1870, Black rushed to Alaska in 1898. He, William Abercrombie, J. J. Abercrombie, Louis Blumauer, Phil Blumauer, and C. P. Smith located a claim on the Kotsina River in 1899. He was living in the Copper Basin in 1910, when recorded by the U.S. census enumerator, but was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Blakely, --.** One of the first gold miners in the Nizina district, Blakely and his partners operated the discovery claim on Dan Creek in 1903. This could be the J. T. Blakely, who was reported to be living in Alaska's Southern District in 1900.

**Blakney, Thomas W.** Born in Canada in 1876, Blakney began prospecting near Cook Inlet in 1896 and rushed to Dawson in 1897. In 1903 he and W. M. Mackintosh located the Terral [Teral] and Etna [Atna] lodes in the vicinity of Taral Creek, and the following year, Blakney staked another claim, called the View lode, nearby. Although he eventually sank a thirty-four-foot shaft on one of these properties, none were ever fully developed. Blakney left Alaska in 1922.

**Blalock, W. M.** Blalock worked for the Orr Stage Company as a Chitina stableman in 1911-1912 and for the Northern Commercial Stage Company in 1915-16.

**Blansfield, Dutch.** Blansfield was working as a Chitina blacksmith in 1910.

**Blei, Robert.** In 1902 a party of prospectors, financed by New York investor Robert Blei and led by M. T. Rowland, made some of the first gold discoveries on Chititu and Rex Creeks. The following year, Blei's Chititu Development Company, Frank Kernan, and Charles Koppus employed about 165 miners and recovered approximately \$135,000 worth of gold. *Polk's Alaska-Yukon Gazetteer* lists Blei as a resident of Nizina and secretary of the Nizina Trading Company in 1903. He was apparently not very successful, as he went bankrupt in 1906 and was forced to sell his Chititu operation to George M. Esterly.

**Blix, Ringwald.** Born in Norway about 1872, Blix was working in Minneapolis, Minnesota, when gold was discovered in the Klondike. Blix joined the Scandinavian Alaska Colonial Association, which journeyed to Alaska in 1898. Entering the interior via Valdez, he helped establish Copper Center, where he patented the first homestead. Blix and Andrew Holman then organized the Copper River Mining, Trading and Development Company to promote local settlement. In July 1900 Blix made the first gold discovery on Rainey Creek, and later that year he and Hans Torgensen were two of the first Euro-Americans to cross the central Alaska Range, linking the Gulkana and Delta Rivers. Blix also served as U.S. commissioner and postmaster in Copper Center before leaving Alaska in 1918 to retire in Seattle. He and his wife Frances were still there when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Blomquist, John.** Born in Finland in 1875, Blomquist (sometimes spelled Bloomquist) and friend John E. Barrett staked nearly adjoining homesteads on the lower Kennicott River in 1906. Two communities eventually developed on the sites: McCarthy on Barrett's and Blackburn on Blomquist's. Blomquist was reportedly mining on McCarthy Creek in 1910 and later served as the first mayor of Blackburn.

**Bloom, Nicholas J.** Born in Zanesville, Ohio, in 1856, Bloom joined the stampede to Alaska in 1898. He prospected in the Chistochina in 1901, before rushing to Fairbanks the following

year. Returning to the Copper Basin, Bloom participated in the construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, and later worked at the Mother Lode Mine on McCarthy Creek, leaving there about 1919. He eventually settled in Anchorage, where he worked for the Alaskan Engineering Commission.

**Blouen, George.** Blouen managed Chitina's Overland Hotel from 1911 through at least 1916.

**Blum, Otto.** Blum (sometimes spelled Bloom) worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926. During the 1930s he built a cabin on Jack Creek and supplied wood to the Nabesna Mine. He was employed by the Yellow Band Mining Company as a mucker in 1941.

**Blum, Samuel.** Born in San Francisco in 1868, Blum moved to Juneau in 1898 to operate the firm of Kohler and James, which he had just purchased. He subsequently added a branch of that business in Valdez. In 1903 he closed his Juneau office and spent a few years in Seattle, but moved to Valdez in 1903 to run his store and bank. In 1909 Blum added a branch in Cordova, and soon transferred his headquarters there. He later added offices in Chitina and McCarthy as well.

**Blumauer, Louis.** Blumauer, William Abercrombie, J. J. Abercrombie, James C. Black, Phil Blumauer, and C. P. Smith located a claim on the Kotsina River in 1899.

**Blumauer, Phil.** Reaching Alaska in 1898, Blumauer, William Abercrombie, J. J. Abercrombie, James C. Black, Louis Blumauer, and C. P. Smith located a claim on the Kotsina River in 1899. Blumauer also held seven important claims on Latouche Island in Prince William Sound. He left Alaska in 1902 and settled in Portland, Oregon, where he was living in 1930 when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association.

**Bodie, --.** Bodie (sometimes spelled Brodie) and Arthur Powell were prospecting the bench on Chititu Creek's right limit in 1915. Later that year the pair sank a 60-foot shaft on the bench on the right limit of White Creek No. 8.

**Boggs, Charles F.** Born in Washington in 1870, Boggs was living in Kenai when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He and co-owner Young operated a roadhouse in 1913 on the Hazelet trail near the foot of the Chisana Glacier.

**Bollinger, Bert O.** Born in Iowa in 1879, Bollinger was living in Cordova when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He and partner Jack Costello worked a number of claims in the Chisana district in 1913, including a fraction adjacent to Bonanza No. 8, two bench claims on Gold Run, two bench claims on Canyon Creek, a claim on Skookum Creek, two claims on Lucky Pup, and a bench claim on Bonanza No. 2.

**Bolten, John.** Bolten worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Boryer, R. J.** Born in Virginia and educated as an attorney, Boryer headed the Copper River and Northwestern Railway's legal department from 1906 until at least 1910. He was originally stationed in Katalla, but moved to Cordova when the railway offices were transferred there.

**Bottles, Al.** Bottles was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Boucher, Al.** Boucher mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Boucher, T.** Boucher worked for the Orr Stage Company as a Chitina stableman in 1911-1912.

**Boucher, Thomas H.** Born in Canada in 1865, Boucher mined in the Nizina area from 1909-1912. He apparently wintered in Valdez, where he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. This may be the same T. H. Boucher who was reported to be living in Alaska's Northern District in 1900.

**Bourke, Joseph A.** Born in New York City, Bourke rushed to Alaska in March 1898, entering the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier. After spending the summer around Copper Center, he returned to Valdez, where he became one of the community's founding fathers. He was still living there when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Boutin, P.** Boutin operated a boarding house on Little Eldorado No. 1 in 1915, catering to crews fielded by Altman, Whitham, and Briggen.

**Bouvett, ---.** Bouvett worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Boyden, Harry.** Born in England, Boyden began freighting in the Chisana district about 1915. He left in 1918 to participate in World War I, but returned to the area following its conclusion. During the 1920s Boyden held a contract to haul the Chisana mail, and also began his long career as a hunting guide. During the Second World War, Boyden served as caretaker of Carl Whitham's Nabesna Mine. Following the war, he remained in the vicinity, finally dying in 1970s at age 86. The Boyden Hills, lying just north of Nabesna, were named in his honor.

**Bradburg, J. H.** Bradburg prospected in the upper Tonsina district in 1898 and 1899, where he located and witnessed several claims.

**Brady, Hugh.** Partnered with Henry Dubois, Brady mined in the Chisana district in 1914, working Bonanza No. 9.

**Brady, William A.** Born in Ireland in 1872, Brady mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Bram, Charles W.** Born in Wisconsin in 1878, Bram managed the Gakona Trading Company in 1907, where *Polk's* 1907-1908 directory also recorded him as the community's postmaster. He was still living in that vicinity when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Bram, Fred E.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Bram as a Gakona prospector and farmer.

**Brandy, Pete.** Brandy owned a homestead near Mile 183 of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, at the start of the trail into the Lakina.

**Bratlie, J. L.** Bratlie began prospecting in the vicinity of Yakutat in 1902, but soon moved on to Fairbanks. He left Alaska in 1909 and was living in Ridgefield, Washinton, when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Bratnober, Henry.** Bratnober, a well known mineral investor, was born in Castrine, Prussia, in 1849, and immigrated to America with his parents in 1854. He fought in the Civil War, serving as a U.S. Army private with the 36th Wisconsin, Second Corps of the Army of the Potomac. After the war he moved to Montana, where he began his career as prospector and

miner. In 1897 he participated in the Klondike rush, joining Jack Dalton on a trip from Haines Mission to Dawson City. A year later, Bratnober and Dalton spearheaded the mineral exploration of the northern Wrangell Mountains by exploring the upper portion of the White River district. In 1905 he financed a small group of affiliated prospectors who explored the Nabesna and Chisana Basins. Bratnober was living in Nome when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, but his permanent home seems to have been located in Piedmont, California.

**Bratton, Norman.** Bratton mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Braxton, J. L.** Braxton and his wife operated the Glacier House Roadhouse, situated at mile 71 of the Valdez Trail, in 1910.

**Breedman, Simon O. "Oscar".** Born in Sweden in 1870, Breedman lived in Minnesota before he rushed to the Klondike in 1898. He later moved to Cordova, Alaska, where he operated the Windsor Hotel. In late 1912, Breedman purchased the Fagerberg brothers' roadhouse in McCarthy. In late 1913 he opened a store in Bonanza City, as well as a roadhouse on the lower Chitistone River's Peavine Bar. Breedman also owned the Hotel Chitina, and was president of the Richardson Highway Transportation Company in the late 1920s.

**Bregonze, Louis C.** Bregonze was a partner in a Chitina business called Bregonze and Rossi in 1911-1912. The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Bregonze as owner of a Chitina restaurant.

**Bremner, John.** Bremner was the first American known to have prospected in the Copper Basin, spending the winter of 1884-85 at Taral, near the mouth of the Chitina. Joining Lt. Henry Allen's U. S. Army exploring expedition near the mouth of the Chitina River in early 1885, he remained with the group as far as the Yukon River. Two years later, he was murdered by an Indian while prospecting on the upper Koyukuk River. Allen named the Bremner River, a major eastern tributary of the Copper River, for Bremner, and prospectors later named the John River, a major tributary of the Koyukuk River for him as well.

**Brennan, James.** Brennan worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Brennan, Michael.** A Connecticut resident, Brennan was a member of the so-called Moylan party, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Brennen, Will H.** Born in Wisconsin in 1853, Brennen reportedly made a new strike on Sheep Creek, a tributary of Young Creek, in July 1903. However, Brennen's hand-drawn map suggests that his discovery was actually near the head of the drainage now known as Calamity Gulch, and the name Sheep Creek was later moved to a smaller drainage located just to the east. When contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, he was living in Valdez. This may be the same William Brennen who was reported to be living in Alaska's Northern District in 1900.

**Brennon, Mike.** Brennon came to Alaska to work for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway in 1914. When contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930 he was living at Tiekel (MP 101).

**Brenwick, Leonard.** The son of Pete Brenwick, Leonard was born in McCarthy in 1914 and later married Lucille (Lucy) Craig. Brenwick, who worked most of his life for the Alaska Road Commission, constructed the May Creek airstrip in about 1948. Brenwick-Craig Road in Copper Center is named for this family.

**Brenwick, Lucille “Lucy” Craig.** See Lucille Craig.

**Brenwick, Pete.** Brenwick, who lived in McCarthy and participated in the Chisana goldrush, made much of his winter income during the 1920s supplying cord wood to Kennecott. In 1925 he freighted the outfit needed to complete a mineral assessment of William Sulzer’s White River mining claims. He was still living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Briggen, Edward “Shorty”.** Partnered with a miner named Hocker, Briggen worked in the Chisana district for much of the late teens and early 1920s. He mined the lower end of Bonanza No. 7 in 1915, Big Eldorado No. 2 below in 1917, and an unidentified claim on Big Eldorado in 1923.

**Briggs, W. M.** From 1907-1910 Briggs lived in Kotsina, where he was employed as the treasurer of the Great Northern Development Company.

**Brillion, Louis.** Brillion, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Brimmer, Albert B.** Born in Illinois in 1878, Brimmer was living in Cordova when contracted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He prospected out of Chitina in 1911 and was reportedly operating a cable ferry across the Nizina River about 1.5 miles below the mouth of May Creek the following year.

**Bronniche, Fred.** Born in Washington, D.C., in October 1905, Bronniche and his wife, Inez, moved to Alaska in early 1936, settling in Slana. Over the next 55 years, Bronniche worked as a prospector, freighter, trapper, and foreman with the Alaska Road Commission. He died of cancer in April 1991.

**Brook, William.** Brook was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Brooks, Alfred Hulse.** Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in July 1871, Brooks completed a B.S. in geology at Harvard University in 1893, and the following year joined the corps of U.S. geologists working under Charles Willard Hayes. He completed his first Alaska field work in 1898, when he and geologist William J. Peters examined the northern edge of the Wrangell-St. Elias region, traveling from Pyramid Harbor (near Haines, Alaska) to the Yukon River at Eagle. After reaching the White River close to the international boundary, they crossed the Chisana Basin to the head of the Nabesna River, which they then followed out of the region (see Brooks, “A Reconnaissance from Pyramid Harbor to Eagle City, Alaska,” in USGS, *Twenty-first Annual Report, Part II*). The U.S.G.S. placed Brooks in charge of its Alaskan Group in 1902, where he remained until his death in 1924.

**Brooks, Everett W.** Brooks mined on Rex Creek from 1909 until at least 1913. In 1912 he managed the Rex-Alaska Mining Company, which employed twenty men on his Edison group, which included Rex Nos. 13-17. In 1915 Brooks was reportedly building an



automatic dam in Lucky Gulch, adjacent to White Creek No. 10. He remained in the district in 1916, 1917, and 1918, working L. H. Carvey's claim on Jolly Gulch, a tributary of White Creek.

**Brosnan, B.** Brosnan operated a laundry in Nizina in 1907.

**Brost, Joseph.** A former shoe salesman from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Brost and partner Fred Russell rushed to Alaska in January 1898, entering the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier later that spring and reaching the mouth of the Klutina on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Interestingly, he makes no mention of there being any community situated at the current site of Copper Center. Brost examined the Chistochina River before continuing to the Fortymile district, where he staked a claim on Wade Creek. He eventually settled on the Fortymile River at Long Bar. He died in Fairbanks in February 1941 and is buried there.

**Brown, --.** Brown, Kaufman, and seven men mined upper Chititu No. 8 in 1904. In 1915 Brown and Miller worked a claim on Sunday Gulch, a tributary of Chititu Creek.

**Brown, Archie L.** Born in New York in 1883, Brown was living in Copper Center in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator. In 1913 he homesteaded property north of the Tazlina River at the foot of Simpson's Hill, where he and G. E. Simpson established a roadhouse and a farm.

**Brown, C. J.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Brown as a Chisana roadhouse operator.

**Brown, Charles.** Brown managed the Gakona Roadhouse and served as the local postmaster in 1909-1910.

**Brown, Clyde.** Brown prospected in the Bremner district in 1931 and 1932, first with Dieterlie and later with Bob Clark.

**Brown, G. A. "Kid".** Brown rushed to the Klondike in 1897 then moved to the Copper Basin in 1899 via Valdez. He was associated with Nizina district mining in 1903. Brown left Alaska in 1911 and settled in Miles City, Montana, where he was still living when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Brown, George.** Born in Ireland in 1857 (some sources say 1861), Brown reached Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In March 1899 he located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district. He was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900 and still there when contacted again in 1910.

**Brown, Jesse.** Brown was a partner in a Chitina restaurant called Hirst and Brown in 1911-1912.

**Brown, Jimmy.** According to some accounts, Brown's real name was Michael Hokeland or Oakland, but he changed it after reaching Alaska. Born about 1880, Brown worked throughout the Wrangell Mountain region as a prospector, guide, freighter, and trapper. Over the course of the teens and 1920s, he was employed as a hunting guide by both J. P. "Cap" Hubrick and Andy Taylor, and also sometimes worked for the Alaska Road Commission. He died at his cabin on the Nabesna Bar about 1940. Jimmy Brown Lake, located about 8.5 miles north of Camp Creek, was named in his honor.

**Brown, Jos L.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Brown as owner of a Chitina cigar store. Candy Waugaman has a photo which shows the interior of this store with Laura Brown working the counter.

**Brown, W. E.** Brown worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway as a Chitina telegraph operator from 1911 through at least 1916.

**Brown, W. J.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Brown as a Chitina blacksmith working for the Northern Commercial Stage Company.

**Bruce, --.** Bruce was a member of the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Bruno, Bill.** Bruno was employed by the Yellow Band Mining Company as a tram operator in 1941.

**Bryant, J. L.** From 1907-1910 Bryant was living in Kotsina, where he was employed as timekeeper for the Great Northern Development Company.

**Bryson, --.** An early arrival in the Chisana district, Bryson worked Bonanza No. 7 in 1914.

**Buck, John E.** (some sources say John A.) Born in New York in 1873, Buck rushed to Alaska in 1898 and entered the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He mined in the Nizina district in 1909-1912, apparently wintering in Valdez, where he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Buckley, James H.** Buckley was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. He drowned near the mouth of the Gakona River that July while trying to line his boat up the Copper River. Later that summer his body washed up in Copper Center, where he was buried.

**Buckman, A. E.** Buckman, B. F. Millard, James McCarthy, and E. A. Gates staked the Siwash Jack claim, part of the so-called Nikolai Lode, in July 1899.

**Buell, Frank.** A resident of Chitina, Buell was a member of Dora Keen's unsuccessful Mt. Blackburn expedition in 1911.

**Buggs, Edward.** Buggs worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Bull, George.** Born in Canada in 1875, Bull was living in Nome when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900. He then moved to Valdez where he lived for awhile before opening Bull's Roadhouse (and fox farm), situated at mile 24.1 of the Chitina (later Edgerton) Cutoff, in 1910. Bull sold his business to Tom Jennings in the early 1920s and returned to the Seward Peninsula.

**Bunch, --.** Bunch and two partners worked White Creek's Kiser bench in 1915.

**Bundy, --.** Bundy and his partner Porter built the first roadhouse north of the Tazlina River in 1902. He operated the facility until 1903, when he drowned ferrying customers across the river. This may be the same S. C. Bundy who was reported to be living in Alaska's Southern District in 1900.

**Bunnell, Charles Ernest.** Born near Dimock, Pennsylvania, in January 1878, Bunnell came to Alaska to teach for the U.S. Bureau of Education, later serving as the principal of Valdez's public school. Passing the Territorial Bar in 1908, he was a successful lawyer when he helped organize the Golconda Mining Company in 1911. During this same period he also owned a half-interest in the Copper River Lumber Company and the Valdez Sheet Metal Works. He later served as the Democratic candidate for delegate to Congress, a U.S. District Judge in Fairbanks, and the president of the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines (now the University of Alaska). He died in Burlingame, California, in November 1956.

**Buntin, W. D.** Buntin was superintendent of the Great Northern Development Company and also served as postmaster of Kotsina from 1907-1910.

**Burke, P. D.** Burke, the Copper River scout, occupied a Long Lake homestead in 1910 and was still there in 1911.

**Burkhart, Charles.** Burkhardt was a cook at Chitina's Chase and Burkhardt in 1911-1912.

**Burkhart, Henry B.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Burkhardt as a Chitina restaurant operator.

**Bush, Charles W.** Born in Germany in 1880, Bush was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He stampeded to the Chisana district in August 1913 and worked the claim at the confluence of Gold Run Creek and Discovery Pup that fall.

**Butler, --.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Butler and Van Iderstein worked Summit No. 2 above in 1902.

**Butler, James.** Butler was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Butler, Lee L.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Butler as a Copper River and Northwestern Railway conductor based in Chitina.

**Butts, Charles.** Butts, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, withdrew from the party after reaching the upper Klutina River and prospected instead with William Williams and Emanuel Moyes.

**Byorum, H. E.** Byorum rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier. Unlike most stampederers, he continued north, reaching the Fortymile district 18 months later. He left Alaska in 1901 and was living in Minot, North Dakota, when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Byron, George.** Byron worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Byram, George M.** An employee of Fletcher Hamshaw, Byram was camped with Hamshaw on North Fork Island in 1913 when the Chisana discovery was made, and rushed to the district with his boss. Several early claims, including Wilson Creek No. 2 Above Discovery, were staked in his name. The relationship of this George M. Byram with the Copper Center rancher George M. Byrum is unknown.

**Byram, Roy.** Born in Humboldt, Nevada, in May 1882, Byram and partner Val Lassen rushed to the Chisana district in August 1913. He later worked for Kennecott at the Jumbo Mine. Byram died in July 1951.

**Byrum, George M.** Byrum is identified as a Copper Center rancher by the 1907-1910 *Polk's* directories. The relationship of this George M. Byrum with the Chisana prospector George M. Byram is unknown.

## C

**Cairnes, DeLorme D.** Canadian Geological Survey geologists DeLorme D. Cairnes and F. J. Barlow visited the White River country in 1913. Attracted by accounts of a gold discovery, the pair ascended Beaver Creek, crossed the international border, and briefly examined the Chisana placer district.

**Callagan, Jerry.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Callagan as a Chitina barber.

**Calligan, George M.** Calligan prospected in the Kotsina Basin from 1907-1910.

**Cameron, Alex W.** Born in Canada in 1845, Cameron placer mined near Yakutat from 1900-1903.

**Cameron, William P.** Born in Valdez, Cameron, the son of William R. Cameron, was the timekeeper at the Nabesna Mine during the 1930s and also served as the postmaster in Nabesna from when the office was re-established on December 22, 1933, until April 23, 1940. He later worked for the Alaska Road Commission.

**Cameron, William R.** Born in Canada in 1873, Cameron was living in the Copper Basin when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He was employed as the Orr Stage Company's Chitina foreman in 1911-1912 and later worked for the Alaska Road Commission.

**Campbell, Loren.** Campbell was working as a Chitina stableman for the Orr Stage Company in 1911-1912. The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Campbell as a stableman for the Northern Commercial Stage Company.

**Campbell, Pete.** Born in Canada in 1863, Campbell rushed to Alaska in 1898 and was one of the first gold miners in the Nizina district. He and partners Speck, Merchant, Herron, and Range worked Dan Creek No. 2 in 1903. In 1904 he and three partners formed the Skookum Development Company to work Rex Creek No. 4. He was living in Fairbanks when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Canning, Jack.** Canning prospected in the Kotsina Basin from 1910 until at least 1913, when he and partner Benito Centino discovered a small gold lode on Benito Creek.

**Capps, Stephen Reid.** Born in Jacksonville, Illinois, in October 1881, Capps completed his Ph.D at the University of Chicago in 1907, and immediately joined the U.S.G.S. His first Alaska assignment came in 1909, when he helped Fred H. Moffit survey the Nizina district (see Moffit and Capps, U.S.G.S. Bull 448, *Geology and Mineral Resources of the Nizina District, Alaska*), and he returned to the region in 1914 when he led a survey of the Chisana-White River country (see Capps, U.S.G.S. Bull 630, *Chisana-White River District, Alaska*). He was still working for the U.S.G.S. when he died in January 1949.

**Cantwell, George C.** A well known Valdez photographer, Cantwell did much of his work in the Copper Valley. He left Alaska in 1920 and was living in Palms, California, when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Carden, Enoch W.** Born in Minnesota in 1862, Carden was living on Kayak Island when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He mined an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek in the Chisana district in 1918.

**Carlson, Adrian.** Carlson worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as a trackwalker.

**Carlson, John E.** Born in Sweden in 1886, Carlson discovered gold on Lucky Gulch in the Valdez Creek district in 1904. In 1919 he and friend Jack West constructed a roadhouse at Cantwell. This was an excellent location for supplying Valdez Creek, and the roadhouse became quite profitable. By 1927 Carlson had acquired most of the McKinley Gold Placer Company claims and eventually all of its buildings and equipment. He died in Seattle in 1949.

**Carlstrom, Gus.** Carlstrom mined Chititu Creek No. 7 bench in 1915.

**Carney, J.** Carney worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Carpenter, S. D.** Carpenter was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Carroll, Frank H.** Born in New Jersey in 1876, Carroll, a resident of Copper Center from 1907 until at least 1910, was reported to be a miner. He was employed as a shift boss by the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Carroll, John "Jack".** Born in Pennsylvania in 1872, Carroll stamped to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via Valdez. Carroll began prospecting in the Chisana district in about 1918. Listed as a placer miner on the 1920 census, Carroll partnered with Pete Eikland to work Bonanza No. 4 in 1921. In 1923 and 1926 he mined Gold Run Creek. Carroll was badly injured while working for Billy James on Bonanza Creek in 1929, resulting in the area's first aerial medical evacuation. Following his recovery, he worked Little Eldorado No. 1 in 1931 and remained in the area until at least the winter of 1934-1935, which he spent in Chisana City.

**Carstens, Thomas.** In 1903 Carstens was living in Nizina, where he served as the president of the Nizina Trading Company.

**Carvey, Lewis H. "Bert".** Born in Pennsylvania in 1880, Carvey stamped to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via the Valdez Glacier and spending the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center. In March 1899 Carvey located and recorded his first claim in the upper Tonsina district. Later that summer, Horace Conger reported him prospecting near Mt. Drum. Carvey worked various claims on Chititu and Rex Creeks, including Rex No. 3 bench with Arthur McNeer in 1903, remaining in that vicinity until at least 1905. He later managed John E. Andrus's Chititu placer property during the teens and early 1920s, and served as the postmaster of Nizina from May 19, 1920, until August 20, 1923.

**Cashman, Edward P. "Pete".** Born in Lynn, Massachusetts, in August 1873, Cashman rushed to Alaska in 1898, and had reached the Copper Basin by 1899, when he served as assistant quartermaster for Capt. William Abercrombie's Copper River Exploring Expedition. Despite that experience, Cashman nearly drowned while fording the Kuskulana River with Ike Banta in 1902. Nevertheless, by 1905 he was considered one of the Nizina district's leading freighters. He and his wife, the former Lillian Savoy, apparently remained in the area, for they were living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. In 1920 Cashman was reportedly working for the Valdez Light, Power, and Telephone Company.

**Catching, Virgil.** In 1917 Catching and his son Lee operated in the Chisana district, mining Gold Run Nos. 2 and 3. In 1918 he crossed the Wrangell Mountains with Percy Thornton, Jack Meloy, and Claude James to report to the McCarthy Draft Board.

**Cayonette, Camille.** Both in Canada in April 1871, Camille Cayonette (sometimes spelled Caynotte or Cayouette) was listed as Nizina district miner on the 1910 census.

**Cayonette, Clifford.** Born in 1867, Cayouette was living in Valdez in 1907, when the *Polk's* directory recorded him as a miner. He worked in the Nizina district from about 1910, when he was counted by the census, until at least the end of 1925. He seems to have operated the Fairbanks Association claims.

**Centino, Benito.** Born in Spain in 1889, Centino (sometimes spelled Contino) probably entered Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him living in the vicinity of Valdez. Centino and Jack Canning discovered a small gold lode on Benito Creek, a tributary of the Kotsina River, in 1913, and were reportedly still working there in 1919.

**Chaffee, Joseph Henry.** Born in Dorsetshire, England, in 1862, Chaffee immigrated to America in 1886 and rushed to the Klondike in 1897. While there, he entered the restaurant business, an occupation he also followed later in Valdez. Although not mentioned in his official biography, Chaffee apparently operated a restaurant in the community of Nizina from 1909 to 1912.

**Chaitil'tush, Chief.** Upper Ahtna Chief *Chaitil'tush* actively aided A. I. Klimovsky's 1840 Copper River expedition. As a result, Russian America Governor Etolin awarded him a silver *Soyuznye Rossii* (Allied to Russia) medal in 1842. The exact site of *Chaitil'tush's* village is unknown.

**Chalk, Fred.** Chalk and a small group of local Natives established a small community along the Platinum Creek branch of the Nabesna trail during the 1920s. Chalk committed suicide in the 1930s, after which the community disbanded. Some of its residents probably moved to Lost Creek Village, which was established about 1934. Chalk Creek, a tributary of Platinum Creek, was apparently named in his honor.

**Chamberlain, Henry.** Chamberlain was working as a Chitina liveryman from 1911 until at least 1916. An historic photo belonging to Candy Waugaman shows his feed stable.

**Charboreau, Henry.** Charboreau mined in the Nizina district from 1909 to 1912.

**Charley, Frank.** The son of Indian River Chief Nikolai, Charley was an important leader at Chistochina in the 1930s.

**Charley, Gakona (Tl'adets).** Charley, an upper Ahtna and the uncle of Fred John, seems to have discovered gold on an upper tributary of the Chistochina River in the mid-1890s, and later guided several prospectors, including I. N. West and George Hazelet, to the site.

**Charley, Toby.** According to N. P. Nelson, it was the Upper Tanana Native Toby Charley, and not the usually credited Shushanna Joe, who provided the information which led to the Chisana discovery.

**Charley, Tonsina (Taltsiine).** The son of Chief Liebigstad, Charley moved to Tonsina in the early twentieth century to trade and work at the local roadhouse. Many of his descendents still live in Kenny Lake and Copper Center.

**Chase, Benjamin.** In 1909 Chase and Billy Tibbs opened the Tibbs Roadhouse, located near mile 129 of the CR&NW Railway. In 1911-1912 Chase was a partner in a Chitina business called Chase and Burkhart.

**Chase, Melvin N.** Chase operated a store in the Overland Hotel building during the 1920s, and after that building burned, managed O. A. Nelson's Chitina Cash Store in the 1940s. A director of the Nabesna Mining Corporation, he also invested heavily in the Yellow Band Mining Company, serving as a director and vice-president.

**Chesterman, Henry.** Chesterman, a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, but abandoned his effort before reaching the Copper Basin that spring.

**Chisholm, Jim.** One of the earliest miners in the Chisana district, Chisholm worked Little Eldorado No. 3 in 1914. This is probably James P. Chisholm, who was living in Fairbanks in 1910.

**Christensen, S.** Christensen first came north during the Klondike stampede. Settling in Dawson, he mined and operated various businesses for about ten years. He then moved to Alaska, where he first worked for the Hegg Brothers in business at Tiekkel, and then purchased Cordova's old Burke Hotel, which he renamed the Windsor. It became the region's finest.

**Church, L.** Church, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner.

**Claire, Dan.** A Whitehorse resident, Claire was prospecting near the head of the White River with H. E. Morgan and Dan Ryan when the Chisana discovery was made. He was, therefore, one of the first to reach the district, and was at one time reported to have secured Bonanza No. 5.

**Clark, Bill.** According to Olav Holtet, Clark was the first homesteader at Strelna and operated the only farm there. His holding was eventually acquired by Jack Koltz. He also apparently occupied Richard Gelineau's cabin at CR&NW Railway Mile 133.5 after Gelineau's death. *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Clark as a Tonsina cook, but in the 1930s he worked summers for the Alaska Road Commission and spent his winters trapping.

**Clark, C. H.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory records Clark as an Upper Tonsina cook.

**Clark, James E.** Born in Missouri in 1881, Clark was living in Valdez in 1910 when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator. Although the sources are unclear, this may be the same Clark operated the Pleasant Valley Roadhouse on the Rohn Glacier between McCarthy and Chisana in 1913. Clark installed the equipment at Asa Baldwin's Lucky Girl mill in 1935.

**Clark, Robert M.** One of the first stampeders into the Chisana district, Clark sluiced the lower end of Bonanza No. 10 in 1915. This may be the same Clark who worked several claims on Monahan Creek in 1931 and reportedly spent the summer of 1932 sinking a shaft on an old channel of Golconda Creek. He was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Clarkin, J. F.** During the teens, Clarkin operated a popular roadhouse on the south side of the Nizina River about a half mile below the ford.

**Clarkson, J. C.** Clarkson, Smith, Monahan, and Johnson are credited with making the first gold discovery on Valdez Creek in August 1903. Clarkson remained there until at least 1909.

**Clary, Al.** Clary worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Claus, Tom.** Claus [sometimes spelled Clas] stamped to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected on the Kotsina River, establishing a camp near Sheep Creek.

**Cleary, Benjamin.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Cleary as a Chitina teamster working for the Northern Commercial Stage Company.

**Clemens, Samuel.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Clemens as a driver at the Tiekell Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 51).

**Clevenger, Henry R.** Clevenger, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory also recorded him as a resident of Valdez.

**Cloninger, T. H.** Cloninger was president of the McCarthy Commercial Club in 1918.

**Cloninger, Thomas W.** Cloninger was running a Chitina saloon in 1911-1912. The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies him as manager of both the Hotel Chitina and the Chitina-Tonsina Telephone Company.

**Cockerill, Henry.** Cockerill participated in the short-lived Tsaina River gold rush in 1903. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory recorded him as living in Valdez, where he was employed as a dentist.

**Cockerille, Doc.** Cockerille, a medical doctor from Washington, D.C., stamped to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He and partner Bob Cole were two of the first to prospect the Chetaslina and Cheshnina Rivers.

**Cockran, Berta** (see Berta Wheatley). When the Nome rush began in 1900, Mrs. Berta Marr, her brother, and Doctor Edmund M. Rininger brought a portable hospital to the community in order to provide medical care. After a few successful years, they sold the hospital and she married Judge Cochran, who later died in Nevada. She then traveled to Chisana, where she opened another hospital in 1913. While there, she married O. J. Wheatley in a service performed by A. J. "Tony" Dimond. She and Wheatley eventually retired to Langley, British Columbia, where they were still living in 1955 after 42 years of marriage.

**Coggin, F. G.** Coggin was the original patentee of a claim on McCarthy Creek.



**Cole, C. F. M.** Cole, the original patentee of a Chititu claim called Cole's Bench, was a leading booster of McCarthy, where he published the *Weekly News* from November 1917 until April 1927.

**Cole, Charles.** Cole was managing Yost's Roadhouse in October 1913.

**Cole, Mary M.** Cole—the wife of C. F. M. Cole—was named postmaster of Nizina on August 17, 1917, but she declined the appointment. She later served as postmaster of McCarthy from March 2, 1918 until April 1, 1923.

**Cole, Robert.** Cole stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Cheshnina River, where he and Pat Varley contracted scurvy, but were successful evacuated to the coast.

**Collins, Charley.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Collins seems to have spent the winter of 1898-99 somewhere on the Copper or Tazlina Rivers north of Copper Center.

**Conaguánta.** According to Lt. Henry Allen, *Conaguánta* was an important Lower Ahtna leader who lived on the east bank of the Copper River, six or eight miles below the mouth of the Klutina River in 1885. This is probably the village called *Nic'akuni'aaden*, sometimes called Stephen's Village due to its association with Chief Stickwan.

**Condon, R. Ed.** Condon was working in Chitina as a bartender at Thomas Cloninger's saloon from 1911 until at least 1916.

**Cone, S. J.** Cone was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, but withdrew from the party while still ascending the Valdez Glacier and returned to the States.

**Conger, Horace S.** Born in Franklyn County, New York, in 1863, Conger was employed as a pharmacist in Minnesota before selling his business to join the Klondike rush. He crossed the Valdez Glacier in April 1898, reaching Copper Center in early June. He remained in that vicinity until December, when he began hauling his supplies by sled up the frozen Copper River. Following a hellish winter in the Nabesna country, Conger crossed the Tanana Valley, reaching Eagle City in August 1899. He then traveled down the Yukon River to St. Michael and home.

**Conway, John S.** Born in Michigan in 1868, Conway was reportedly mining in the Kuskulana district in 1910.

**Cooke, Charles W.** The 1911-12 *Polk's* directory lists Cooke as a partner in a Chitina business called Cooke and West, probably a restaurant.

**Coombs, Sidney C.** Coombs mined on Valdez Creek until 1909, when he left Alaska. He was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Cooney, J.** Cooney was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Cooper, --.** Cooper and Powell leased the upper end of J. S. Taylor's Rex Creek claim in 1915. That year Cooper was also reported as owning the bench claims on the right limit of White Nos. 5, 6, and 7.

**Cooper, E. J. A. W.** Gumaer, a civilian employed to guide part of Capt. William Abercrombie's Copper River Exploring Expedition, reported meeting Cooper at Twelve-Mile Camp (situated near the base of the Klutina Glacier) in May 1898. Cooper constructed an elaborate cache on the bank of the Klutina River at Copper Center later that summer, but apparently headed north in early 1899. Horace Conger reported that Cooper and his eight-horse pack team visited his camp on Jacksina Creek on July 1, 1899, heading for the White River. He obviously made it, as Alfred H. Brooks saw him at Kletson Creek later that summer, making Cooper and partner H. A. Hammond the first to take horses through Cooper Pass, which Brooks subsequently named in his honor. His later activities are unknown.

**Corcoran, John.** Corcoran was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Cordes, Peter.** Cordes was operating a Chitina secondhand business in 1911-1912.

**Corser, Caleb.** Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Corser came to Alaska in 1907 to work as the resident engineer for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, where he was first tasked with completing the section around Abercrombie Rapids. The following year he moved to Cordova, where he worked as an engineer and chief draftsman. When construction ended, Corser was appointed maintenance engineer and in 1913 was promoted to superintendent of the road.

**Coryell, Bud.** Coryell rushed from Whitehorse to Chisana in 1913, securing a claim on Seleigh Creek, an unidentified tributary of Chathenda Creek.

**Costello, John V. "Jack".** Born in Wyoming in 1873, Costello was living in Cordova when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He rushed to the Chisana district in July 1913. More successful than most, he secured a fraction of Bonanza No. 8, two bench claims on Gold Run Creek, two bench claims on Canyon Creek, one claim on Skookum Creek, two claims on Lucky Pup, and one bench claim on Bonanza No. 2. He prospected Lucky Pup in 1915.

**Cotter, Mike.** Cotter lived near Gakona in the late 1920s.

**Cowell, Charles.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Cowell as a Copper Center freighter. In 1910 Cowell was reportedly managing Copper Center's Copper Center Club, the local purveyor of "fine wines, liquors, and cigars."

**Craig,--.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Craig and partner W. H. Hawes worked Golconda No. 2 below in 1902.

**Craig, A. C.** The first husband of Emily Craig Romig, Craig rushed to the Klondike in August 1897 via the MacKenzie River and the Rat River portage, finally reaching Dawson in August 1899. Recognizing that he was too late to make his fortune in the Yukon, Craig tried Nome in February 1900, with similar results. In 1914 he even participated in the Chisana stampede, but had no more luck there than elsewhere. Craig eventually found work as the chief carpenter on the Alaska Railroad. He died in Anchorage in October 1928.

**Craig, Charles A.** Craig was living in Valdez when contacted by the census enumerator in 1900. In 1902 he and Robert Young prospected Copper Creek, a tributary of the Kotsina

River. By 1907 Craig was living in Copper Center, where the 1907-1908 Polk's directory recorded him working as a blacksmith. Craig eventually married Mary Goodlataw and was the father of Lucille Craig Brenwick.

**Craig, Joe.** Craig prospected at the head of Dan Creek in 1910.

**Craig, Lucille "Lucy".** The youngest child of Charles A. Craig and Mary Goodlataw, Joe Goodlataw's sister, Lucille Craig was born on her father's homestead across the river from Copper Center about 1910. Following her father's death, she lived with Florence Barnes, who treated her like an adopted daughter and arranged her education. Craig spent her summers in Copper Center and her winters in Salem, Oregon, attending the Indian School. After graduating, she married Alton Smithart, but that marriage eventually ended in divorce. She later married Leonard Brenwick. Lucille died in 2002 and is buried in Copper Center.

**Crary, Charles N.** (some sources say Charles H.) Born in Belviden, Illinois, in 1876 (or 1874), Crary stamped to Alaska in 1898, where he and his younger brother William located the California Placer Claim on Slate Creek in the Chistochina district. In 1903, Crary and Guy Banta worked a lay on Chititu Creek No. 3, but relinquished it when it failed to pay. In 1911-1912 Crary worked in the Kotsina Basin as assayer for the Great Northern Development Company.

**Crary, William H.** (some sources say William F.) Born in Illinois in 1875, Crary and his older brother Charles stamped to Alaska in 1898 and located a claim in the Chistochina district. He left Alaska in 1913, settling in Echo, Oregon, where he ran a newspaper. He was still there when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Crawford, Archibald K. "Scotty".** Born in Scotland in 1863, Crawford stamped to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via Valdez. Partnered with Adolph Ammann, he was one of the first to examine the streams in Kotsina district, staking property on Copper Creek and along the Kluvesna River. From 1907 until 1912, Crawford managed the Kotsina Copper Company. Great Northern Development Company records note that Crawford was renting them horses in 1907. Scotty Peak, situated just north of the Kluvesna River and overlooking his grave, was named in his honor.

**Cray, --.** Cray was reportedly mining on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Creighton, Col. H. R.** A California resident, Creighton organized and led the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Crichton, Abe.** Crichton was employed in Chitina as a stage driver for the Orr Stage Company in 1911-1912.

**Crisman, L. H.** Crisman prospected in the Kuskulana Basin with James McCarthy in 1902.

**Croop, --.** Horace Conger reported encountering a prospector named Croop on Jacksina Creek in June 1899.

**Cummins, F. E.** Cummins was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Cushman, Dan.** Cushman rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

## D

**D’Heirry, Paul.** D’Heirry, who was born in 1854, passed the bar exam and amassed a considerable fortune during the Seattle boom of the 1880s. He also entered politics and for a time was assistant attorney general of Washington. D’Heirry joined the stampede to Nome in 1900 and then spent several years developing claims in the Circle district. He later worked as a newspaper editor in Valdez and the U.S. commissioner in Chitina, where he died in March 1914.

**Dable, John.** Dable rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center the following December.

**Daege, H.** Daege, a member of the Thorp party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Dahl, Louis.** Dahl prospected the Little Bremner River in 1912, but was lured north by reports of the Chisana discovery. Rushing there, he prospected on middle Chathenda Creek in 1914 and 1915, and remained in the vicinity through at least 1916.

**Dahl, W. H.** Dahl worked as a mechanical engineer at Kennecott in 1911-1912.

**Dallendorfer, Joseph.** Dallendorfer, a member of the Thorpe party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Dalton, Jack.** Born in Michigan in 1852, Dalton is remembered as one of Alaska’s foremost pathfinders. After serving as a packer and cook on Frederick Schwatka’s 1886 Mount St. Elias expedition, he prospected around Yakutat Bay in the late 1880s, locating a promising coal deposit near Disenchantment Bay. Dalton next moved into the southern Yukon, where he established a successful trading post in the early-1890s and built his famous “Dalton Trail” over Chilkat Pass in order to connect it with the coast. Dalton and Henry Bratnaber visited the White River country in 1898, searching the area around Keltson Creek for copper deposits. Dalton guided the surveyors locating the route for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway in 1905. He eventually settled in Cordova, where he remained until he retired in 1916.

**Damon, Mrs. L. K.** In 1910 Damon was reportedly operating the Damon Roadhouse in McCarthy.

**Dare, Robert.** Dare mined in the Nizina district from 1902 until at least 1911.

**Date, Milton S.** *Polk’s* 1909-10 and 1911-12 directories list Date as a Tiel City [stage] driver.

**Date, Todd.** Date worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**David, Charles.** Born in Canada in 1863, David was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. David operated the Spruce Point Roadhouse near the mouth of the Chitistone River in 1913.

**David, Edward.** David was employed in Chitina as a porter at the Hotel Chitina in 1911-1912.

**Davidson, George.** Davidson, who reached Alaska in 1898 and entered the interior via the Valdez Glacier, prospected in the upper Tonsina district in 1899. An early partner of Charles Koppus, he mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Davis, Blas Joseph.** A former bridge carpenter for the Northern Pacific Railroad, Joe Davis reached the Chisana district about 1916. Partnered with J. E. McCabe and E. R. Behling, Davis worked Big Eldorado No. 3 below in 1917, and mined an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek with Don Greene in 1923. From 1929-1938, Davis operated Little Eldorado No. 2, which he leased from Carl Whitham. He also mined the adjoining claim on Skookum Creek in 1938. In 1948 Davis still controlled Little Eldorado Creek No. 2, No. 2 fraction, Snow Gulch No. 1, Skookum Creek No. 1, the Blue Fox Claim on Skookum Creek, and two claims in Caribou Pass.

**Davis, D.** *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Davis as both an Upper Tonsina mail contractor and a Nizina physician.

**Davis, Emil.** Born in Minnesota in 1877, Davis mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912. He apparently wintered in Valdez, where he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Davis, George L.** Davis and partner Johnny Nelson operated the Ernestine Roadhouse, situated at mile 62 of the Valdez Trail, in 1902 and 1903. Davis later tried his hand at mining, working a lay on upper Rex No. 2 in 1904. In 1907 he was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River. This may be the same George Davis who was reportedly born in Massachusetts in 1876 and resided in the Copper Basin in 1900.

**Davis, Jim.** In 1936 Davis was shoveling-in near the head of Rex Creek on J. S. Taylor's claims.

**Dawson, Barney.** Dawson, who trapped the upper Gulkana drainage, was widely suspected of killing rival trapper Bob Smith near the outlet of Paxson Lake in the late 1920s. He was, however, never charged with the crime, and the real killer was never identified.

**Day, John.** Day worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists him as watchman at the Miles Glacier Bridge. His final assignment was as a locomotive engineer.

**Dayaan Ggaay.** *Dayaan Ggaay* was *denae* at Batzulnetas until his death circa 1849. According to oral tradition, he led the famous Ahtna attack against the Southern Tutchone near Kluane Lake about 1840.

**Debord, C.** Debord and partner J. Griffith Stevens built the Copper River Trading Post near the mouth of the Tonsina River in 1902, but sold the facility to Jake Nafsted in 1906.

**Decker, Francis Drake.** Born in Auburn, California, in 1865, Decker joined the Klondike stampede in 1897 and subsequently prospected throughout Alaska, including Fairbanks, Chandalar, and the Koyukuk. In 1913, he and partner Ben "Red" Smith even prospected the Nelchina country. He was living in Anchorage in 1919.

**Decker, Levi A.** Born in Pennsylvania in September 1859, Decker rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In March 1899 he located his first claim in the upper Tonsina district. Decker worked for the Fish Brothers in 1902 and was one of the first

mail carriers on the Valdez-Eagle Trail. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory recorded him as a resident of Valdez. He was also one of the first miners to recognize the Hanagita-Bremner district's lode potential, locating an eighteen-foot-wide, gold-bearing, quartz lode on the Little Bremner River in 1910. Decker and partner Charlie Mayman also gained control of eighteen placer claims on Golconda Creek, optioning them to the Golconda Mining Company in 1911.

**Deffinbaugh, --.** In 1915 Deffinbaugh, partnered with George Woodman, prospected Skookum No. 2 in the Chisana district.

**Delehant, William.** Delehant was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**DeLeo, R. J.** DeLeo worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as assistant superintendent.

**Dempsey, Melvin** (some accounts call him Mike). Dempsey was one of the first to prospect the Chisna River, discovering rich placer diggings there in 1899. *Polk's* directory lists him as the Chisna postmaster in 1907-1908. His cabin on the Chistochina River below Slate Creek Pass was still present when visited by Samme Gallaher in 1927.

**Denehay, L. P.** Denehay was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Dennison, Milo F.** Born in Michigan in 1872, Dennison came to Alaska during the gold stampede of 1898. He spent the summer of 1904 working a lay on Chititu No. 6 with Norman Merchant, and was still living in Valdez in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Des Champs, Joseph D.** Born in Minnesota in 1870, Des Champs mined in the Kuskulana district during the summer of 1910, and apparently wintered in Valdez, where he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Devinney, Thomas J.** Born in California in 1870, Devinney operated a boarding house in the Kuskulana district in 1910. One of his residents that year was Neil Finnesand.

**DeWitt, Angus.** Angus, the son of Lawrence, still occupies the building which once housed the Slana Roadhouse. Built in 1934, it is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**DeWitt, Lawrence.** Born about 1891, DeWitt reached Alaska in 1910. Settling in Slana about 1914, he married, Belle, the daughter of Chistochina Chief Nickolai, and raised foxes, mined, and operated a trading post and roadhouse for over 20 years. He disappeared in 1937 while walking on the frozen Copper River.

**Dewitz, Frank.** Dewitz mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Dewitz, Herman C.** Born in June 1869, Dewitz (sometimes spelled Dewitt) mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Deyo, Henry.** Born in New York in 1866, Deyo worked a claim on Slatka Creek in 1904. He was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. In the teens, he was reported to still hold lode claims throughout the region, including the ones on Slatka

Creek, groups both north and south of the Kuskulana Glacier, a group just east of the Chokosna River, and a group just north of Hidden Creek. A historic photo owned by Candy Waugaman shows Deyo's homestead, which it locates near Chitina, Alaska.

**Dickey, --.** A one-armed prospector widely admired for his strength and nerve, Dickey drowned while attempting to ford the Sanford River in July 1898.

**Dickey, George.** Dickey participated in the short-lived Tsaina River gold rush in 1903.

**Dieringer, Andrew.** *Polk's* directory recorded Dieringer as a Valdez teamster in 1907-1908. Dieringer, who later ran Studebaker automobile-equipped tours along the Richardson Highway, purchased the Upper Tonsina Roadhouse in 1927, but only operated it for about a year before losing it to a fire. Dieringer, however, obtained some recycled lumber from surplus buildings at Ft. Liscum and rebuilt, completing the present building by 1929. He operated the facility until 1933.

**Dieterlie, --.** Dieterlie and Clyde Brown prospected for lode deposits on lower Golconda Creek in 1931.

**Dillman, Jas.** Dillman, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Dillman, L. C.** Dillman served as the president of the Alaska United Copper Exploration Company from during most of the teens. He also headed one of its subsidiaries, the Alaska Westover Copper Company, which attempted to develop the Westover Prospect at the head of Boulder Creek.

**Dillon, James.** A Connecticut resident, Dillon was a member of the so-called Moylan party, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Dimond, Anthony Joseph "Tony".** Born in Palatine Bridge, New York, in November 1881, Dimond prospected and mined on Calamity Gulch in the Nizina district from 1904-1912. After an injury to his leg, he took up the law, practicing in Valdez. He later served as the U.S. Commissioner for the Chisana district, mayor of Valdez, a member of the Territorial Senate, and from 1932 to 1945, as Alaska's sole delegate to the U.S. Congress. Following his retirement from Congress, Dimond was appointed to the Third District Court by President Franklin Roosevelt and retained that job until his death in May 1953.

**Ditman, Hans H.** Born in Norway in 1883, Ditman (originally Ditmansen) traveled to Nome in 1908 but soon moved to Valdez, where he was living when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He purchased Copper Center's Hotel Holman from Ringwald Blix in 1918, but he only operated it for a few years before selling the business to Florence Barnes. He later worked for the stage company at Gulkana, where he became postmaster in April 1926 and eventually married Elizabeth Griffith's adopted daughter Mary. He was still living there when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Ditman, Robert Irwin.** The son of Hans H. and Elizabeth Griffith Ditman, Robert was born in Bakersfield, California, in April 1927. After attending grade school in Chitina, he moved to Juneau where he graduated from high school. He was an executive with a trucking company from 1952-1973 in Copper Center and Valdez, and served as a representative in the state legislature from 1961-1967.

**Dittman, Paul, M.D.** Dittman, from Buffalo, New York, crossed the Valdez Glacier in 1898, and located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district the following year.

**Dolan, Tom.** Dolan rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. That October, he located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district. This may be the same Thomas Dolan who was reportedly living in Nome in 1900.

**Dolloff, Frank.** Dolloff stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Chetaslina, Cheshnina, and Kotsina Rivers.

**Donaldson, Jim.** Donaldson built the first roadhouse at Upper Tonsina in 1900. He later traded the property to Albert White for a share of the Gold Dust Saloon in Valdez.

**Donnell, G. S.** Donnell was employed as a Chitina stage driver in 1911-1912.

**Donohoe, Dennis.** Born in New York in 1861, Donohoe mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1911. During the teens, he and John E. Barrett held lode claims on Donoho Peak and just north of Hidden Creek, both near the Kennicott Glacier.

**Donohoe, J. V.** Donohoe, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Dooley, George E.** Born in Illinois in 1876, Dooley rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. That October, he located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district. He was living in Cordova in 1910 when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Dorney, John.** Born in Ireland in 1878, Dorney mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912. He was a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, Cordova Igloo No. 19.

**Dorney, William.** Dorney mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Doty, Eleanor E. "Nell".** Born Eleanor Badaeux in Minnesota in 1870, Doty rushed to Alaska in 1899 and staked claims around Valdez in 1899 and 1900. She also held mining claims on Slate Creek. She acquired the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse, situated at mile 32 of the Valdez Trail, around 1902 and was still there in 1908, when recorded by the 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory. She then bought the Wortman Roadhouse south of Thompson Pass. Doty eventually married Robert R. Robinson and moved to Fairbanks—not necessarily in that order—where she served as the Queen Regent of the Pioneer Day Parade in the 1940s. She left Fairbanks in the late 1940s and died in Portland, Oregon, in 1953.

**Dougherty, Dan.** Dougherty mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Dowd, William.** Dowd placer mined near Yakutat in 1902. This may be the same William Dowd who was living on the Koyukuk River in 1900.

**Dowling, Albert C.** Born in Dublin, Ireland in 1869, Dowling joined the rush to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In 1901 he worked for Charles Kraemer on Miller Gulch in the Chistochina district. Dowling later served as a mail carrier on the Valdez Trail as well as a deputy marshal in Valdez, where he was living when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Dowling, Jefferson.** Born in Missouri in 1888, Dowling was reported to be mining on Elliott Creek in 1910.



**Dowling, Mrs.** Dowling, who was probably Albert's wife and for whom no first name seems to have been ever recorded, was living at Amy's Landing in September 1898. Her shooting ability and inspirational conduct was reported by several stampedeers, including Horace Conger and C. H. Remington.

**Downey, John C.** Downey reached Alaska in 1899, entering the country via Valdez with Oscar Rohn's USGS party that June, and becoming one of the first to examine the Kotsina-Kuskulana district. He, Frank Hoffman and Robert E. Young all claim to have discovered the Billum copper lode on Downey Creek [name no longer in use--probably Copper Creek], a tributary of the Kotsina River.

**Downing, J. R.** Downing prospected along the Kotsina River in 1900, when he witnessed H. L. Moore's claim on Copper Creek.

**Doyle, Jim.** Doyle built the Gakona Roadhouse where the Valdez Trail crossed the Gakona River in 1902.

**Doyle, Tommy.** A bartender at Dawson City's Bonanza Saloon, Doyle joined the first wave of stampedeers into the Chisana district. Partnered with Andy Taylor, Doyle staked Bonanza No. 14 in 1913. He also held property on Glacier Creek.

**Doze, Alfred B.** Born in Colorado in 1870, Doze probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator found him living in Valdez. He prospected the Little Bremner that summer, finding In 1910 Doze found placer deposits in the Little Bremner River. The following year, he and partners Charles E. Bunnell, L. Grahman, and C. Graber formed the Golconda Mining Company, which secured options on eighteen Golconda Creek claims belonging to Levi Decker and Charlie Mayman. Although the company built a mile-long ditch and a 1,800-foot pipeline, taking water from Standard Creek and other tributaries and delivering it to their giants, they ultimately recovered very little gold. Doze, however, remained in the vicinity, farming near McCarthy during the 1920s.

**Drace, Perry W.** Born in Iowa in 1874, Drace probably reached Alaska prior to 1900, when his presence was recorded by the U.S. census enumerator. *Polk's* 1909-10 and 1911-12 directories list him as a Tiekell City driver.

**Dubois, Howard W.** Dubois was reported to be managing the Alaska Copper Corporation's Nugget Creek operation in 1916.

**Dubois, Henry K.** Included in the second wave into the Chisana district, Dubois arrived in early August 1913. Partnered with Hugh Brady, he worked Bonanza No. 9 during 1914.

**Dudley, W. L.** Dudley rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He prospected around Klutina Lake that summer.

**Duff, C. Clark.** Duff rushed to Alaska in 1898, eventually mining on Valdez Creek. When contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930, he was still living in Cantwell.

**Duncan, ---.** Duncan worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Dunkle, Wesley Earl.** Born in Pennsylvania in March 1887, Dunkle came to Alaska in 1910 shortly after he finished college. After working for Kennecott as a mining engineer at the Beatson Mine on Latouche Island, he became the Alaska Syndicate's field exploration

engineer in 1911. From 1912 to 1915 Dunkle worked as both an engineer and a geologist, allowing him to examine prospects throughout the region, including Chisana and Orange Hill in 1913. In 1915 Dunkle was appointed superintendent at Latouche. He later helped develop the Lucky Shot Mine in the Willow Creek district, and the Golden Zone property on the upper Chulitna River. Dunkle died in September 1957.

**Dunn, Harry.** Dunn, who entered interior Alaska via the Valdez Glacier in 1898, was reportedly working a tributary of Copper Creek called Schrader Gulch in 1904 with Robert Fulkerson.

**Dunn, Moses.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Dunn as a Chitina stableman working for the Northern Commercial Stage Company.

**Dunn, Robert Steed.** Born in Newport, R.I., in 1877, Dunn graduated from Harvard University in 1898 and promptly left for the Klondike. Becoming a journalist upon his return, he worked for the *Commercial Advertiser* under Lincoln Steffens. He accompanied Frederick Cook's unsuccessful Mount McKinley expedition in 1903, and in 1908 he returned to Alaska, where he completed the first ascent of Mt. Wrangell. As a war correspondent Dunn covered the Russo-Japanese War, the U.S. Navy's seizure of Veracruz, and General Pershing's expedition against Pancho Villa. During the First World War he worked for the *New York Post*, and in 1918 he was commissioned an officer in the U. S. Navy. Dunn died in 1955.

**Dunton, --.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Dunton and his partners worked Golconda No. 3 above in 1902. This may be the same Clyde C. Dunton who was living in Nome in 1900.

**Dutton, Samuel.** Born in England in 1845, Dutton was living near Nome when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900. After mining near Yakutat in 1902, Dutton apparently moved to Kayak Island, where he was reported living in 1910.

**Dwyer, Vincent Joseph.** Born in Kentucky in 1874, Dwyer probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Cordova. He later operated a popular roadhouse on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway at Strelna from 1919 until it burned in April 1925. He also served as the postmaster of Strelna from April 9, 1912, until he left Alaska in December 1925.

**Dyer, Ethel.** Dyer was living in Chitina in 1943, when her name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

## E

**Eagan, --.** Chisana miner Eagan prospected Bonanza No. 13 in 1915. He also worked Coarse Money Creek No. 1 that same summer.

**Eaton, Harry.** Eaton spent the summer of 1905 in the Nizina district.

**Eckel, Otto.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Eckel as working for WAMCATS as a telegraph operator.

**Eddemann, Edward.** Born in Finland in 1856, Eddemann came to Alaska in 1885, landing first at Juneau. He joined the small stampede to Yakutat in May 1888, hoping to extract placer

gold from the beach sands. From there he moved to the Copper Delta, where he wintered near the village of Eyak. Some accounts even suggest that he ascended the Copper River during this period, but that has never been confirmed. If true, he was certainly one of the earliest prospectors in the region.

**Eden, Harry A.** Born in Germany in 1867, Eden and partner Bill Gibbon worked lower Rex Creek No. 1 in 1904 and was reportedly still mining in the Nizina district the following summer. He was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Edwards, Evan W.** Born in Pennsylvania in 1866, Edwards mined in the Kuskulana district during the summer of 1910. He apparently wintered in Valdez, where he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator that fall.

**Edwards, James.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Edwards as a Copper Center rancher.

**Eikland, Pete.** Born in Norway in 1891, Eikland (sometimes spelled Ekland or Eiklund) immigrated to America around the turn of the century, then worked along the west coast before moving to Alaska in the late teens. After spending a few years at Kennecott, he found winter employment as a carrier on the McCarthy-Chisana mail route from 1920-1933. During the summer he mined, working with Jack Carroll on Bonanza No. 4 in 1921, and with Miles Atkinson on an unidentified Bonanza Creek claim in 1922. In 1925 the Alaska Road Commission hired Eikland and Harry Boyden to rehabilitate the shelter cabins along its Skolai Pass trail. The following year Eikland operated Bonanza No. 3. He continued mining in the Chisana district until at least 1929, before moving to Canada in the early 1930s, where he remained until his death at Beaver Creek in 1978.

**Ekemo, John.** Ekemo, who worked for the Fish Brothers, served as one of the first mail carriers over the Valdez-Eagle Trail.

***El C'alnes Ta'.*** *El C'alnes Ta*, the son of *Dayaan Ggaay*, was *denae* at Batzulnetas until his death about 1883.

**Elder, Fred.** Elder, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Elkins, William.** Elkins mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Elliott, Albert Johnston.** The brother of H. Curtis Elliott, Albert was also a principal in the Hubbard-Elliott operation, serving as secretary of the corporation. In 1915 Elliott named Alice Peak for his eldest granddaughter, four-year-old Alice Severson. He died in New York in 1926.

**Elliott, Benjamin.** Born in Canada in February 1864, Elliott mined in the Bremner district in 1910.

**Elliott, Henry Curtis.** Harry Elliott and partner Charles G. Hubbard were among the earliest to explore the Kotsina-Kuskulana district, staking their first claims on Elliott Creek in 1899. Development proceeded quickly and by 1907 their Hubbard-Elliott Copper Mines Development Company had patented extensive property in the drainage. Elliott, however, never profited from his discoveries. He and H. H. Greer were killed by an avalanche while examining copper deposits near the head of Elliott Creek in December 1909. Elliott Creek was named in his honor.

**Emery, A. B.** Brought north from the mines in Durango, Mexico, Emery managed Kennecott operations in 1911, but was soon replaced by W. H. Seagrave.

**Emmons, --.** A prospecting party led by Emmons explored the upper White River country in 1898.

**Engstrom, Carl.** Born in Sweden in 1876, Engstrom was the chief mechanic at Kennecott from 1909 until the mine closed in 1938.

**Engwall, John.** Engwall was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907. He later mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Erickson, Charlie.** Erickson worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Erickson, Fred.** Erickson, who was reported to be living in Chitina Valley in 1943, was shoveling-in on Rex Creek in 1946.

**Erickson, Julius.** Erickson was employed by the Orr Stage Company as a Chitina freighter in 1911-1912.

**Erickson, Leon B.** Erickson, who stampeded to Alaska in 1898, partnered with Charley Fogelberg to work a lay in the Chisana district in 1919 and was listed as a prospector on its the 1920 census.

**Erickson, N. A.** Erickson was named postmaster of Nizina on July 20, 1918, but, for unknown reasons, chose to decline the appointment.

**Erickson, Oscar.** Born in Norway in 1875, Erickson lived in Copper Center before moving to the Chisana district, where he worked near Dry Gulch in 1916. Reportedly killed by poisonous gas which accumulated in his shaft, he was buried in Chisana City.

**Erickson, Peter S.** Born in Germany in 1875, Erickson stampeded to Alaska in 1898. Recorded by the 1900 census as still living in the Copper Basin, he and partner George Maddron staked the first claims on Erickson Gulch, a tributary of Glacier Creek in the lower Chitistone valley, in 1906. *Polk's Alaska-Yukon Gazetteers* for 1907-1912 list a Peter Ericson [note different spelling] as a supplier of wholesale meats in the Nizina district, which suggests that he was then working as a market hunter.

**Erickson, Walter.** Erickson was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Ericson, Gus.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Ericson as a WAMCATS lineman stationed at Tonsina.

**Eskilida, Chief (sometimes spelled Eskaldita).** Chief Nicolai's youngest brother, Eskilida succeeded his brother Hanagita as head of the lower Ahtna. Eskilida divided his time between his village (Tsenghaax) on the Copper River opposite the mouth of the Chitina River and subsistence sites at Strelna (Staghael Na') and the mouth of the Tebay River (Naghael Na'). He moved his winter camp from Tebay to Strelna in 1911. According to Frank Billum, Eskilida died in the influenza epidemic of 1918.

**Eskilida, Joe.** Joe Eskilida, the son of Chief Eskilida, was born at his family's Strelna camp in 1910. He and his wife Margaret (Maggie) lived at the camp from about 1918 until the CR&NW Railway closed in 1938.

**Esterbrook, E. S.** Esterbrook mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Esterly, George Max.** Born in Wisconsin in 1868, Esterly joined the Klondike rush in 1897, where he helped install the first electric plant in Dawson City. In 1904, Esterly and twelve men mined Chititu No. 9 for the Chititu Development Company, owned by Robert Blei. Following the bankruptcy of the CDC in 1906, Esterly purchased the property and installed a sawmill, lighting plant, and machine shop. About 1907 he sold that property, but remained on the creek to manage the Nizina Mining Company. Esterly's operation during the teens was headquartered in Nizina, where he served as postmaster from May 15, 1911, until May 18, 1920. After leaving Alaska, Esterly settled in Waldo, Oregon, where he died in December 1931.

**Exun, --.** Exun was managing the Chitina Townsite Company in 1911-1912.

## F

**Fagerberg, Albert and Harry.** The Fagerberg [sometimes spelled Fagenburg or other variations] brothers ran a general store in the community of Nizina from 1909-1912. During this period they also operated an elaborate, three-story hotel/roadhouse in the community of Blackburn, which they sold to Oscar Breedman in 1912. In 1914 Harry Fagerberg was one of six men hauling commercial freight into the Chisana district. During the mid-1920s, Al Fagerberg apparently lived at Long Lake, where he earned much of his income raising vegetables for Kennecott.

**Farnham, Frank.** Farnham reportedly made a copper discovery on Dry Creek, approximately eight miles from Strelina and about a mile north of the Nugget Creek Road, in 1918.

**Farstvedt, Ole.** A local prospector since at least 1907, when he was living in Copper Center, Farstvedt partnered with Billy James to work the Chisana district's Bonanza No. 5 and 6 in 1919.

**Faulkner, Martin.** Faulkner placer mined near Yakutat in 1902.

**Fawcett, Kathryn Sloan Ingram Ashby.** See Kathryn Sloan Ingram.

**Feaster, Joseph W.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Feaster as Chitina's deputy U.S. marshal.

**Feldman, Joseph.** Born in Missouri in 1872, Feldman located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district in 1899. He was still living in Alaska's Southern District when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1900.

**Ferguson, Walter H.** Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1860, Ferguson rushed to Alaska in 1897. Once there, he found employment with the North American Trading and Transportation Company managing its construction activities at Dutch Harbor. Ferguson rushed to Nome in 1899, staking claims throughout the Seward Peninsula. In January 1900, he was appointed U.S. commissioner at Council City. When contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, he was living in Valdez and he served as the U.S. commissioner at Chitina in 1911-12.

**Ficken, Richard.** Ficken was managing the Hotel Chitina in 1911-1912.

**Fickett, Priv. Fred W.** Fickett was a member of Lt. Henry Allen's three-man party which completed a military reconnaissance of central Alaska in 1885. Leaving Nuchek (on Hinchinbrook Island in Prince William Sound), Alaska, on March 20th, Fickett ascended the Copper and Chitina Rivers before crossing the Alaska Range and descending the Tanana River. From the mouth of the Tanana, he traveled overland to the Koyukuk River, which he ascended beyond the present location of Bettles. He next descended the Koyukuk to the Yukon River, then down the Yukon to Kaltag, from where he portaged to Norton Sound. He continued down the coast, finally reaching St. Michael on August 29<sup>th</sup>. This expedition is notable for the amount of U.S. territory it explored, only exceeded by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's monumental exploration of the Louisiana Purchase in 1804-06. Allen named the Fickett River, a major northern tributary of the Koyukuk River now known as the Alatna River, for Fickett, but the original Native name eventually prevailed.

**Field, Archie.** Field worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as an electrician.

**Finch, James W.** Finch, from Grandview, Indiana, was apparently prospecting on the Klawasi River in 1899 when he served as a witness for Anna Barrett's claim on Climax Gulch.

**Findeen, Ed.** A resident of Strelna in 1918, Findeen worked for the North Midas Company.

**Finkelstein, --.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Finkelstein as partner in a Chitina clothing store called Finkelstein and Shapiro.

**Finnegan, J. J.** Born in Minnesota in 1879, Finnegan was living in Kenai in 1910 when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator, and became widely known for an anti-conservation article he published that year in *Alaska-Yukon Magazine* during the Ballinger-Pinchot Controversy. Finnegan joined the rush to Chisana, serving as the U.S. commissioner there from August-September 1914. He was later reappointed to the same position, replacing Ned Hill.

**Finnesand, Neal.** Born in Stavenger, Norway, in April 1883, Finnesand immigrated to Alaska in 1904, arriving at Valdez. Hearing of copper development along the Kotsina River, he trekked to that district in 1906. Finnesand was hired by the Great Northern Development Company in April 1907 to help string a telephone line from Upper Tonsina to Amy Creek, but he soon began prospecting on his own, eventually locating a rich vein of silver and copper on Granite Mountain. Gold fever struck Finnesand in 1913, when he joined the stampede to Chisana. His stay there, however, was brief, and after a stint working at Kennecott, he returned to the Kotsina area, where he worked his copper claims on Rock Creek until 1979. Finnesand died in January 1988 at the age of 104.

**Fish, James A.** Fish was apparently prospecting on the Klawasi River in 1899 when he served as a witness for Anna Barrett's claim on Climax Gulch. He (and his brother Oscar) later contracted to carry the Valdez mail and freight into the interior, serving in that capacity from 1900 until 1916. By 1907, his firm was known as the Valdez Transportation Co., Inc. Fish left Alaska in 1917, eventually settling in Oakland, California., where he was living when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Fish, Oscar.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Fish as the S. Blum and Company's Chitina bookkeeper.

**Fisher, Shorty.** Fisher, an early Copper Basin prospector, was reportedly wounded by an Ahtna Indian while he descending the Copper River in 1901.

**Fisk, J. D.** Fisk was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Fitch, Harry H.** Fitch, from Great Falls, Montana, reached interior Alaska via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. In 1899, he accompanied USGS geologist Oscar Rohn on an exploratory trip to the base of Mt. Blackburn. During that same period, he was also associated with the so-called McClellan group, locating and witnessing several claims in the upper Tonsina district and obtaining an interest in the Bonanza group. Fitch prospected Chititu, Rex, and Young Creeks in 1902 and partnered with Charles Koppus worked Chititu No. 10 in 1904.

**Fjeld, K. J.** In 1899 Fjeld discovered a quartz-gold lode on Jacksina Creek near the head of the Nabesna River. Unfortunately, as such a remote lode remained virtually impossible to develop, he ignored the find and continued his search for placer deposits. Fjeld returned to the region in 1903, staking both gold and copper claims. Two years later, he joined with Paul Paulson to form the Royal Gold Mining Company (RGMC) in order to develop the property. After erecting a three-stamp mill, Fjeld's company processed about sixty tons of ore from an outcrop on Cabin Creek. The RGMC, which was soon succeeded by the Royal Development Company, continued its effort for several seasons, driving two tunnels for a total of about 130 feet. About 1914, it suspended operations and allowed its claims to lapse.

**Flagstaff, Ole.** Flagstaff mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Fleming, George, Sr.** The Alaska Commercial Company appears to have dispatched Fleming to trade along the lower Copper River in 1895 and 1896.

**Flowers, George.** Reaching Mentasta Village about 1910, a starving Flowers was escorted to George Hazelet's mining camp on the Chisna River by local Indians. Flowers later worked as a track-walker on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, living at Long Lake in the 1920s and 30s. He eventually froze his feet while trapping, contracted gangrene, and died in Valdez. Because he was an African-American, he was buried in the Native cemetery and his grave was subsequently destroyed by the tsunami generated by the 1964 earthquake.

**Fogelberg, Charles.** Fogelberg operated in the Chisana district in 1916, working a claim on Bug Gulch. Partnered with Leon B. Erickson, he obtained a lay from Shorty Briggen in 1919 and was still listed as a prospector on the 1920 census.

**Fohlin, John.** Fohlin served as a dog driver for Lt. John F. Rice, a member of Capt. William R. Abercrombie's Copper River Exploring Expedition, in May 1899. Later that summer he accompanied Oscar Rohn on his exploration of the Chitina Basin, but balked at crossing the Wrangell Mountains. He apparently left Alaska soon after, as he was not recorded on the 1900 census. Fohlin Creek, a tributary of the Lakina River, was named in his honor.

**Follis, D. C.** Follis mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Foote, Charles W.** Born in California in 1880, Foote reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Forbell, Ben F.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Forbell as a Copper Center prospector.

**Ford, George.** Born in Kentucky in September 1888, Ford entered interior Alaska via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. He spent the summer of 1910 mining in the Nizina district.

**Forrester, Jesse W.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Forrester as the Copper River and Northwestern Railway's Chitina roadmaster.

**Foster, Howard D.** Born in Michigan in April 1873, Foster began mining in the Nizina district about 1910. From 1912-16 he was reported to be managing the Alaska United Copper Exploration Company's Westover operation.

**Fowler, Sam.** Fowler—whose occupation is unknown—died in January 1919 and was buried in the Strelna cemetery.

**Fox, William.** Fox worked for Florence Barnes as a sort of assistant manager of the Copper Center Roadhouse for at least 20 years between the mid-1920s and late-1940s. He was apparently buried near Barnes in Copper Center.

**Francke, William T.** Francke, born in 1909, worked as the assayer at the Nabesna Gold Mine during most of its productive period in the 1930s.

**Frase, Frank.** Born in Indiana about 1868, Frase (sometimes spelled Frazee) reached Valdez in 1898. He and partner Frank H. Hoffman worked a lay on Chititu No. 8 in 1904, and he was still living in the region when contracted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Frazer, Samuel.** Frazer was working in Chitina as a stableman for the Orr Stage Company in 1911-1912.

**French, Ben.** French trapped and prospected in the upper Gulkana, Susitna, and Maclaren drainages in the teens and 20s. He disappeared in 1928 somewhere near Dickey Lake.

**French, C. E.** French placer mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Fretzs, Paul W.** Fretzs, a major stockholder in the Yellow Band mining company, completed the company's annual assessment work from 1941 until about 1960. In keeping with his commitment to the region, his ashes were buried above Golconda Creek just below the Sheriff Cirque.

**Frick, A. B.** Frick worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Frickel, Valentine.** Frickel, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, abandoned that party at the summit of the Valdez Glacier and left Alaska.

**Friendly, Pete.** Friendly was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district.

**Fritz, Col. --.** Fritz, a civilian prospector, reportedly spent the winter of 1898-99 with his twelve horses at the mouth of the Kotsina River.

**Fujitani, John.** Fujitani and Kay Wada were operating the McCarthy Laundry when it burned in 1925.

**Fulkerson, Robert.** Born in Missouri in 1876, Fulkerson and partner Bert Stevens reportedly discovered gold on Canyon Creek—a tributary of the Chitina River—in 1902, and



prospected the upper White River with William Gibbon, Adolph Smith, and Edward Stroeker in 1903-04. The following summer, he and Harry Dunn mined Schrader Gulch, a tributary of Copper Creek. He was living near Tanana when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Furst, M. G.** Furst worked as a Nizina stenographer from 1909-1912.

**Furst, Robert J.** After mining in the Nizina district, Furst drowned while trying to raft the Chitina River in September 1909.

## G

**Gabert, George.** Gabert, a member of the Thorp party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Gage, John.** Gage owned and operated a Chitina general merchandise store in 1911-1912.

**Gain, Tom.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Gain and partners Neal O'Conner and George Hooper worked Banta No. 31 in early 1902. Later that summer, Gain was hired by Arthur McNeer to help mine claims in the Nizina district.

**Gaisford, George A.** Gaisford rushed to Dawson in 1896, the Koyukuk River in 1899, and eventually settled at Slate Creek, where he remained until 1906. He was living in Tacoma, Washington, when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Galaktionov, Konstantin.** An early Russian *baidarshchik*, Galaktionov ascended the Copper River as far as the mouth of the Tazlina River about 1799. The Ahtna, however, objected to these increasing Russian incursions and attempted to murder the explorer. Although he was seriously wounded, Galaktionov managed to escape down the Copper. He came back in 1800, but this time stopped near the mouth of the Chitina River. Returning a third time in 1803, both Galaktionov and his interpreter Alesha were killed somewhere on the Copper River, but neither the exact date nor his route is known.

**Galen, James L.** Born in Helena, Montana, in March 1871, Galen joined the stampede to the Klondike in 1898. Following that excitement, he served as the U.S. deputy marshal for Nome. In 1905-1906, Galen was among a small group of affiliated prospectors hired by Henry Bratnaber to explore the Nabesna-White River district. He must have been moderately successful, as mineral surveyor John Irving's 1907 manuscript map of the region shows a claim group identified as Galen's occupying Orange Hill. Galen was appointed the superintendent of Glacier National Park in December 1912, but resigned in August 1914 to return to Alaska, where he worked for the Kennecott Mines Company. He later became involved with Mt. McKinley National Park, where he helped develop park facilities, and in 1930 was reportedly living in Cordova. He died in Portland, Oregon, in December 1938.

**Gamblin, Sam.** Gamblin worked claims along Horsfield Creek in the 1930s, spending at least some of his winters in Chisana City. Partnered with Earl Hurst, he attempted to develop a lode claim above Chathenda Creek in 1940.

**Gardner, Stanley W.** Gardner was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Garnes, A. B.** Originally from Roslyn, Washington, Garnes rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

**Garvey, Daniel D.** Born in Wisconsin in 1869, Garvey and J. J. Haley prospected around Yakutat Bay in 1899, eventually crossing over the mountains to the Kaskuwash River, the western branch of the Alsek. Garvey was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Garwood, Charles.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Garwood as a Copper Center sawyer.

**Gaskill, James.** From 1907-1910 Gaskill lived in Kotsina, where he worked as the assistant manager of the Great Northern Development Company. In 1923 he was managing the Green Butte Mine.

**Gastaldi, Bernard.** A resident of Stamford, Connecticut, Gastaldi served as second vice-president of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Gates, Ed A.** Born in Minnesota in 1857, Gates joined the stampede to Alaska in 1898, becoming a member of the so-called McClellan group, which prospected throughout the Copper Basin. In March 1899 Gates located and witnessed several claims in the upper Tonsina district. That summer he helped barter with local Natives for the location of the Nikolai lode, which was eventually located by him, James McCarthy, Arthur McNeer, and a few others. Later, Gates shared in the ownership of the Bonanza copper lode, which he sold to Stephen Birch in 1900. The Gates Glacier, a tributary of the Kennicott Glacier, was named in his honor.

**Gates, Herbert E.** Gates, a member of McClellan's party like his brother Ed, prospected in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Gates, Lem.** One of the first stampeders into the Chisana district, Gates staked Bonanza No. 12 in 1913. The following year he partnered with Dud McKinney, working Bonanza No. 8 fraction. Dying on August 30, 1914, Gates was buried in Chisana City.

**Gee, Stephen A.** Born in Illinois in 1854, Gee placer mined near Yakutat from 1900-1907. He was living in Sitka when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Geiser, Clifford.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Geiser as a Chitina telegraph operator for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway.

**Geiser, Louis C.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Geiser as the Copper River and Northwestern Railway's Wells, Fargo & Company Express agent in Chitina.

**Gelineau, Richard J.** Born in Massachusetts in 1861, Gelineau (sometimes spelled Gilleau) rushed to Alaska in 1898, when he prospected along the Kotsina River and eventually located copper claims on Rock and Roaring Creeks. About 1908 Gelineau, who was still prospecting in the Kotsina, built a cabin on the south bluff overlooking the river's mouth. He and partner Ambrose Bell also owned the Horseshoe Restaurant in Valdez, five placer claims in the Chistochina district, and several copper claims on Glacier Island in Prince

William Sound. Gelineau was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Gelling, Frederick.** Gelling, who lived in Yakutat in 1902, listed his occupation as miner.

**George, Willow Creek (Udzisyu).** George moved to Tonsina in the early twentieth century to trade and work at the local roadhouse. Many of his descendents still live in Kenny Lake and Copper Center.

**Gerbing, Charles.** Gerbing, a member of the Thorp party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Gercken, Ernie.** Gercken worked for the Yellow Band Mining Company as a cook in 1941.

**Gerdine, T. G.** In 1901 Gerdine led the first party to prospect Young Creek.

**Gessner, Henry.** Gessner was a partner in a Chitina business called Gessner and Stangneth in 1911-1912. The nature of the business is unknown.

**Getchell, --.** Getchell and a prospector named Olson made the first discovery in the Nelchina district in July 1913. This could be the Josiah B. Getchell who was working in the Fairhaven district when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Ggaan' Ggets Ta'.** *Ggaan' Ggets Ta'* was *denae* of Suslota Village when Lt. Henry Allen visited in 1885.

**Gibbon, William H.** Born in Canada in 1870, Gibbon prospected the upper White River with Robert Fulkerson, Adolph Smith, and Edward Stroeker in 1903-04. The following summer, Gibbon and Harry Eden worked lower Rex Creek No. 1. Gibbon was living somewhere on Prince William Sound when contacted by the census enumerator in 1910.

**Gibson, James R.** Gibson, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Giegold, Max.** Born in New Jersey in May 1876, Giegold rushed to the Klondike in 1898 and prospected for awhile on Hunker Creek. He joined the Nome stampede in 1900 and then went to Fairbanks. He left Alaska in 1905 but returned the following year, first trying Eyak and later Katalla, where he remained until 1908. Giegold worked in Chitina from about 1910-12, but eventually moved to Juneau and finally Anchorage in 1917 to help build the Alaska Railroad. In 1920 he was living in Talkeetna.

**Gillespie, John.** Born in Canada in 1853, Gillespie managed the Chippewa Roadhouse, situated 28 miles north of Gakona where the first Valdez-Fairbanks Trail crossed the Gakona River, during the winter of 1905-1906. The following year he changed the name of the establishment to the Gillespie Roadhouse, but that business failed when the Alaska Road Commission moved the trail to parallel the Gulkana River. Gillespie later operated the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 33) from 1909-1912.

**Gillis, Angus.** Born in Canada in 1858, Gillis, Guy Banta, and Pete Monahan located the Hanagita-Bremner district's first placer deposits on Golconda Creek in the fall of 1901. In 1902 he, McLain, and Mockler worked Summit No. 1 above. Gillis eventually left the region, and was reported mining near Otter in the Iditarod district in 1910.

**Gillam, Harold.** Harold Gillam was born in 1903 in Kankakee, Illinois, and grew up in Chadron, Nebraska. After a brief hitch in the U.S. Navy, he traveled to Alaska in 1923 seeking construction work. While in Fairbanks working for the Alaska Road Commission, Gillam became interested in flying. After participating with his good friend Joe Crosson in the search for missing aviator Carl Ben Eielson, who crashed while flying a mercy mission near the Chukchi Peninsula's North Cape in 1929, Gillam began flying full time. He left Fairbanks in 1931 and established his own flying service in Cordova, from where he supplied most communities in the Wrangell Mountain region during the 1930s. Gillam contracted with Morrison-Knudsen during the Second World War to ferry freight and personnel to Alaska for ongoing construction projects, but tragically died following a crash in Southeastern Alaska in 1943.

**Gilsinger, Chet.** A trapper, Gilsinger was living on the Nabesna River near Orange Hill when visited by Robert McKennan in 1929.

**Gittoer, Fred.** Gittoer was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Glaser, Matt.** Glaser was employed by the Nabesna Mine during the summer of 1939 as its 650 level tram operator.

**Gobel, Frank.** Gobel, Dahl, Van Iderstein, and Happel prospected the Little Bremner River in 1912.

**Godfrey, James G. (or J.)** Godfrey served as the U.S. commissioner in the Nizina district from 1903 until at least 1907.

**Golden, C. H.** Golden participated in the short-lived Canyon Creek gold rush in 1902, and remained in the Nizina district until at least 1911.

**Golightley, Henry J.** Born in Illinois in 1870, Golightley (sometimes spelled Golightly) probably reached Alaska before 1910, when he was reportedly living in Tanana. He later moved to the Nizina district, selling White No. 12 to the Lubie boys in 1915.

**Gommere, O.** Gommere and Pete Peterson worked Roe and Moore's Canyon Creek molybdenum property in 1918.

**Goodchild, J.** Goodchild was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Goodell, H.** Horace Conger encountered the Goodell party on the upper Copper River near the mouth of the Sanford River in September 1898. Goodell was planning to cross into the Tanana drainage before winter.

**Goodlataw, Cap.** The son of Chief Goodlataw and the brother of Joe, Goodlataw worked for Kennecott in the late 1920s operating a jack hammer. Reported missing in May 1932, his bullet-riddled body was eventually found buried in Robert L. Reed's Chitina garden. Reed was charged with his murder and tried in Valdez, but was inexplicably acquitted.

**Goodlataw, Chief.** Born about 1875, Goodlataw was Chief Nicolai's maternal nephew. He became the primary leader of the lower Ahtna following the death of Nicolai's youngest brother, Chief Eskilida, in 1918. The USGS named Goodlata Peak in his honor.

**Goodlataw, Joe.** Born about 1905, Goodlataw was the son of Chief Goodlataw and the grand-nephew of Chief Nicolai. A leading Ahtna elder and ethnographic informant, he died in Tazlina about 1996.

**Goshaw, George R.** Born in Illinois in 1883, Goshaw probably reached Alaska before 1910, when he was reportedly living in Valdez. He served as Chisana City's second postmaster and also briefly managed Oscar Breedman's operations there before leaving the community in May 1917. Later, Goshaw became a fur trader and a prominent resident of Alaska's Seward Peninsula, where he was instrumental in organizing the Shishmaref Company of the Alaska Territorial Guard during the Second World War.

**Graber, Charles.** In 1911 Graber and partners Al Doze, Charles E. Bunnell, and L. Grahman formed the Golconda Mining Company, which secured options on eighteen Golconda Creek claims belonging to Levi Decker and Charlie Mayman. Although the company built a mile-long ditch and a 1,800-foot pipeline to transport water from Standard Creek, they ultimately recovered very little gold. Nevertheless, Graber returned to the district the following year, when he and Henry Alheidt mined an unidentified claim near the head of the Bremner River.

**Graham, John A.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Clemens as a Tiekell City (Valdez Trail Mile 51) mail carrier. In 1911-1912 he was employed as a driver by the Orr Stage Company in Chitina.

**Graham, E. W.** Graham worked as a carpenter in Nizina in 1911 and 1912.

**Grahman, L.** In 1911 Grahman and partners Al Doze, Charles E. Bunnell, and Charles Graber formed the Golconda Mining Company, which secured options on eighteen Golconda Creek claims belonging to Levi Decker and Charlie Mayman. Although the company built a mile-long ditch and a 1,800-foot pipeline, taking water from Standard Creek and other tributaries and delivering it to their giants, they ultimately recovered very little gold.

**Granville, Tom.** One of the first stampedeers into the Chisana district, Granville staked Bug Gulch Nos. 3 and 4 in August 1913.

**Grasser, John.** Grasser, a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Gray, D. L.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Gray as a Tonsina clerk.

**Gray, E. F.** Gray managed the Great Northern Development Company, which began developing copper properties in 1906. Most were located on the Kotsina River and Clear Creek, a tributary of the Kuskulana River. According to *Polk's Alaska-Yukon Gazetteer*, Gray remained in the Kotsina Basin until at least 1916.

**Gray, Robert D.** Born in Jefferson, Texas, around 1857, Gray moved to Juneau in 1896 and then to Skagway in 1898. After doing some mining near Atlin, British Columbia, he settled in Katalla, where he served as the U.S. commissioner from 1913-1915. He died in Texas in 1917.

**Gray, "Slim".** Gray, Jack Tansey, and Big Munson prospected along Crooked Creek, a tributary of the Nelchina River, in 1907.

**Green, P. E.** Green worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Greene, Don L.** Born in Iowa in 1873, Greene probably reached Alaska before 1910, when he was reportedly living in Eagle. He spent two and a half decades mining in the Chisana district. Partnered with Fred Best, he worked Bonanza Nos. 3 and 7 from 1914 to 1917, and also did some prospecting on Gold Run. Partnered with Joe Davis, Greene worked an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek in 1923. He mined Bonanza No. 5 with Tony McGettigan in 1926, and again with McGettigan, worked a claim on Bonanza Creek in 1929. In 1936 he mined the left bench on Bonanza No. 4 and worked the left bench of Bonanza No. 3 in 1938 and 1940.

**Greer, H. H.** Greer staked an unidentified copper deposit near the head of the Lakina River in 1904, but the following year Ocha Potter determined it was worthless. Greer and H. Curtis Elliott were killed by an avalanche in December 1909 while examining copper deposits at the head of Elliott Creek.

**Grennig, Dan.** Grennig (sometimes spelled Greenig or Grening), who reached Valdez in the fall of 1897, was one of the first stampeders to cross the Valdez Glacier. In March 1899 he located and recorded a claim in the upper Tonsina district, and worked a lay on lower Rex Creek No. 3 in 1904. Later, while an employee of the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, he made a strike on Peacock Creek.

**Griffith, Elizabeth.** Griffith purchased the Gulkana Roadhouse in 1916 and operated it until about 1945, when she sold the facility to the O’Harra Bus Lines. She later operated the Windsor Hotel in Cordova.

**Griffith, “Humpy”.** Partnered with Frank Kernan, Griffith hydraulicked Chititu No. 11 in 1904.

**Griffith, J. G.** One of the first stampeders to reach the Chisana district, Griffith leased Big Eldorado No. 2 from Matilda Wales in August 1913. He also worked a portion of the Glacier Creek bench.

**Griffith, Mike.** Griffith was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Griffith, Walter.** In 1911-1912 Griffith was working as a Chitina dentist.

**Grigor’ev, Spiridon.** A member of Klimovsky’s 1840 Copper River expedition and later the chief of the Konstantinovsky Reoubt at Nuchek, Grigor’ev ascended the Copper and Tazlina River in 1844, reaching Tazlina Lake. But although he gathered valuable data about the local fur trade, he failed to acquire any detailed information on the Upper Ahtna, a failing which led in 1847 to the tragic dispatch of Ruf Serebrennikov.

**Grisko, Tony.** Grisko and partner Gus Lepart rushed to the Chisana in July 1913. He remained in the district until at least 1920, when the census listed him as a trader.

**Griswold, Parke G.** (some accounts list his name as Park D. Griswold) Horace Conger reported encountering Griswold on Jacksina Creek in June 1899 and Griswold was still living in the Copper Basin when contacted by the census enumerator in 1900. The 1907-08 *Polk’s* directory identifies Griswold as a Copper Center mail carrier, *Polk’s* 1909-10 directory lists him as a Tielke City mail carrier, and the 1910 census lists his residence as Valdez.

**Grogg, William.** Grogg mined placer claims on Valdez Creek with partners Peter Monahan, J. C. Clarkson, John M. Johnson, and James S. Smith in 1904.

**Groo, Samuel J.** Groo, born in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1860, located and witnessed several claims in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Guern, Samuel E.** *Polk's* 1910-1911 directory lists Guern as a Chitina bridge carpenter.

**Guiteau, Luther W. "Lute".** A resident of Freeport, Illinois, and a cook by trade, Guiteau rushed to Alaska in 1898 with Ed Kingsly, Bill Becker, and Philo Snow, reaching the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier. Guiteau built a cabin that August in Copper Center, where he spent the winter of 1898-99. He remained in Alaska for five years.

**Gust, Herbert.** Gust worked an unidentified claim on Chititu Creek in 1915.

**Gustafson, Ed.** Gustafson, age 87, died in August 1918 and was buried in the Strelna cemetery.

**Guyer, Frank.** Guyer was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Gwin, G. C. "Shorty".** In 1913 Gwin operated a roadhouse on the Hazelet trail just south of Chisana Pass. In 1916 he was running a roadhouse on the north side of the Nizina River about a mile below the ford. He later freighted supplies into the Chisana district, and by 1918, was guiding big game hunters out of McCarthy.

## H

**Haar, --.** In 1915 Haar and Santien were reported to be building a new cabin on Chititu Creek No. 11.

**Hackett, J. E.** Hackett rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in May 1899.

**Hafter, Andrew.** Hafter rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in May 1899.

**Hagen, James E.** In 1913 Hagen and his partner T. W. Jackson leased Glacier No. 2 and five claims on Big Eldorado and Chavolda creeks. Partnered with Tom Johnson, he worked Bonanza No. 8 in 1914. He returned to Bonanza No. 8 in 1915, this time partnered with a miner named Smedley.

**Haggren, A. F. "Fred".** One of the first stampeders into the Chisana district, Haggren worked the Discovery bench on Coarse Money Creek in 1913.

**Haglund, O.** A resident of Massachusetts, Haglund was one of the three men who located the Mother Lode property in 1906, and remained involved in its development through at least 1913.

**Haley, Herbert.** Haley was a Cordova Air Lines pilot based in Chitina during the late 1940s and early 1950s. He died in a crash near Indian Mountain in December 1955 while flying a charter for the Morrison-Knutson Construction Company.

**Haley, J. J.** Haley and D. D. Garvey reportedly prospected around Yakutat Bay in 1899, eventually crossing over the mountains to the Kaskuwash River, the western branch of the Alsek.

**Hall, James.** A resident of Stamford, Connecticut, Hall served as treasurer of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Hameck, Peter.** Hameck was mining near the Beaver Dam Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 41) in 1910.

**Hamilton, Frank.** Hamilton was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hamlin, J. E.** Hamlin was a member of the so-called McClellan group, which prospected the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Hammond, Harry A.** Hammond, who was one of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center. Encountered by Alfred H. Brooks near Kletson Creek in 1899, Hammond and partner E. J. Cooper took the first pack train through Cooper Pass, between the Nabesna and Chisana Rivers.

**Hammond, Robert R.** Hammond worked as a packer and miner in the Copper Basin from about 1901 until 1903, when he left Alaska. He was living in Bremerton, Washington, when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Hams, Martin.** Originally from Virginia, Hams was one of four prospectors who spent the winter of 1909-1910 on the Nabesna River.

**Hamshaw, Margaret G.** The wife of Fletcher Hamshaw, Margaret was camped with her husband on North Fork Island in 1913 when the Chisana discovery was made, and rushed to the district soon after her husband. Several early claims, including Eldorado Discovery and No. 1 Above Eldorado Mouth, were staked in her name.

**Hamshaw, Fletcher T.** A well known mineral developer, Hamshaw leased the James-Nelson holdings in the Chisana district from Price, Manley, and Ives in early 1914. He worked Bonanza Nos. 4, 5, and 8, and No. 1 Little Eldorado in 1914, but returned the claims to James the following year.

**Hanagita, Chief.** Chief Nicolai's brother and one of the Ahtna's most important twentieth-century chiefs, Hanagita became the head of the lower Ahtna following the death of his brother, Chief Nicolai about 1900. This is supported by A. C. Dowling's account of his journey down the Copper River in September 1901, where he notes that Hanagita was already the "hiyu" chief of the lower Ahtna. The exact date of Hanagita's death is uncertain, but it probably occurred around 1910. The USGS named Hanagita Peak in his honor.

**Hanalin, J.** Hanalin prospected the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Handy, F. N.** Handy, traveled up the Copper River in November and December 1897, interviewed Chief Nicolai, and reported that gold might be found on the Chitina River.

**Handy, George W.** Born in Germany in 1881, Handy reached Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him as living in Valdez. Handy operated Handy's



Roadhouse on the Nizina River before joining mountaineer Dora Keen to complete the first ascent of Mt. Blackburn in May 1912. Handy prospected in the Chisana district in 1915, but returned to McCarthy in July 1916 in order to marry Keen.

**Hannam, Jack L.** Hannam stampeded to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier. That October he located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Hansel, Paul F.** Born in Germany in 1874, Hansel operated the Wayside Inn, between Upper Tonsina and Copper Center at mile 89 of the Valdez Trail, in 1909. In 1910 he was reportedly living in Copper Center.

**Hansen, Eiler.** Born in Tyler, Minnesota, in January 1891, Hanson came to Alaska in 1913 and spent two years prospecting and placer mining in the Copper Basin. He later settled in Sitka, where he was first appointed the Special Disbursing Agent for the Agricultural Experimental Stations of Alaska, and later Superintendent of the Pioneer's Home, where he was working when he died in 1946.

**Hansen, Gerhardt.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Hansen as a Copper Center rancher.

**Hansen, Martin.** Hansen worked for the Chititu Mining Company at its upper camp in 1926.

**Hanson, Harold.** Hanson worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hanson, Johnny.** A seaman off the *Hera*, Hanson prospected around the base of Mt. Wrangell in 1899. This may be the same John Hanson who was working for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hanson, Oscar.** Hanson mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1915, when he and Hans Anderson worked the first tier bench on the left limit of Rex No. 8.

**Harding, Henry.** Harding, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner.

**Harn, Andy.** Harn located a homestead next to P. D. Burke's on Long Lake in 1910.

**Harper, J. L.** Leasing the claims belonging to the Lakina Copper Company in 1915, Seattle businessman Harper arranged the construction of the wagon road connecting the mine with the CR&NW Railway's Long Lake station. His operation, which began work in 1916, was called the Lakina and Tagish Mines Company.

**Harrais, Margaret Keenan.** See Margaret Kennan.

**Harrais, Martin Luther.** Harrais, who was born in Riga, Latvia, in 1865, mined successfully in the Klondike and Fairbanks before losing most of his fortune as a result of bad investments in the doomed town of Chena. One may have been the Chena Lumber and Light Company, which the 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory records him as managing. Harrais worked for the Kennecott Copper Corporation during the early 1920s, prospecting in the upper Chitina Basin. Harrais attempted to develop his own claims near the end of the Chitina Glacier in the late 1920s, but lost his savings when his bank failed during the Great Depression. He then moved to Valdez, where he mined on Mineral Creek and served as the local U.S. Commissioner (1934-1936), the president of the Valdez Igloo of Pioneers of Alaska, and a member of the University of Alaska's Board of Regents (1936). Harrais died in December 1936 in Seward.

**Harris, --.** Harris was prospecting at the head of White Creek in 1915.

**Harris, Frank.** Harris, who stampeded to Alaska in 1899, located a promising claim in the Chistochina district. In 1914 he prospected the Chisana district's Little Eldorado No. 1 bench, and later examined Gold Run Creek.

**Hart, John.** Hart established the first Sourdough Roadhouse in 1903.

**Hartford, James.** Hartford, a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Hartford, M. H.** Hartford, a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Hartman, George.** *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Hartman as a Tonsina cook.

**Harvey, Walter W.** Born in California in 1867, Harvey arrived in Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator found him living in Cordova. A McCarthy merchant during the teens, Harvey sold lumber, building materials, hardware, feed, and hay. He also operated a branch store in Chisana during the heyday there.

**Hasko, Steve.** Hasko was employed as a cook/miner by the Chititu Mines Company from about 1943 until at least 1948.

**Hatfield, J.** Hatfield mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Hatje, H.** According to the *Polk's* directory, Hatje was working for the U.S. Signal Corps in Copper Center in 1907-08.

**Havemeyer, H. O., II.** An old friend of Stephen Birch, Havemeyer played a key role in dispatching the young surveyor to Alaska in 1898. He later backed Birch's efforts to purchase the Bonanza group, which became the basis of Kennecott's copper empire. Havemeyer died in February 1965.

**Halvorsen, Andrew.** Halvorsen, B. O. Peterson, and Charley Young staked the Spirit Mountain nickel-copper prospect near the head of Canyon Creek in 1907. They abandoned the property in 1917.

**Hawes, W. H.** One of the first to mine in the Bremner district, Hawes worked Golconda No. 2 below in 1902.

**Hawkins, Charles E.** Born in New York in 1879, Hawkins reached Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator found him living in Valdez. Hawkins prospected middle Chathenda Creek in 1915, and later worked at Kennecott. After the mine there closed, Hawkins apparently returned to the Chisana district, where, partnered with Almer Peterson, he prospected Coarse Money Creek in 1940.

**Hay, Lemuel.** Hay was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Haycock, John.** Haycock worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hayes, Charles Willard.** A USGS geologist, Hayes accompanied Frederick Schwatka's 1891 expedition which explored the region north of the St. Elias Mountains and included the first

reconnaissance of the White and upper Nizina Rivers. Hayes, Swatka, and prospector Mark Russell initially entered Canada via the Taku River, later traversing to Teslin Lake and descending the Teslin River to old Ft. Selkirk on the Yukon. From there, the party traveled overland to the lower White River and crossed Skolai Pass to reach the headwaters of the Nizina River. After building a boat, they descended the Nizina and Chitina River to Taral, where they received a warm welcome from Chief Nicolai (see Hayes, "An Expedition through the Yukon District," *National Geographic Magazine* 4). Their 1891 expedition is best remembered for having connected Swatka's 1883 Yukon River survey with Lt. Henry Allen's 1885 chart of the Chitina and the Copper Rivers. The USGS named Mt. Hayes, a prominent peak in the central Alaska Range, in his honor.

**Hayes, William.** Hayes worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as wharf watchman in Cordova.

**Hayden, Jack.** Hayden rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

**Hazelet, George Cheever.** Born in Ohio in 1864, Hazelet taught school in Nebraska before leading a group of gold seekers into the Copper Basin in 1898. Following advice provided by Gakona Charley, Hazelet and partners A. J. Meals located the first claims in the Chistochina district. He subsequently helped establish Valdez, headed the first construction work on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, and helped establish the community of Cordova, serving as president and general manager of the townsite company. Although Hazelet reached the Chisana district in late July 1913, he was unable to obtain any valuable ground. He eventually staked Chicken Nos. 2 and 3 and established a short-lived townsite which he named "Woodrow," due to its location on Wilson (now called Chavolda) Creek. During the fall of 1913, he also established the Hazelet Trail, a new and shorter route to the diggings via the Nizina and Chisana Glaciers. Hazelet died in Cordova in August 1926.

**Hecla, John.** Born in Michigan in June 1889, Hecla was reportedly prospecting along the Chitistone River in 1910.

**Heiderman, Charles, Jr.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Heiderman as assistant manager of the U.S. experimental farm in Copper Center.

**Heimer, William.** Heimer reportedly disappeared while prospecting near the head of the Copper River in the early 1920s.

**Hendricks, Bill.** Hendricks rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. Partnered with Harry Wenke, he prospected the Kotsina district and also worked as a market hunter in the same area.

**Hendrie, Archie M.** Hendrie stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In March 1899 he located his first claim in the upper Tonsina district, and later that summer he and partner Charles Simenstad staked the Minnehaha No. 2, near Valdez. In 1903 he and partner Robert E. Young worked Chititu No. 11.

**Henneke, Arthur J. "Dixie".** Born in Ohio in 1883, Henneke worked claims near the Kotsina-Kuskulana divide from 1907-1910. Dixie Pass was named in his honor.

**Henning, Wilber.** Henning was a member of the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Henry, Bill.** Henry was operating a farm on the flanks of Sourdough Hill in 1920.

**Henry, F. H.** Henry stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He located his first claim in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Henry, J. N.** Henry led a thirty-seven-member party of gold stampederers who journeyed to Yakutat in March of 1898.

**Hermann, John R.** Hermann fell into a cravasse on the Valdez Glacier in September 1898, and remained in the hole for over five hours until his partner was able to secure a rope long enough to reach him. He survived with only minor frostbite and buises.

**Hermann, Mark.** Hermann was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Herring, Irving.** Herring mined in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Herrmann, William.** Herrman worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1939.

**Herron, R.** One of the first to enter the Bremner district, Herron and his partners mined Golconda No. 3 above in 1902. Moving to Dan Creek the following season, he and partner Charlie Range worked No. 2.

**Hessian, Neil.** Neil Hessian and his brother Michael were members of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Hessian, Michael J.** Michael Hessian and his brother Neil were members of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Hicks, Avice.** Born in Washington in 1890, Hicks, the daughter of W. C. McGee, operated the Our Home Roadhouse from 1906 until about 1909.

**Higg, --.** An early arrival in the Bremner district, Higg prospected Beaton Gulch in 1902.

**Hijuma, George.** Born in Japan in March 1873, Hijuma was reported to be working in the Kuskulana district in 1910.

**Hill, George E. "Ned".** The Chisana miners selected Hill as their temporary U.S. Commissioner in September 1913, replacing J. J. Finnegan. Succeeded by Anthony J. Dimond in November 1913, he was restored to the federal position in July 1914, when Dimond resigned. Hill later partnered with Wagner, prospecting Sargent Creek in 1916.

**Hill, Sam.** Hill was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hills, Harry.** Hills was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hinckel, Louis G.** Born in Massachusetts in 1875, Hinckel (sometimes spelled Hinckler) was living in Copper Center in 1910. He also seems to have been the last manager of the

Hubbard-Elliott Copper Mines Development Company's Elliott Creek property, running that operation in 1922 and 1923. Hinckel died in 1944.

**Hinkle, Fritz.** In 1911 Hinkle was reportedly ranching (probably raising foxes) in Tazlina.

**Hinman, H.** Hinman mined in the Nizina district from 1909 to at least 1912.

**Hinton, R. James.** After mining in the Nizina district, Hinton drowned while trying to descend the Chitina River in September 1909.

**Hirst, Earl.** A well known prospector and trapper around Slate Creek during the teens, Hirst (often spelled Hurst) was seriously injured when he was mauled by a bear while traveling along the Robertson River in August 1917. In 1922 Hirst established the Chistochina Roadhouse in the log cabin originally constructed by the government as a telegraph station on the WAMCATS line. Hirst worked the left bench of Bonanza No. 2 in the Chisana district in 1935, 1936, 1938, and 1940. Partnered with Sam Gamblin, he attempted to develop a lode claim above Chathenda Creek in 1940, and he and Harry Sutherland mined on Bonanza Creek in 1946 and 1947. Hirst later worked as the watchman on the Coal Creek dredge, located on the Yukon River below Eagle, where he reportedly died in the mid-1950s.

**Hirst, John.** *Polk's* 1910-1911 directory lists Hirst as a partner in a Chitina business called Hirst and Brown, which seems to have been a restaurant.

**Hobson, --.** The agent managing the Alaska Commercial Company's station at Tyonek reported in 1894 that a man named Hobson had sold him furs purchased that spring on the Copper River.

**Hocker, --.** Partnered with Shorty Briggen, Chisana miner Hocker worked the lower end of Bonanza No. 7 in 1915.

**Hoffman, A. Frank.** Hoffman, born in South Dakota in 1869, reached interior Alaska in April 1898 via the Valdez Glacier. In 1899 he and Dan Wilson claimed to have located the Billum lode [probably the deposit later designated the Mullen lode] on Downey Creek [probably the drainage now called Copper Creek], a tributary of the Kotsina River. From 1899 until 1902 he prospected in the Kuskulana Basin with James McCarthy. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory records Hoffman as the Chief of Police in Valdez. In 1913 Hoffman was appointed U.S. deputy marshal, and assigned to Chisana City. He was apparently still there in 1915, when his presence was recorded in the 1915-1916 *Polk's* directory.

**Hoffman, Frank H.** Hoffman and partner Frank Frazee worked a lay on Chititu No. 8 in 1904.

**Hoffman, Henry.** Hoffman worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as a trackwalker.

**Hofler, Andrew.** Originally from Dorchester, Wisconsin, Hofler rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

**Hogan, Thomas D.** Hogan, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1874, reached interior Alaska via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory recorded him living in Copper

Center and working as a miner. Hogan was mining near the Beaver Dam Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 41) in 1910.

**Hoglund, Oscar.** In 1907 Hoglund, Jack H. Smith—a former member of the McClellan Party—and Oscar Sales staked four claims on Kennecott style ore showings on the east side of Bonanza Ridge: the Marvelous, Leviathan, Hero and Allegany. That fall, the three promoted the claims to James J. Godfrey of Seattle who took an option and proceeded to organize the Mother Lode Copper Mining Company of Alaska.

**Holdsworth, Phil Ross.** Born in Grants Pass, Oregon, in 1910 and educated at the University of Washington, Holdsworth was the Nabesna Gold Mine's mill superintendent from 1931-1936. He later served as territorial commissioner of mines and the state's first commissioner of natural resources. Holdsworth conducted exploratory drilling on copper claims located in Nikolai Pass during the mid-1970s, but that activity ended when President Carter established Wrangell-St. Elias National Monument in 1978. He died in Anchorage in June 2001.

**Holland, Lars.** An employee of the Alaska Road Commission, Holland supervised construction of the first Tazlina River bridge in early 1906. He later played a key role in situating the Willow Creek-Chitina Road and supervised construction of the Gulkana River Bridge in 1913.

**Holland, Thomas Henry.** Born in Calwood, Missouri, in April 1876, Holland was a member of the engineering force that made one of the first surveys for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, during which he staked the first homestead and built the first cabin in Chitina. In 1911 he and partner Billy Wilds prospected the upper Chitina River. Holland served as a representative in the territorial legislature from 1915-1917, and Chitina's deputy U.S. marshal in 1940. He remained in Chitina until at least 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Holman, Andrew.** Born in Norway in 1859, Holman reached Alaska in March 1898. The first to arrive at the mouth of the Klutina River, apparently via the frozen Copper River, he established the townsite of Copper Center, erecting a canvas hotel and store that June. Holman and partner Ringwald Blix later organized the Copper River Mining, Trading and Development Company to develop the area. The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Holman as the U.S. Commissioner at Copper Center.

**Holmes, Bill.** Holmes worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Holmes, Tess Murie.** Born in Los Angeles in 1889, Tess Murie Holmes came to Alaska with her husband Jim Murie, who participated in the Chisana rush. In 1916 the pair began operating the Nizina Roadhouse, where they remained until Jim's death in 1940. In 1944 Tess married her old friend Walter Holmes, with whom she remained until his death in 1967. Tess eventually moved to the Palmer Pioneer's Home where she lived until her death in 1983.

**Holmes, Walter L.** An early resident of May Creek, in 1936 Holmes staked a 12-inch quartz vein in Seattle Gulch, a tributary of Copper Creek in the Nizina district. In the late 1930s and early 1940s, he and partners Joe Summers and Scotty McFreely mined Asa Baldwin's property on upper Rex Creek. Tess Murie was their cook and he and Tess eventually

married. The couple rebuilt Jim Murie's old roadhouse and became the caretakers of the May Creek airstrip, where they remained until Walter died in 1967. Mt. Holmes, a prominent summit just south of Rex Creek, was apparently named in his honor.

**Holt, Arthur.** Holt worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as a locomotive engineer.

**Holt, C. George.** Holt, who is believed to have led the first American party to cross Chilkoot Pass in the mid-1870s, was also the first American to ascend the lower Copper River, reaching Taral in 1882. He was murdered at his Knik River trading post by a disgruntled Ahtna customer in December 1885.

**Holt, Charles E.** Holt, who reached Alaska in 1899, was reportedly mining on McCarthy Creek in 1910.

**Holtet, Olav.** Born in Norway, Holtet immigrated to the United States in 1912 and homesteaded near McCarthy about 1919. His farm became one of Kennecott's primary produce suppliers during the 1920s.

**Hopper, George F.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Hopper staked property on Monahan Creek in early 1902. Later that summer, Hopper was hired by Arthur McNeer to help work claims in the Nizina district.

**Hoppel, Harry A.** Born in April 1862, Hoppel (sometimes spelled Happle) was one of the first to mine in the Bremner district: Hoppel and partner Max Rigler worked Golconda Creek No. 1 above in 1902. In 1912, Hoppel, Dahl, Van Iderstein, and Gobel prospected the Little Bremner River. He remained in the region until at least the 1943, when he was listed as a minor stockholder of the Yellow Band Mining Company.

**Hormel, Ed.** Sometimes employed as a cook, Hormel prospected Young Creek in 1902.

**Hornsby, George.** Hornsby worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Horsfeld, Jack.** A Canadian prospector, Horsfeld discovered gold on a tributary of Beaver Creek in 1903. Local prospectors subsequently named the stream in his honor.

**Hotchkiss, Fred A.** Hotchkiss prospected Rex Creek in 1915 and worked Rex Nos. 6 and 7 in 1916. He continued mining on Rex Creek until at least 1920.

**Houser, --.** Houser, Stanton, and Kernan worked Chititu No. 11 in 1915.

**Hover, Robert K.** Hover operated a store in Bonanza City in 1915 and 1916, and, partnered with Tony McGettigan, worked Bonanza No. 2 bench in 1917.

**Howe, William.** *Polk's* 1910-1911 directory lists Howe as a Chitina porter employed by Thomas Cloninger.

**Howell, William.** In 1936 Howell, working alone, drifted under an old channel on the left limit of Rex Creek, about 3.5 miles above its mouth.

**Hoy, L. D.** Hoy was the first general superintendent of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, but resigned that position while the party was still ascending the Valdez Glacier. He was replaced by Charles A. Margeson.

**Hoyt, Charles Levi.** Born in New York in 1869, Hoyt rushed to Alaska in 1898, living briefly in Valdez before settling in the Gulkana area where he worked as a fur trader. He and partner Dolph Smith purchased the Gulkana Roadhouse from Koon in about 1907 and operated the facility until 1916. Hoyt became postmaster of Gulkana in 1909.

**Hoyt, Frank W.** A resident of South Norwalk, Connecticut, Hoyt served as third vice-president of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Hubbard, Charles Goodyear.** Born in 1869 in Shermantown, Nevada, Hubbard joined the Klondike stampede in 1897. He and his partner H. Curtis Elliott were among the first to explore the Kotsina-Kuskulana district, staking claims on Elliott Creek in 1899. Development proceeded quickly and by 1907 their Hubbard-Elliott Copper Mines Development Company had patented extensive property in the drainage. Enthusiastically promoted, this site quickly became one of Alaska's best known copper prospects, but never actually produced any ore. Hubbard remained in the area until 1916, when he moved to Seward. He died there in June 1969.

**Hubbard, Lorenzo D.** Born in Nebraska in 1875, Hubbard served as the postmaster at Elliott Creek from December 29, 1906 until the office was closed in December 1910.

**Hubrick, John P. "Cap".** Harold McCracken claims that Hubrick was a U.S. Marine Corps captain during the 1890s, and that was the source his nickname. Hubrick rushed north in 1897, reaching McCarthy in 1913. In January 1918 he journeyed to Springwater, New York, to marry Emma Adelia Amos. Returning to Alaska with his new bride, he became one of the region's first and most famous commercial outfitters, guiding sport hunters out of McCarthy during the teens and 1920s. During the off season he published a short-lived newspaper called the *Copper Bee*, and produced superb hand-tinted panoramic photos. Hubrick died of diabetes in 1930.

**Huffman, L. L. "Doc".** Huffman first settled near Paxson Lake in 1929 and moved there permanently in 1940. He and his wife Orpha operated Huffman's Camp, a hunting and fishing guide service situated there, during the early 1950s.

**Huganin, T. J.** Huganin operated the Tacoma Roadhouse, situated at mile 57.5 of the Valdez Trail, in 1910.

**Hughes, William L.** Born in Missouri in 1886, Hughes prospected the Copper Basin in 1909 and was living in Cordova when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He later worked as a mechanic in Ketchikan before leaving Alaska in 1929.

**Hull, Chester.** *Polk's* 1910-1911 directory lists Hull as manager of the Chitina Trading Company.

**Hull, H. E.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Hull as a WAMCATS telegraph operator living in Gakona.

**Hult, Carl.** A trapper, Hult was living on the Nabesna River in 1929.



**Hultberg, Oscar.** Hultberg and Edward H. Stroecker crossed the Valdez Glacier in early 1901 and prospected throughout the Chistochina District the following summer.

**Hunech, Charles.** Hunech worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Hunt, Phinny S.** Born in Michigan in April 1866, Hunt came to Alaska in 1898 and eventually settled in Valdez. He worked as a professional photographer for the remainder of his life, capturing many of the most evocative early images of the Copper Basin. In 1915 Hunt was appointed official photographer of the Alaskan Engineering Commission, then building the Alaska Railroad. He died suddenly while working in Seward in October 1917.

**Huntley, --.** Partnered with Moore, Chisana miner Huntley worked the lower end of Bonanza No. 11 in 1915.

**Hurd, O. Bert.** Hurd stamped to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier. He was apparently prospecting in the upper Tonsina district in August 1899, when he witnessed a claim located by H. S. Lavell. In 1900, he, Charles Kraemer, and D. B. Seavell helped John Miller recover the first gold from Miller Gulch, a tributary of Slate Creek in the Chistochina district.

**Hurdning, Charles E.** Hurdning (sometimes spelled Hirdning) operated a \$14,000 “sawmill plant” in the Chisana district during the summer of 1918.

**Hurlock, G. D.** In 1926 a trusteeship headed by Hurlock purchased the Mullen, Angle, and Sport lodes on Copper Creek in the Kotsina district. The company renovated Coppertown and installed new equipment at the Mullen. In 1927 it added a sawmill and several new cabins, as well as connecting its camp and mines with a telephone line. Coppertown’s revival ended in 1929, when the nation’s financial crash effectively stifled its remaining opportunities for funding.

**Hurtle, Clem.** *Polk’s* Hurtle was working as a bartender at S. O. Breedman’s Hotel Chitina in 1911-1912.

**Hussey, James.** Born in Ohio in 1884, Hussey was living on Kayak Island when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. He and Dick Woodman built Alaska Road Commission relief cabins along the Skolai Pass trail during the fall of 1918. Hussey remained in the area until at least 1923, when the *R. G. Dunn* directory shows him operating a billiard hall in McCarthy.

**Hurst, Earl.** See Hirst.

**Hyde, --.** Partnered with Grening, Hyde worked claims in the Kotsina Basin in 1907.

**Hyke, Thomas E.** Hyke was living in Copper Center in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Hyland, --.** Hyland, Griffiths, and Leach operated a Chitina hotel located in George Blouen’s building in 1912.

**Hyland, Herb.** A Swedish immigrant, Hyland helped Arne Sundt operate the Gakona Roadhouse in the late 1920s.

**Ide, William F.** Born in Germany in 1874, Ide was one of the first to enter the Hanagita-Bremner district, mining Golconda Discovery in 1902. He was living in Cordova when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Iles, Alfred.** Born in Cheshire, England, about 1855, Iles emigrated to the United States in the 1880s and settled in Durango, Colorado. Reaching Alaska in 1902, he prospected throughout the Wrangell Mountain region, including the White River country and the Kuskulana River before developing the Iles Power Plant on Soloman Gulch near Valdez. He operated that business until about 1915 when he left the territory.

**Ingram, Kathryn Sloan.** Born in Beloit, Kansas, in April 1885, Ingram first came north in 1910 to visit her brother, Jack Ingram, who was working in Valdez. While there, she married Randall Ashby, a resident there. Following Ashby's death in 1921, she married George Fawcett, who died in 1946. In 1955 she moved to Copper Center to be near her son, George Ashby, and his wife. Ingram died in nearby Glennallen, Alaska, in July 1968.

**Ingram, James Harvey "Jack".** Born in Missouri in January 1872, Ingram rushed to Alaska during the gold excitement of 1898, reaching the head of the Valdez Arm on the steamship "Albion" that March. The U.S. Army employed him as an axe man while locating its route for the Trans-Alaskan Military Road (located known as the Valdez Trail) in 1899 and later hired him to help supervise its construction. Ingram advanced quickly: by 1906 he headed the Alaska Road Commission's Valdez District, supervising all road construction and maintenance in the Copper Basin. He left Valdez in 1917 and settled in Los Angeles, where he was living when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Irwin, Charles H.** Irwin located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in August 1899. He was still living in the Copper Basin in 1900, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Isaacson, Isaac.** Isaacson trapped in the Nizina district from 1909-1912.

**Isakison, Amil.** Isakison homesteaded just east of the Kennicott River in the 1920s.

**Ispen, J.** Ispen worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Iverson, Frank A.** Iverson, who served as a general foreman during construction of the CR&NW Railway, was living in Chitina in 1911-1912 and homesteaded just west of McCarthy about 1917. He operated the McCarthy Dairy during the 1920s and was one of about five local farmers who supplied vegetables to Kennecott. He and wife Anna were still living in McCarthy in 1943, when their names both appear on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Ives, E. J.** Ives was one of the trio of Alaskan investors who optioned the James-Wales-Nelson Chisana holdings in late 1913. He also joined with Jim Hagen in leasing Glacier No. 2 and five claims on Big Eldorado.

**Izatt, Robert.** A resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Izatt suffered a fatal heart attack while attempting to pull a sled up the frozen Copper River in February 1899. He was buried on the east bank a few miles below the mouth of the Chistochina River.

## J

**Jack, Tanana.** Jack, who acquired his name by accompanying Lt. Henry Allen to the Tanana River in 1885, was the father of Chief Andrew of Copper Center.

**Jack, W. G.** Jack led the first party of prospectors to ascend the Susitna River, prospecting Valdez Creek (which they named Swollen Creek) in 1897. Jack's party, however, missed the most productive area, which was not located until six years later. In 1898 Jack guided USGS geologist George Eldridge from Cook Inlet to Broad Pass.

**Jackson, Al.** Jackson and Sanderson worked a lay on Brooks's Rex Creek Edison group. In 1921 he and "Shorty" Tramonoff erected a dam on White No. 9 and did considerable ground sluicing.

**Jackson, Ben.** Reaching Alaska in 1915, Jackson settled in McCarthy, where he operated the McCarthy Drug Store during the 1920s and 1930s. He also served as the postmaster from April 2, 1923 until November 27, 1940. He lost both his wife, Ora, and his business in the devastating McCarthy fire of November 6, 1940, which also destroyed Kate Kennedy's Alaska Hotel and a grocery operated by Steve Pytel.

**Jackson, Peter.** Jackson and partner Jack Shepard were two of the first prospectors to cross the Valdez Glacier, reaching Klutina Lake in 1896. After selling off some Latouche Island mining claims in early 1898, Jackson established a private mail route from Valdez to Copper Center.

**Jackson, Thomas W.** Born in New York in 1873, Jackson was mining in the Iditarod district when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. In 1913 he and partners Jim Hagen and E. J. Ives leased several claims in the Chisana district, including Glacier Creek No. 2 and five claims on Big Eldorado and Chavolda Creeks.

**Jackson, Tommy.** Jackson, an Ahtna Indian, was employed as the Slana-Nabesna-Chisana mail carrier in 1929-1930.

**Jacobs, Perry.** Jacobs owned and operated a Chitina clothing store in 1911-1912.

**Jacobson, Charley.** Jacobson and partner Olaf Loveseth worked the lower end of Rex Creek no. 13 in 1918.

**Jacobson, Soren A.** Born in Denmark in May 1853, Jacobson was reportedly prospecting in the Bremner district in 1910.

**James, Agnes T.** Agnes James, the wife of Chisana co-discoverer William E. James, was a seasonal resident of Chisana City from 1926 until about 1959. In 1947 she, her husband, and Almer J. Peterson formed the Nutzotin Placer Company to exploit the couple's remaining claims, but never made any money.

**James, Claude.** James was mining in Chisana in 1918 when he crossed the Wrangell Mountains with Percy Thornton, Jack Meloy, and Virgil Catching to report to the McCarthy Draft Board.

**James, William Edwin “Billy”.** Born in 1875, James worked as a hard-rock miner in California before joining the Klondike stampede in 1898. During the next decade, James prospected the Fortymile and Fairbanks districts, and in 1908 began examining the White River country. One of the discoverers of gold in the Chisana district, James staked numerous claims, including Little Eldorado No. 1. James hydraulically mined Bonanza No. 9 in 1915, building a 1,000 foot flume to transport water from the mouth of Coarse Money Creek. Later that summer, James and partner N. P. Nelson extended the ditch downstream as far as Bonanza No. 4. In 1917, his syndicate mined Bonanza Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 9, and Little Eldorado No. 1. James partnered with Percy Thornton to work Bonanza No. 6 and Little Eldorado No. 1 in 1923, and mined Bonanza Discovery in 1930, 1931, and 1936. In 1947 he, his wife, Agnes, and Almer J. Peterson formed the Nutzotin Placer Company to exploit the couple’s claims, but little came of the venture. James died in Anchorage in April 1960.

**Jaynes, Wesley.** Jaynes was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898. He left the interior via the Copper River that fall with Margeson and Sweet, but apparently returned to Valdez, where he remained until at least 1899.

**Jefferies, William.** In 1906 Jefferies (sometimes spelled Jeffries) and partner James Barkley crossed the Bagley Icefield between Yakataga beach and Granite Creek and prospected the upper Kiagna River. Unlike Barkley’s earlier visit, this time they explored the headwaters of Granite Creek before descending the Kiagna, Chitina, and Copper Rivers.

**Jennings, Jason.** Jennings, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner. In 1914 he was one of six men hauling commercial freight from McCarthy into the Chisana district.

**Jensen, A.** Jensen worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Jensen, Frank.** Jensen was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district.

**Jensen, Julius.** Born in Denmark in 1878, Jensen reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was recorded by the U.S. census enumerator as living in Valdez. Jensen mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Jensen, Nicolai.** One of the first to mine in the Bremner district, Jensen worked the Monahan Creek Discovery claim in 1902. He was reportedly still mining along Monahan Creek in 1932 and appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders in 1943.

**Jensey, --.** Partnered with a miner named Hill, Chisana miner Jensey worked a claim on Sargent Creek in 1916.

**Jepson, Nels P.** Born in Sweden in May 1864, Jepson rushed to Alaska in 1898 and spent his first four years there employed constructing the Valdez-Eagle Trail. Jepson was an early miner on Slate Creek, worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907, and operated the Beaver Dam Roadhouse on the Valdez Trail (Mile 41) from

1908 until 1918, serving as that facility's postmaster from 1911 until 1918. In 1920 he was reportedly working for S. Blum and Company in Valdez. He left Alaska in 1922 and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Jewell, Patrick.** Jewell, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner.

**Jimmy, Tonsina.** Jimmy moved to Tonsina in the early twentieth century to trade and work at the local roadhouse. Many of his descendents still live in Kenny Lake and Copper Center.

**Joe, Bell.** Joe, who was born at Suslota about 1910, spent much of his life at Chistochina.

**Joe, Chisana.** The brother of Nabesna John, Joe was born in Cross Creek Village about 1880 and is usually credited with leading Billy James and N. P. Nelson to the mouth of Bonanza Creek, the site of the 1913 Chisana gold discovery. Joe failed to profit in the initial rush but remained in the area, working as a market hunter in the teens and 1920s and serving as Upper Tanana ethnographer Robert McKennan's chief informant in 1929-30. He mined Bonanza Nos. 3B fraction in 1938, and probably mined No. 3B fraction and No. 4 in 1940. Dying about 1942, Joe was buried in Chisana City.

**John, --.** John worked for the Yellow Band Mining Company as a miner in 1941.

**John, Fred.** The son of Mentasta John, Fred John was born in Mentasta in 1910, but spent several early years living at Mansfield following the death of his father in 1915. The last traditionally chosen Mentasta chief, he died in 2000.

**John, Katie Sanford.** Born in 1915 near Slana and raised in Batzulnetas and Suslota, John was the daughter of Charley and Sarah Sanford, the brother of Houston Sanford, and the wife of Chief Fred John. Working tirelessly to preserve Ahtna culture, John contributed to numerous ethnographic projects, helped record local oral history, and helped create a written Ahtna language. She is best known outside the region for her fight for local subsistence rights, articulated in *Katie John, et al., v. United States of America*. She won that struggle in 2000.

**John, Mentasta (*Menac'ulniis Ta* ).** Mentasta John, the son of Russian John, the husband of Maggie John and father of Fred John, was the traditional chief of Mentasta during the Copper Basin gold rush of 1898-99. He died in 1915.

**John, Nabesna.** The brother of Chisana Joe, John and his family were living at Cooper Creek Village when visited by Robert McKennan in 1929-1930. He was considered the *denae* (usually translated as "chief") at Cooper Creek Village when visited by archaeologist Frolich Rainey in 1939. John was the husband of Long Lucy John and father of Wilson Justin.

**John, Russian (*Takol'iix Ta* ).** John was part Russian, being the descendent of a woman who was held at *Nataelde* in the winter of 1794-1795. He is said to have been the main instigator in the killing of Russian explorer Ruf Serebrennikov's party in 1848. The earliest recorded *denae* of Mentasta Village, he probably died in the 1850s.

**John, Suslota.** A resident of Suslota Lake, Suslota John was *denae* there until his death in 1925. He was succeeded by Charley Sanford.

**John, Titus.** See Scotty Creek Titus.

**Johns, Harry.** Johns was born in Copper Center in November 1909, the son of Susan and Skookum Johns. He spent his youth working at the Copper Center Roadhouse, where he learned to drive. This led to employment with the Alaska Road Commission, and later with the Alaska Department of Transportation. He retired in 1975 after 45 years on the job. Following the death of his first wife in childbirth, Johns married Ruth Ewan in 1940, and together they raised ten children in Copper Center. Johns, who became Traditional Chief of the Ahtna in December 1997, died in February 2004.

**Johnson, Aaron.** Born in Illinois in 1870, Johnson was Arriving in 1906, Johnson and his four partners were probably the first miners to work Chathenda Creek. As a result, early Chisana prospectors designated the stream Johnson Creek in his honor. Despite the continuing objections of the USGS, the name remains in local use today.

**Johnson, Andy.** Johnson mined in the Chisana district in 1915, working the upper end of the left bench on Little Eldorado No. 1.

**Johnson, Bill.** Johnson worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Johnson, Charlie.** Johnson served as a mail carrier on the Valdez Glacier route in 1898. Noyes Moulton says he died of exposure crossing the Valdez Glacier in early 1899.

**Johnson, Clifford.** *Polk's* directory lists Johnson as the Chitina postmaster in 1911-1912.

**Johnson, Edward.** Johnson prospected the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Johnson, Einer S.** Johnson was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Johnson, Gus.** *Polk's* 1907, 1909-10, and 1911-12 directories identify Johnson as a Tonsina carpenter. His relationship to the Gus F. Johnson listed below is unknown.

**Johnson, Gus F.** Johnson, perhaps the same Gus Johnson listed above, was reportedly mining with Charles Swanson, M. G. Olson, and Lawrence DeWitt on Ahtell Creek in 1934 .

**Johnson, J. E.** Johnson was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Johnson, James L.** An important miner in the Chisana district, Johnson and his crew worked the benches along Little Eldorado Creek in the mid-1920s.

**Johnson, John.** Johnson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907. He later operated a restaurant in the community of Nizina from 1909-1912 and leased the Rex Creek mining property in 1918. He was still living in the Chitina Valley in 1943.

**Johnson, John M.** Johnson, who was born in Sweden in 1871, came to Alaska in 1898 as part of the Klondike rush. He, James S. Smith, Pete Monahan, and J. C. Clarkson made the first gold discovery on Valdez Creek in August 1903. He died in October 1933 following a mining accident there on the Folk claim, in which he still held an interest.

**Johnson, James W.** Born in 1833, Johnson mined near Yakutat from 1900 until at least 1902.

**Johnson, "Ma".** The wife of Pete Johnson, "Ma" operated a hotel and boarding house in McCarthy from the late teens through the late 1930s.

**Johnson, Mike.** Johnson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907. Either this or another Mike Johnson purchased the Gakona Roadhouse in 1912 and operated it for most of the teens. One or both may be the same Mike Johnson who was employed as a placer miner by the Chititu Mines Company in 1943.

**Johnson, Nels.** Formerly a farmer from Minnesota, Johnson and partner J. A. Otterness were living on the Copper River opposite the mouth of the Sanford River—near the present site of Gakona--in 1898.

**Johnson, Oskar.** Johnson, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Johnson, Peder “Pete”.** A prospector and the partner of John Bremner, Johnson was living in Nuchek waiting for Bremner’s return from the interior when Lt. Henry Allen arrived to begin his exploring expedition in 1885. Johnson, who worked for Lt. William Abercrombie in 1884, joined Allen’s effort, remaining with the expedition through the Copper Basin and down the Tanana River to its mouth. Allen named the Johnson River, a major southern tributary of the upper Tanana River, for Johnson.

**Johnson, Peter.** Johnson opened one of McCarthy’s first businesses, a saloon, in 1912. Beginning in the late teens, he and his wife managed the McCarthy Hotel, which burned in 1921. Six years later, the Johnsons built another hotel on the site, which they operated until 1938. Johnson also did some farming on his homestead.

**Johnson, Rose (Mrs. Charles).** Born in Ireland in 1875, Johnson rushed to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier. The following year she located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Johnson, Stephen.** Johnson was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Johnson, Victor.** *Polk’s* 1911-1912 directory lists Johnson as a Chitina freighter working for the Orr Stage Company.

**Johnson, William A.** While employed as a driver for the Cascade Laundry in Dawson City, Johnson grubstaked Billy James and N. P. Nelson and became, in return, a full partner in their Chisana claims. In 1917, James, Wales, Nelson, and Johnson mined Bonanza Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 9, and Little Eldorado No. 1. He was listed as a placer miner on the 1920 census, but seems to have left the district shortly thereafter.

**Johnson, W. H.** Johnson, who listed his occupation as miner, was living in Tazlina in 1911.

**Johnston, Luella.** Johnston, the wife of Sidney (and reported by ethnologist Robert McKennan to be the sister of Billy James), served as Chisana City’s postmaster from October 30, 1929 until replaced by Tony McGettigan on February 24, 1938.

**Johnston, A. Sidney “Too Much”.** Johnston (often spelled Johnson) freighted into the Chisana district during the teens and 1920s. In 1922 Johnston and his wife Luella worked a claim on Pan Creek, a tributary of Tchawsahmon Creek, just across the international boundary from Horsfeld. In 1929 Johnston partnered with Frank Maess, mining somewhere on Gold Hill. Johnston mined on upper Bonanza Creek for much of the 1930s, finally leaving Chisana about 1938.

**Jones, --.** Jones and Moore staked a claim on the “north fork of the Cottšina [Kotsina] River,” probably the Kluvesna River, in 1899.

**Jones, Bertha L.** Jones is listed as the original patentee on a claim situated on Chititu Creek.

**Jones, Harry H.** Jones was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district.

**Jones, William Morris.** Jones, who lived with his parents at Mile 183 of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, was the second to register in the McCarthy draft and possibly the only local resident to be killed in action during the First World War. He died in France in August 1918.

**Joy, Rev. Vince.** A missionary, Joy and wife Becky established the first permanent Protestant church in the largely Russian Orthodox Copper Basin in March 1937, eventually converting most Native residents.

**Justin, Jack John.** Justin, the son of John Justin and Lucy John, was born in Cross Creek Village in 1906 and was living in Cooper Creek on the Nabesna River when visited by ethnologist Robert McKennan in 1929. Justin placer mined on lower Bonanza Creek in the Chisana district during the 1930s and eventually settled on the Nabesna Bar, where he sometimes worked for the Alaska Road Commission. He died in Chistochina in 1994.

**Justin, John.** John Justin, the father of Jack John Justin, was the Upper Tanana *denae* (usually translated as “chief”) at Cooper Creek Village when contacted by ethnologist Robert McKennan in 1929. Justin moved to the Nabesna Bar with the rest of the Cooper Creek people in 1945, and was buried there following his death in November 1952.

## K

**Kain, Dan L.** Born in Ohio in 1861 or 1862, Kain joined the stampede to Alaska in 1898. A member of the so-called McClellan group, he prospected the Copper Basin in 1899 and 1900, acquiring an interest in the Bonanza copper lode. After selling half of his one-eleventh share of that property to Stephen Birch, Kain and Clarence Warner discovered gold on Dan Creek in the Nizina district. He later developed those prospects in concert with George Howard Birch, Stephen’s younger brother. Kain eventually partnered with Pete Monahan and several other Valdez miners to operate claims on Valdez Creek in the Susitna district, and in 1909 was reportedly managing the Oregon and Susitna Mining Company there.

**Kale, W. J.** The 1907-1908 and 1909-10 *Polk’s* directories identifies Kale as a Copper Center rancher.

**Kaltysh.** According to Russian explorer Dmitrii Tarkhanov, *Kaltysh* was the *denae* of Taketat, the southernmost Ahtna village on the Copper River. Although Tarkhanov’s 1797 description suggests that it was located near the mouth of the Tiekkel River, which he calls the Kenna, its exact location is unknown.

**Kane, Bob and Sol.** The two Kanes, Jack and Billy Williams, and two associates worked Dan Creek No. 3 in 1904.

**Kansky, Steve.** Kansky, who trapped in the Nabesna district, was employed by the Chititu Mining Company in 1926 and was living on the Nabesna River when contacted by Robert



McKenna in 1929. He later worked for the Nabesna Mining Corporation and built one of the first homes at Nabesna.

**Kantens, George.** Kantens located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in October 1898.

**Kaufman, --.** Kaufman (sometimes spelled Kufmann), Brown, and seven men mined upper Chititu No. 8 in 1904. This may be the Joseph Kaufman which the U.S. census enumerator reported as living in Cordova in 1910.

**Kawakami, Y.** Having rushed to the Chisana district in 1913, Kawakami ran a boarding house at the mouth of Coarse Money Creek in 1915, and remained in the vicinity until at least November 1916. This may be the same Kawakami who had earlier operated a roadhouse at the foot of Twelve Mile Hill near Dawson City.

**Keating, Paul E.** Keating operated the Chitina Bar in the early 1950s.

**Keen, Dora.** Born in Philadelphia in June 1871, Keen attended Bryn Mawr College before beginning her travels, during which she visited both Europe and South America. Journeying to Alaska in 1911, Keen hired Ruben F. McClellan to organize and lead her first attempt to climb Mt. Blackburn. Although unsuccessful that season, she came back in 1912 to try again, this time hiring local homesteader John E. Barrett to head the party. Ascending the Kennicott Glacier, Keen and fellow expedition member George W. Handy reached the summit that May. In July 1916 she returned to McCarthy to marry Handy.

**Keenan, Margaret.** Born in 1872, Harrais married Martin Harrais in 1920. Margaret and Martin moved to McCarthy in 1923, where Martin worked for Kennecott and she taught school. Unfortunately, her activism as Alaska president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union brought her few friends, and she soon lost her job. After losing their fortune in the Great Depression, the couple moved to Cordova, and after only a brief sojourn, on to Valdez. She was still there during the great Alaskan earthquake of 1964, but died shortly after following her evacuation to Glennallen.

**Keesler, E. C.** Keesler reached Alaska in 1902 and later mined on Slate Creek in the Chistochina district. He left Alaska in 1918 and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Ke'Koli.** *Ke'Koli*, the grandfather of Banzaneta Billy, was *denae* at Batnulnetas until his death about 1900.

**Keller, J. W.** A Canadian from Ottawa, Keller rushed to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he witnessed two claims in March 1899.

**Kelley, Charles.** Charles Margeson claims that a Providence, Rhode Island, resident named Charles Kelley drowned while trying to descend the Klutina River during the summer of 1898. If so, perhaps it was another Charles Kelley who worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Kelly, B. S.** Kelly operated an unidentified roadhouse on the upper Nizina River during the Chisana rush.

**Kelly, Fred.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Kelly as a Chisana hunting guide.

**Kelly, Milo.** Born in Wausau, Wisconsin, in 1866, Kelly moved to Washington in the 1880s, where he organized the Wilkeson Coal and Coke Company. He reached Southeast Alaska in 1895, and later entered the Copper Basin, where he prospected and developed unidentified copper properties from about 1904 to 1909. He moved to Cook Inlet in 1910 and was one of the first operators in the Willow Creek mining district. He was later elected a member of Alaska's first territorial legislature. Kelly died in Seattle in September 1943.

**Kelsey, A. J.** Rod McConnell worked Kelsey's White Creek claims in 1903.

**Kennedy, Kate.** Kennedy reached the Klondike in 1900, eventually moving to Alaska and settling in McCarthy, where she operated the Alaska Hotel from about 1918 until it burned in a devastating fire of November 6, 1940. She was still living in McCarthy in 1943, when her name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Kennelly, Thomas.** Kennelly drowned crossing the Kotsina River in June 1902.

**Kernan, Frank.** Born in Pennsylvania in 1864 or 1865, Kernan stampeded to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently first prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim in 1899. Two years later, he and Charles Koppus led one of the parties making the initial Chititu Creek gold discovery. Kernan later controlled upper Chititu during its most productive period and also served as the postmaster of Nizina from March 10, 1905 until May 14, 1911. In 1916 he was reportedly working Chititu no. 11, the highest claim on the creek and the present site of Chititu Camp.

**Keroun, Henry.** A member of the Manhattan Mining Company, Keroun was terribly frost-bitten when trapped by a storm while trying to cross the Valdez Glacier in November 1898 to obtain a fresh supply of tobacco. Although he survived the exposure, he died in Valdez about a week later.

**Ketching, --.** Partnered with Dr. Charles Montgomery, Ketching sluiced the Chisana district's Big Eldorado Creek No. 4 Below Upper Discovery in 1915. Partnered with E. W. Carden, he worked Bonanza Creek in 1918.

**Kettleson, Theodore.** Born in Portage County, Wisconsin in June 1874, Kettleson served as Chisana City's first postmaster from September 30, 1913 to November 18, 1914. After leaving Chisana, he briefly served as a member of the Territorial House and ended his career as a prominent banker in Sitka. He retired to San Diego in 1960 where he died in August 1968.

**Kibble, O. A.** Kibble participated in the short-lived Tsina River gold rush in 1903.

**Killian, W. Carl.** In 1934 Killian and partners John Letendre and Joe Meloy discovered the Yellow Band lode in the Bremner district, which they then leased to Asa Baldwin. Killian prospected in the Chisana district in 1938.

**Kimberlin, John Z.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Kimberlin as a Chitina barber.

**King, Cora.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists King as a Chitina druggist.

**King, Harry E. F.** A resident of Stamford, Connecticut, King served as secretary of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898. He apparently remained in the region, as he ran for the Valdez City Council in

1914. He was living in Snoqualmie, Washington, when last constacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**King, Dr. --.** One of the first to mine in the Bremner district, King and his partners worked Golconda No. 3 above in 1902.

**Kingsly, Ed D.** A resident of Freeport, Illinois, Kingsly rushed to Alaska in 1898 with Luther Guiteau, Bill Becker, and Philo Snow, reaching the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier. He left Alaska that fall and was living in Linton, Oregon, when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Kingston, Jimmy.** Reaching the Chisana district in mid-July 1913, Kingston staked ground on Coarse Money Creek. In early 1915 authorities arrested Kingston, charging him with the murder of Louis Schonborn. They failed to convince a Valdez jury, however, and Kingston was eventually freed.

**Kipp, John.** Kipp, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Kitcher, Henry.** Kitcher was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Kite, A.** Kite was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district.

**Kite-zhil'ta, Chief.** Upper Ahtna Chief *Kite-zhil'ta* actively aided Klimovsky's 1840 Copper River expedition. As a result, Russian America Governor Etolin awarded him a silver *Soyuznye Rossii* (Allied to Russia) medal in 1842. The exact site of *Kite-zhil'ta*'s village is unknown.

**Klimovsky Afonasiï Il'ich.** In 1819 Russian America Governor S. I. Yanovsky sent Klimovskii to explore the Copper Basin. He progressed farther than any of his predecessors, certainly reaching the Gakona River and perhaps even the mouth of the Chistochina. Of more lasting importance, his party established a trading post called *Mednovshaya Odinochka* (Copper Fort) near Taral, which endured, off and on, for the next thirty years. Klimovskii was also the first European to describe Mt. Wrangell. Klimovskii returned to the Copper Basin in 1840, hoping to reach the river's headwaters and contact the Upper Ahtna. Unfortunately, Klimovsky became ill and was forced to return to Nuchek without even reaching the Tazlina River. However, he did gather some data about Tazlina Lake, where Russian America Governor A. K. Etolin hoped to establish a new redoubt (fortified trading post).

**Kliske, Billy.** Kliske, a German immigrant, operated the Tazlina Roadhouse, situated just north of the Tazlina River, from about 1905 until he died in 1927. *Polk's* lists this individual as William F. Klitze.

**Klopf, Gus.** Klopff, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Klopf, --.** Klopfer was mining Rex Creek property in 1918.

**Knowles, Mike.** Knowles prospected the Chisana district in 1916 and reported finding pay on Notch Creek in 1919. In 1922 and early 1923 he carried the mail from Chisana to McCarthy.

**Koch, E.** Koch worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Koivula, E. C.** In 1931 Koivula and partner Hans Tyielle prospected Sellers' Bar on Golconda Creek in the Hanagita-Bremner district.

**Kolb, Stanley.** Kolb owned and operated the Richardson Highway's 57-Mile Roadhouse in the early 1950s.

**Komkov, Ivan.** An early Russian explorer, Komkov ascended the Susitna River in 1842, trying to reach Tazlina Lake in order to establish a new redoubt (fortified trading post) there. His expedition, however, accomplished nothing, and he subsequently returned to Nuchek.

**Koppus, Charles.** Koppus rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district in 1899, where he witnessed a claim located by George Davison. Two years later, he and Frank Kernan led one of the parties making the initial Chititu Creek gold discovery. Partnered with Harry H. Fitch, Koppus worked Chititu No. 10 in 1904, and later controlled lower Chititu during its most productive period.

**Kortright, Dr.** Kortright was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, but withdrew from the party while still ascending the Valdez Glacier and returned to the coast, where he played an active role in establishing the Valdez townsite.

**Koski, Anna.** Koski was cook at Ole Berg's North Midas Mine in 1917 and 1918. She later married Oscar Balo.

**Kraemer, Charles H.** Born in Peoria, Illinois, in September 1874, Kraemer stampeded to Alaska in 1898. He entered the country via Valdez Glacier and prospected on the Chetaslina and Cheshnina Rivers before locating a profitable claim on Miller Gulch in the Chistochina district. He apparently located near Valdez, as the 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists him as president of the Alaska Utilities Company there. In 1925 he succeeded S. H. Palmer as manager of John E. Andrus's elaborate Chititu operation, where he worked until at least 1948. Kraemer was Nizina's last postmaster, serving from February 21, 1925 until the post office was abolished on March 31, 1926. He was also a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, Cordova Igloo No. 19.

**Kraemer, Frederick John.** Born in Peoria, Illinois, in 1884, Kramer obtained a degree in mining engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1902, and shortly after traveled to Alaska to work with his brother Charlie on Chititu Creek. He was reportedly living in Copper Center in 1910, but soon relocated to Valdez, where he met and married his wife, former Seward resident Beatrice Daykin. Following the birth of two children, the family moved to Seattle about 1917. Frederick's son, Frederick John Kraemer, Jr., later returned to Alaska, where he worked one season on Chititu Creek for his Uncle Charlie during the Great Depression to raise money for his education.

**Kraft, Adolph.** Kraft stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Cheshnina River and was badly injured while freighting supplies to the Long Glacier.

**Krampitz, Robert.** Krampitz spent the summer of 1901 prospecting somewhere in the Copper Basin with a group which included Louis Rothkranz and Charlie Mayman.

**Krause, Bill.** Krause and wife Nellie owned and operated the Sourdough Lodge in the early 1950s.

**Kreig, Joseph.** Born in Germany in 1864, Kreig probably entered the Copper Basin prior to 1909, when *Polk's* 1909-10 directory listed him as a Tiel City blacksmith. He was living in Valdez when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Krim, H.** Krim was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district.

**Krite, Calvin "Doc".** Krite and M. W. Moore constructed a cabin on the east side of Summit Lake in the 1930s which eventually evolved into the Moochigan Lodge.

**Krohn, Henry.** Krohn died from exposure while trying to cross the Valdez Glacier in November 1898.

**Krohn, Jorgen.** In 1941 Krohn, who worked for the Chititu Mines Company, was critically injured by a premature blast but survived to return to work the following season.

**Krohn, Mike.** Krohn died in Valdez from exposure as the result of a forced bivouac on the Valdez Glacier in November 1898.

**Krohn, Nels.** Krohn was general foreman at the Chititu Mines Company in the late 1930s. He was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Krom, William.** Krom was apparently one of the first miners to try developing gold lode property in the Nizina district, driving a shaft on Williams Peak in the 1920s.

**Kunkel, Milton.** Kunkel spent the winter of 1929-1930 trapping and prospecting around Horsfeld in the Chisana district.

## L

**Laidlaw, Doc.** Laidlaw was operating the Dry Creek Roadhouse in October 1913.

**Lambert, Theodore Roosevelt.** Lambert, who came to Alaska in 1926, worked for the Chititu Mining Company and as a mucker at Kennecott before gaining international recognition as an artist.

**Lampson, Frank.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Lamson as a Chitina freighter working for the Orr Stage Company. Lampson and his wife, the former Nellie Yager, purchased the Lower Tonsina Roadhouse from Jake Nafsted in 1925 and operated it until Yager's death in 1933. He and Nellie are both buried in the small cemetery on the hill overlooking the Tonsina River.

**Lampson, Nellie Yager.** See Nellie Yager.

**Landford, Charlie.** Landford was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Lang, Bill.** Lang operated the Nizina River ferry in 1920.

**Langland, Gustav.** In 1932 Langland and his three partners mined a claim on Copper Creek in the Nizina district.

**Larson, Alma.** Born in Utah in 1880, Larson began working for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907, serving as the Kotsina postmaster from June 19, 1908 until August 30, 1911. She later operated a boarding house on Clear Creek, a tributary of the Kuskulana River.

**Larson, Jex.** Larson and his three partners worked a claim on Copper Creek in the Nizina district in 1932.

**Larson, Matthew.** Born in Wisconsin in 1879, Larson mined in the Kotsina Basin from about 1910 until the mid-1920s, holding claims near the headwaters of Roaring Creek.

**Larson, O. L.** Larson worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as a conductor.

**Lassen, Val.** Lassen and partner Roy Byram rushed to the Chisana district in August 1913.

**Lathrop, Austin Eugene “Cap”.** Born in Lapeer, Michigan, in 1865, Lathrop began his fortune helping rebuild Seattle after its disastrous fire of June 1889. Drawn to Alaska by the gold discovery on Cook Inlet, Lathrop briefly prospected for oil near Cold Bay before settling in Valdez. Operating from there, his California-Alaska Mining and Development Company constructed an elaborate camp near the mouth of the Klutina River in 1902. At the peak of his local activities, Lathrop controlled thirty claims in the Kotsina Basin, including some copper property on Roaring Creek, which he reportedly worked from 1907-1912. Lathrop soon expanded his interests into both transportation and entertainment. In 1923 Lathrop purchased an interest in the Healy River Coal Corporation, which ultimately became Alaska’s largest coal producer. By the 1930s, his varied interests included a chain of movie theaters, two newspapers, and a radio station. A Republican, Lathrop served as Alaska’s national committeeman from 1928-32, and as a member of its territorial legislature. Lathrop died in a mining accident at his Healy River Coal Mine in Suntrana, Alaska, in July 1950.

**Lattin, Martin V.** Born in Nebraska in 1870, Lattin probably reached Alaska before 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him living in Cordova. Lattin was the McCarthy station agent for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway and served as that community’s first postmaster from October 12, 1912 until August 20, 1917. He also published a short-lived newspaper called the *Avalanch* there in 1917.

**Latterner, George.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Latterner (sometimes spelled La Turner) spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center.

**Lavell, H. S.** Lavell located several claims in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**LaVoy, Merl.** LaVoy, who later became a famous photographer and accompanied Belmore Browne on one of the early Mt. McKinley expeditions, was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in April and May 1907.

**Lawrence, A. J.** The 1907-08 *Polk’s* directory identifies Lawrence as a WAMCATS telegraph operator in Gakona.

**Lawrence, Lewis S.** Lawrence was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Lawrence, Jack.** Lawrence constructed a barn in Chitina in 1912 to serve as the headquarters for his freighting operation. Lawrence freighted in the Chisana district in 1916, 1917, and 1918. The 1920 census listed Lawrence as a trapper.

**Lawrence, John.** Born in Missouri in 1872, Lawrence (sometimes spelled Laurence) managed the Dry Creek Roadhouse near Copper Center in 1909 and 1910.

**Lawrentz, W. H.** Lawrentz was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Lawsen, A.** Lawsen mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Lawson, Joseph.** Norwalk, Connecticut, resident Joseph Lawson came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, but abandoned that party while crossing the Valdez Glacier. After spending the summer of 1898 prospecting along the Klutina and Copper Rivers with J. C. Allen, he left that fall via the Copper River.

**Leach, Horace.** Leach purchased a percentage of a Chitina hotel in early 1912 and occupied the cabin formerly owned by Jesse Martin.

**Leak, Anna.** Leak operated the Gulkana Roadhouse and Trading Post with her mother, Elizabeth Griffin, in the 1930s. Leak was still living in Gulkana in 1943, when her name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders, but she and her mother eventually sold that property to the O'Harra Bus Lines and moved to Cordova, where they purchased and operated the Windsor Hotel.

**Lee, Grant.** According to the *Polk's* directory, Lee was working for the U.S. Signal Corps in Copper Center in 1907-08.

**Lee, Oliver.** A Sibley, Iowa, hotel clerk, Lee joined the stampede to Alaska in 1898, reaching the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier.

**Lemellen, E. M.** Lemellen worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Lepart, Gus.** Lepart and partner Tony Grisko rushed to the Chisana district in 1913. Unable to find good prospects around Gold Hill, Lepart staked claims well down the Chisana River.

**Leroy, Jim.** Leroy spent the summer of 1901 prospecting somewhere in the Copper Basin with a group which included Louis Rothkranz and Charlie Mayman.

**Lesig, H. R.** Lesig was reportedly prospecting on the Klawasi River in 1899.

**Leslie, --.** Leslie and his partner Nelson were operating a general store in Chisna in 1907-1908, according to the *Polk's* directory.

**Letendre, John.** In 1934 Letendre and partners Carl Killian and Joe Meloy discovered the Yellow Band and Sheriff lodes in the Bremner district, which they later leased to Asa Baldwin. During the winter, Letendre tended the Bonanza Creek dam for the Kennecott Copper Corporation.

**Levensaler, Lewis A.** Born in California in 1879, Levensaler first visited the region about 1903, when he was hired to assess the value of several local gold claims. He mined in the district from 1909-1912 and purchased Howard Birch's Dan Creek property with partner John J.

Price in 1924. They formed the Dan Creek Hydraulic Mining Company, which improved Birch's hydraulic system on the lower creek.

**Leveroos, Bertram G.** Born in Norway in 1860, Leveroos (sometimes spelled Louveros or Leverose) stampeded to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He seems to have been associated with McClellan's group.

**Levine, Rose** (alias Rose Silberg). A popular McCarthy prostitute, Levine was murdered in March 1918, presumably by local businessman Gustave Priesner.

**Lewis, A.** Lewis rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in March 1899.

**Lewis, Henry.** A Chisana miner, Lewis served as Fletcher Hamshaw's foreman in 1914. Later, partnered with Bastell and Munsell, he worked Gold Run No. 3 below in 1915.

**Lewis, J. C. C.** A resident of Salem, Oregon, Lewis wrote a letter to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* in November 1897, claiming to have explored the upper Copper River country in 1868 with one other white man and an Indian guide. No evidence supporting his claim has ever surfaced.

**Libby, Dan.** Libby was employed by the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Liebigstag, Chief.** According to Lt. Henry Allen, *Liebigstag* was a Lower Ahtna denae in 1885 who nearly equaled Chief Nicolai's status. His village was situated on both sides of the Copper River east of the present side of Kenny Lake. He was the father of Tonsina Charley.

**Lindberg, John.** Lindberg was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Lindblom brothers.** Ruben and Hugo Lindblom rushed from Cordova to Chisana via the "goat trail" in July 1913. Although the pair did some preliminary work on an unidentified tributary of Chathenda Creek, they never filed a claim.

**Linden, Gus.** Linden, a prospector who died destitute in Chisana City, was buried there by public subscription in 1915.

**Lingo, George Archibald.** Born in Anaconda, Montana, in 1901, Lingo mined throughout Alaska in the late 1920s and early 1930s, including stretches in Latouche, Kennecott, Chickaloon, and the Copper Basin. He served as a representative in the Territorial Legislature from 1933-1937 before retiring to California in 1952.

**Little, Richard.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Little as a porter employed by Thomas Cloninger.

**Littlejohn, C. W.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Littlejohn as a driver employed by the Orr Stage Company's Chitina office.

**Logan, Jake.** Logan worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Logan, Dr.** Logan apparently died of exposure on the Valdez Glacier in February 1899. His body was never recovered.

**Lomote, Albert** (sometimes spelled Lamote). Lomote worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.



**Long, Bob.** A Chisana miner, Long disappeared while on a spring prospecting trip to Scottie Creek in 1935.

**Long, Fred.** Long operated in the Nizina district in 1938, working Otto A. Nelson's ground on Copper Creek.

**Longley, W. H.** Longley was one of the primary freighters operating out of McCarthy in 1916.

**Loomis, Isaac H. (Ike)** Loomis and his wife, Josephine Swanson, participated in the Klondike stampede, reaching the Yukon in 1898. Moving to Valdez in 1900, he first worked as a mail contractor on the Valdez Trail, before opening the Loomis Roadhouse at Upper Tonsina. He remained there through 1903 and then moved to Fairbanks, where he was recorded by the census enumerator in 1910.

**Loveseth, Olaf.** Loveseth and partner Charley Jacobson worked the lower end of Rex Creek no. 13 in 1918.

**Lowe, Lt. Philip G.** A subordinate of Capt. William Abercrombie, Lowe played a leading role in the Copper River Exploring Expedition of 1898, identifying much of the trail between Valdez and Eagle. The Lowe River was named in his honor.

**Lowy, George.** Lowy owned and operated the Tiekel Roadhouse at milepost 52 Richardson Highway during the early 1950s.

**Lubbe, Otto.** Otto Lubbe was one of six people actively engaged in freighting into the Chisana district in 1914. He later operated a dray and transfer business in McCarthy and grew hay at his homestead on the flanks of Sourdough Hill.

**Lubbe, William.** William Lubbe owned an interest in McCarthy's Golden Hotel until he sold it to his brother Charles in November 1925. He remained in the district until at least 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Lubie, --.** Lubie worked White Creek no. 12 in 1915.

**Lucky, John.** Lucky and partner Olaf Soostadt prospected in the Bremner district in 1931, digging a 200-foot-long bedrock drain at the mouth of Standard Creek. In 1936 Lucky was reportedly shoveling-in on Radar Gulch.

**Ludington, Dan.** Dan Ludington and his wife Maxine leased the Moochigan Lodge (later called the Summit Lodge) on Summit Lake from M. W. Moore and Calvin Krite in 1948. However, Dan was mauled by a bear in 1949, and his deteriorating health forced them to give up the property in 1953.

**Ludwig, John.** Ludwig operated in the Chisana district in 1915, mining Bonanza No. 7.

**Ludwig, S. G.** From Ottawa, Canada, Ludwig stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim in March 1899.

**Lumbeck, John.** In 1915 Lumbeck (sometimes spelled Lombeck) mined the bench on the left limit of Rex Creek No. 10. He and Bassett also prospected the second tier bench on Rex No. 11 that same season.

**Luper, William.** Born in Germany in 1873, Luper mined in the Kuskulana district during the summer of 1910. He apparently wintered in Valdez, because he was living there when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator that fall.

**Luppy, Fred.** Luppy worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as roadmaster.

**Lynch, J.** Lynch worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Lynch, Thomas W.** Born in Illinois in 1863, Lynch mined on Miller Gulch in the Chistochina district in 1901, and worked Dan Creek No. 5 with Charlie Range, Charlie Schlosser, and Joe Morris in 1904. In 1916 he was reported to be managing the Kuskulana district's Finch group and living on the Kuskulana Trail, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile east of Clear Creek. Lynch's wife, Florence, and Ray, her son by her first husband, were all living on the Kuskulana River in 1916.

**Lynn, N.** Lynn worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Lyons, James D.** Lyons worked in the Nizina district in 1932, mining a claim on Copper Creek. Lyons and his wife Mabel operated the Paxson Roadhouse during this period as well, selling the property to Russell Keith in 1934. Lyons remained in the area until at least 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

## M

**MacAlpine, J. E.** MacAlpine was associated with Nizina district mining in 1903.

**MacDonald, Dan.** MacDonald, the Orr Stage Company superintendent for the line between Chitina and Fairbanks, drove the company's last stage to Fairbanks in early June 1914.

**MacDougall, Angus.** Born in Maine in 1877, MacDougall was one of the first to prospect in the Kotsina-Kuskulana district, staking copper property along MacDougall Creek. His claims were eventually consolidated with Ole Berg's, forming the North Midas group.

**Mackay, William.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Mackay as a WAMCATS telegraph operator in Gakona.

**Mackin, John.** Horace Conger reported encountering Mackin on Jacksina Creek in May 1899.

**Mackintosh, W. M.** Mackintosh was T. W. Blakney's partner in the Terall [Taral] and Etna [Atna] lode claims, which the pair located in the vicinity of Taral Creek in August 1903.

**Madden, William.** Called "one of the pioneers of the Nizina district," Madden worked as the foreman at Andrus's Rex Creek property in 1914.

**Maddox, Edward C.** Born in Kentucky in 1869, Maddox (sometimes spelled Maddocks) had reached the Copper Basin by 1900, when he was interviewed by the census enumerator. Maddox spent the summer of 1901 prospecting somewhere in the Copper Basin with a group which included Louis Rothkranz and Charlie Mayman.

**Maddron, George.** Born in Pennsylvania in December 1866, Maddron (sometimes spelled Maddren) first reached interior Alaska via the Valdez Glacier in 1898. In 1906 he and

partner Peter Erickson staked the first claims on Erickson Gulch, a tributary of Glacier Creek in the lower Chitistone Valley. Maddron also mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Madson, Harry.** In 1896 Madson, brothers John and Peter Nielson, and fourteen other prospectors explored the White River country, where they wintered. In 1897 they descended the White, and continued down the Yukon River until they reached the newly established community of Dawson.

**Maess, Frank.** Maess, who began his northern prospecting career before the Klondike discovery and was said to have participated in the Fairbanks stampede, partnered with Sid Johnston in 1929, working claims in the Chisana district. Dying in July 1938, Maess was buried in the white cemetery at Chisana City.

**Magnuson, P.** Magnuson, who reportedly came to Alaska in 1898, was managing Wortman's Roadhouse in 1910. This may be the same Magnuson (first name unknown) who mined Golconda Creek Discovery with William Ide in 1902.

**Mahar, William.** Mahar staked six claims at the site of the lapsed Houghton Alaska claims on the Chitistone River in 1921. He abandoned the property, called the Peavine Prospect, in 1938 without ever shipping any copper.

**Mahler, George.** Horace Conger reported encountering Mahler on Jacksina Creek in May 1899.

**Maiers, James.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Maiers as a Chitina stableman employed by the Orr Stage Company.

**Malver, Andrew.** Malver worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Mamon, Thomas.** Mamon located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Maney, Hanes.** Maney was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Manheim, H. C.** From New York, Manheim prospected in the Kuskulana Basin with James McCarthy in 1902.

**Manker, James A.** Born in Indiana in 1854, Manker (sometimes spelled Monker) rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He made the region's first gold discovery on Manker Creek, a tributary of the Klutina River, early that summer. *Polk's* 1907-1908 and 1909-1910 directories record him as still living in the Copper Basin, a resident of Copper Center.

**Manley, Frank.** One of Alaska's best known miners, Manley was one of the trio of investors who in 1913 optioned the James-Nelson holdings in the Chisana district. In 1915 the same group leased the so-called Brooks property on Rex Creek, but the claim did not pay and it was soon abandoned.

**Margeson, Charles.** A resident of Hornellsville, N.Y., Margeson served as the second general superintendent of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, following the resignation of L. D. Hoy. He prospected the area between Klutina Lake and the Tonsina River and participated in the rush to Manker Creek, where he staked Manker

No. 19 Above. After returning home, Margeson published *Experiences of Gold Hunters in Alaska*,” probably the best contemporary account of the local stampede. He died in 1939.

**Marker, Harry.** Probably an early prospector or miner, Marker built a cabin on the White River floodplain near the terminus of the Russell Glacier that remained a local landmark in 1918.

**Marshall, Henry F.** Marshall was managing the Copper Center Saw Mill in 1910-11.

**Marshall, R. L. H.** Marshall operated a general store in McCarthy during the 1920s which competed with J. B. O’Neill’s.

**Marston, E. M.** Marston and partner Masey operated the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse, situated at mile 32 of the Valdez Trail, in 1901 and 1902.

**Martin, Jesse C.** *Polk’s* 1911-1912 directory lists Martin as superintendent of the Orr Stage Company’s Chitina operation. He resigned his position in mid-September 1911 and returned to Valdez.

**Martin, Robert P.** Born in North Carolina in 1859, Martin mined in the Kuskulana district in 1910.

**Marwood, C. O.** Marwood published the *McCarthy Weekly News* during the 1925s.

**Mary, Horse Creek.** Oral accounts suggest that Mary, born about 1840 at Taral, was the daughter of an Ahtna woman named Adalena and Beniinen--sometimes called Manena--, the last Russian trader at Copper Fort. Mary produced four children, one of whom was briefly married to Doc Billum, but all died in early adulthood, leaving Mary to face old age alone. Mary was frequently photographed by tourists traveling on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway and also painted by Eustace Ziegler, Jules Dahlager, and Ted Lambert, noted artists who considered her an ideal subject. The location of her death is uncertain, but she seems to have died in 1923 and may be buried in the small cemetery on the bluff above Lower Tonsina.

**Matthew, Chief.** According to a report written by the chief of the Konstantinovsky Redoubt (Nuchek) in 1805, the Lower Ahtna Chief Matthew (*Matvei*), identified Konstantin Galaktionov’s murderers, leading to their eventual capture by the Russians’ Eyak allies. The location of Matthew’s village was never recorded.

**Matthews, Frank.** Matthews worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Mattson, Matt.** Mattson stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Chetaslina, and was a member of a party, which included Charles Kraemer and Bethel Von Zeipel, which tried to reach the headwaters of the Copper River by crossing Mt. Wrangell. He was still in the region when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Mauzey, Arthur.** Mauzey, who reported his occupation as miner, was living in Gulkana in 1910-1911.

**May, S.** May was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Mayman, Charles.** Mayman, who was born in England in 1865, first entered interior Alaska in April 1898 via the Valdez Glacier. He was still prospecting in the Copper Basin in 1901, when he descended the Copper River with Louie Rothkranz and Bethel Von Zeipel. By 1910 Mayman and partner Levi Decker controlled virtually all productive ground on Golconda Creek in the Bremner district. Unable to fund further development, they leased the property to the Valdez-based Golconda Mining Company in 1911. Mayman and partner Fred Stroebeck later mined along the Little Bremner River.

**Mazzeo, Michael.** Mazzeo prospected in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**McAllister, Louis.** Born in Maine in 1858, McAllister probably reached Alaska before 1910, when he was recorded by the U.S. census enumerator. McAllister reported making a new placer discovery on Foley Creek, a tributary of Notch Creek about twenty miles west of Chisana City, in 1916. This may be the same McAllister who worked a claim on Sunday Gulch in the Nizina district in 1918.

**McAlpine, --.** Beginning in early 1903, McAlpine operated the first sawmill in the Nizina district, situated on Chititu No. 4.

**McAlpine, Archie.** McAlpine was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**McCabe, John E.** Born in Louisiana in 1874, McCabe probably reached Alaska before 1910, when he was recorded by the U.S. census enumerator as living in Cordova. McCabe operated in the Chisana district in 1914, leasing the lower end of Bonanza No. 7. Partnered with E. R. Behling and Joe Davis, he worked Big Eldorado No. 3 below in 1917.

**McCalliver, Mrs. --.** McCalliver was named the postmaster of Nizina on October 24, 1919, but, for unknown reasons, chose to decline the appointment.

**McCallum, Mrs. --.** McCallum operated McCallum's Roadhouse, situated at mile 203 of the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, during the winter of 1905-1906. McCallum Creek is named in her honor.

**McCallum, Louis.** McCallum sluiced on Shamrock Creek in 1915 and made a new discovery on Foley Creek, a tributary of Notch Creek, in May 1916. In 1931 he worked the right limit of Alder Gulch.

**McCarthy, D. J.** McCarthy, who reached Alaska in 1916, was living in Cordova and working as a conductor on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**McCarthy, James.** Born in Iowa in 1859, James McCarthy first visited Alaska in 1898, entering the country via Valdez. He constructed a cabin and cache on the north bank of the Chitina River about five miles above its mouth, employing it as a base from which he prospected the surrounding country. He left the interior that fall, but returned in June 1899 as a representative of the Chittyna Exploration Company of San Francisco. After traveling with USGS geologist Oscar Rohn on the Trans-Alaskan Military Trail through Keystone Canyon, McCarthy helped Reuben McClellan negotiate with Chief Nicolai for the location of the Nikolai lode. McCarthy's Chitina River cabin became an important local landmark, the place where the Chitina River trail turned north toward the Kuskulana River. Rohn

visited the site in late July, borrowing some supplies and four horses for his own explorations. Rohn later commemorated McCarthy's help by naming McCarthy Creek for the prospector. McCarthy concentrated his personal prospecting efforts in the Kuskulana Basin, eventually staking an important claim, called the Valdez lode, on the hillside above Nugget Creek about 1905. Although McCarthy later sold that property for a tidy sum, he never got to enjoy the money: he drowned while fording the Kotsina River in August 1910.

**McClellan, J.** *Polk's* 1907-1908 directory lists McClellan as manager of the Chittyna Mining Company with a residence in Valdez. This could be the Jud McClellan listed below.

**McClellan, Joe P.** One of the first to reach the Chisana district, McClellan worked Bonanza No. 3B in 1913 and Little Eldorado No. 3 in 1915. From 1916 to 1918 he and partner Andy Taylor worked claims on lower Bonanza. McClellan remained in the area until at least 1920.

**McClellan, Jud.** McClellan built several Chitina cabins in 1911, including one for Bill Cameron. This could be the J. McClellan listed above.

**McClellan, Reuben F.** Born in Mt. Kittarden, Maine, in 1859, McClellan made a fortune placer mining in California, which he invested in Minnesota timber lands. He joined the Klondike rush in 1898, but soon returned to Minnesota to form a party—the so-called McClellan group—to explore and prospect the Copper Basin. Reaching this region in 1899, McClellan and his partners bartered with local Natives for the location of the Nikolai copper lode. The following year, two members of his group discovered the Bonanza lode, one of the richest copper deposits ever recorded. From 1908 until 1910, McClellan managed the operation at Kennecott for Stephen Birch. Taking a short break from his normal duties, McClellan lead Dora Keen's 1911 attempt to climb Mt. Blackburn. Later, after retiring to California, he served as the chairman of the board of supervisors for Los Angeles County. He died there in May 1930.

**McConnell, Rod.** McConnell prospected some White Creek claims owned by A. J. Kelsey in 1903.

**McCormick, Al.** McCormick worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**McCormick, E. S.** From 1907-1910 McCormick lived in Kotsina, where he worked as an assayer for the Great Northern Development Company. This may be the Edward S. McCormick who was living in Rampart, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**McCormick, Frank.** McCormick reached Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. Judging by his later movements, he seems to have been at least loosely associated with McClellan's group.

**McCourt, Charles.** McCourt was managing the Our Home Roadhouse in October 1913.

**McCrary, Frank.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Frank McCrary as a Copper Center rancher.

**McCrary, John.** Born in Illinois in 1864, McCrary reached Alaska in 1902, filing a claim on a homestead adjacent to the Valdez Trail about a mile north of the Klutina River. He soon

established a log roadhouse at the site, and when that structure burned in 1909, built the modern, frame-constructed Copper Center Hotel, which burned about 1920. McCrary died in August 1940 and was buried in Copper Center.

**McCrary, Frances.** Born in Illinois in 1867, Frances and her husband John established the first successful homestead in Copper Center.

**McCrary, Nelson J.** Born in Oklahoma in 1891, McCrary, the son of John and Frances McCrary, operated a Copper Center fox farm from 1909-12. He and his brother Ralph managed the Dry Creek trading post during the early teens, and he and wife Mary leased and operated Yost's Roadhouse during the winter of 1916-1917. He later settled in Cordova.

**McCrary, Ralph.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Ralph McCrary as a Copper Center rancher.

**McCrimmon, A. A.** McCrimmon worked at the Westover Prospect in 1916.

**McCullough, Dan.** McCullough rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in February 1899.

**McCune, J.** McCune and Thomas Kennelly prospected in the Kotsina district in 1902.

**McCutcheon, Herbert Hazard "Bert".** Born in Bayside, California, in July 1876, McCutcheon rushed to the Seward Peninsula in 1900, and operated a Golovin store and roadhouse from 1903-1908. He next tried Bristol Bay, but left there in 1909 to take a job with the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. McCutcheon and Harry Nelson opened a saloon in Chitina in 1909, and he seems to have been a partner in a Chitina business called McCutcheon and Griffiths in 1910 and 1911. While there, he married Clara Kreuger in 1910. McCutcheon later worked as a yard foreman in Anchorage for the Alaska Railroad from 1915-1938, served on the Anchorage City Council from 1929-1930, in the Alaska Territorial House from 1931-1943, and in the Alaska Territorial Senate from 1943-1945. He died in Anchorage in November 1945.

**McDaniel, Herbert E.** Born in California in 1878, McDaniel probably reached Alaska before 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him as living in Valdez. He and his wife operated the Woodland Roadhouse, sometimes called McDaniel's Roadhouse or the Rabbit Roadhouse and situated at mile 8.6 of the Edgerton Cutoff, from 1910 until about 1915.

**McDermott, Mike.** The Nabesna Mine employed McDermott as a miner in 1939.

**McDonald, E. E.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies McDonald as a Gakona mail carrier.

**McDonald, Jack.** One of the first to reach the Chisana district, McDonald leased Bonanza No. 12 from Dud McKinney and Lem Gates.

**McDonald, James "Windy Jim".** McDonald prospected in the Chisana district in 1916 and worked Gold Run No. 2 above in 1917.

**McDowell, Albert S. "Bert".** Born in Missouri in 1869, McDowell rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In October 1898 he located a claim in the upper Tonsina district. Two years later, he, John Miller, Charles Kraemer, and D. B. Seavell made the first gold discovery on Slate Creek, one of the most profitable drainages in

the Chistochina district. McDowell was living in Cordova when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**McElhiney, A. M.** McElhiney mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**McFarland, Maj. Edward R.** McFarland came to Alaska in 1910 via Skagway and Dawson to build telegraph lines, and in 1915 he managed the such work in the Copper Basin. McFarland was later employed by the Alaskan Engineering Commission in Anchorage, and following the First World War—during which he served as a captain in the Signal Corps—he was promoted to major and appointed General Superintendent of the telegraph and telephone lines on the railroads operated by the United States. He was living in Anchorage in 1920.

**McFreely, George “Scotty”.** McFreely and his partners, Joe Summers and Walter Holmes, operated in the Nizina district from 1938 through the early 1940s, working Asa Baldwin’s Rex Creek property.

**McGavock, James.** McGavock originally came to Alaska in 1909 to work on the construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. Over the next two decades, he worked for the Great Northern Development Company on Clear Creek, for the Hubbard-Elliott Company on Elliott Creek, and for Angus MacDougall on MacDougall Creek, as well as prospecting his own properties, which included a Rex Creek claim. His major income was derived, however, from the Kennecott Copper Corporation, where he served as master mechanic from about 1919 until 1937. In 1943 McGavock and partner Fred Erickson still held the Erickson Prospect on Glacier Creek.

**McGavock, John.** John McGavock, the brother of James, died in the devastating avalanche which demolished the Great Northern Development Company’s upper Clear Creek camp during the winter of 1912-1913.

**McGee, --.** Horace Conger reported encountering a prospector named McGee on Jacksina Creek in June 1899.

**McGee, Harry.** McGee was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**McGee, John.** McGee was operating a Chisna meat market in 1907-1908, according to the Polk’s directory published for those years.

**McGee, W. C.** McGee, a Slate Creek miner, established McGee’s Roadhouse, situated at mile 160.9 of the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, in 1906. Later that year he turned the operation over to his daughter, Mrs. L. M. Hicks, who changed its name to Our Home Roadhouse.

**McGettigan, Anthony.** Born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 1865, McGettigan immigrated to America in 1889. He went to the Klondike in 1897 and then stampeded to the Seward Peninsula in 1899. He eventually settled in Nome, where he was elected City Clerk in 1904 and became a charter member of that community’s Pioneers of Alaska, Igloo No. 1. McGettigan later rushed to Chisana, where he was employed as U.S. Commissioner Anthony Dimond’s assistant during the winter of 1913-1914. In 1915 he was appointed commissioner for the Chisana district, serving until 1921. Partnered with Robert Hover, he worked Bonanza No. 2 bench in 1917. Partnered with Don Greene, he mined Bonanza No.



5 in 1926, and, again with Greene, worked an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek in 1929. McGettigan operated Bonanza No. 11 in 1931, an unidentified claim on upper Bonanza Creek in 1933, Bonanza Nos. 11 and 12 in 1936, and Bonanza No. 12 in 1938 and 1940. He was also Chisana City's last postmaster, serving from February 24 to July 30, 1938. McGettigan died under mysterious circumstances on Gold Hill in the early 1940s, the probable victim of a bear attack.

**McGuire, Anthony.** McGuire operated in the Chisana district in 1914, mining along Dry Gulch.

**McGuire, J. E.** McGuire rushed to the Chisana district in 1913, locating claims on Snow Gulch.

**McHugh, John.** McHugh, a Sioux City, Iowa, banker who held the mortgage on George C. Hazelet's and A. J. Meals Slate Creek property, foreclosed in 1902. The claim is still producing gold.

**McKaig, Joseph P.** McKaig prospected the Copper Basin in 1898. He left that fall and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**McKay, William F.** Born in New Brunswick, Canada, about 1853, McKay rushed to the Klondike in 1898. He worked in the Nizina district before rushing to Chisana, where he prospected in 1914 and 1915. Like Mike Knowles, he worked Notch Creek in 1919. McKay died in Mayo, Yukon Territory, in August 1929.

**McKenna, Robert Addison.** Born in December 1903 and raised in Helena, Montana, McKenna studied at Dartmouth and Harvard before journeying to Alaska in 1929 to conduct anthropological research among the Tanana people of the upper Nabesna and Chisana Rivers. McKenna traveled on horseback from McCarthy to Chisana City, where he remained for several months. He then spent six weeks in Cooper Creek Village before visiting Batzulnetas, where he attended an important potlatch in January 1930 before leaving the region via Tetlin. McKenna's landmark ethnology of the Upper Tanana Indians—finally published in 1959—was largely based on this fieldwork. McKenna later worked as an anthropology professor at Dartmouth, where he cofounded the Anthropology Department in 1967. He died in October 1982.

**McKenzie, Thomas.** Born in Scotland in 1875, McKenzie was reported to be mining on Elliott Creek in 1910.

**McKenzie, William.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies McKenzie as a WAMCATS telegraph operator in Gakona.

**McKinley, Jim.** Born in Copper Center in 1898, McKinley was a leading resident of the region, serving his Ahtna people as a storyteller, singer, interpreter, linguist, minister, and traditional chief until his death in 1989.

**McKinney, Barney.** Barney McKinney, the adopted son of Dud, also mined in the Chisana district, working Gold Run No. 1 above during 1929 and 1930.

**McKinney, W. D. "Dud".** McKinney came north in 1887, serving as the mayor of Forty Mile in the Yukon Territory before joining the first wave of stampedeers into the Chisana district. He staked Bonanza No. 11 in 1913, sluiced the upper end of Bonanza No. 11 in 1915, and

worked Bonanza No. 8 in 1917. McKinney later partnered with Jack Carroll, working Gold Run Creek in 1923.

**McKnight, Joseph H.** McKnight was one of the first miners in the Hanagita-Bremner district, mining Golconda No. 6 below in 1902.

**McLain, Bill.** McLain, who rushed to the Bremner district in 1902, spent that season working Summit No. 1 above with Mockler and Gillis. McLain and three partners later formed the Skookum Development Company, working Rex Creek No. 4 in 1904.

**McLaren, John.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, McLaren staked property on Monahan Creek in 1902. This may be the same John McLaren who was living in Fairbanks when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**McLean brothers.** Both Archie and Tom McLean participated in the Chisana rush.

**McLellan, John.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists McLellan as a Chitina freighter employed by the Orr Stage Company.

**McLennan, William.** Billy McLennan prospected in the Chisana district before James's discovery, but failed to find any gold. He returned with the other stampeders in 1913, eventually working Little Eldorado No. 3 in 1915. The 1920 Chisana census listed McLennan as a prospector.

**McLeod, --.** According to Louise Anderson, McLeod was superintendent of the Nugget Creek mine in 1916.

**McMahan, C. J.** McMahan was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**McMann, Patrick.** McMann, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner.

**McMillan, Dan.** McMillan worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**McMullen, Edward.** Born in Washington in 1888, McMullen probably reached Alaska before 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him as living in Cordova. McMullen reported making a new strike on Foley Creek, a tributary of Notch Creek, in May 1916. Partnered with Tony McGettigan, he worked Bonanza No. 10 in 1919. He was listed as a prospector on the 1920 census.

**McMullen, George B.** Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1863, McMullen rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He worked Rex Creek No. 5 in 1904. That winter, and probably during the winter of 1905-1906 as well, he managed the Roosevelt Roadhouse, situated on the old Valdez-Fairbanks Trail about 52 miles north of Gakona, for the Valdez Transportation Company.

**McNair, George.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists McNair as a Tielke City mail carrier.

**McNamara, Jack.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, McNamara seems to have spent the winter of 1898-99 somewhere on the Tazlina River.

**McNaughton, A. S.** McNaughton prospected in the Kuskulana Basin with James McCarthy in 1902.

**McNeer, Arthur H.** Born in West Virginia in 1876, McNeer stampeded to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via the Valdez Glacier and spending the winter of 1898-99 prospecting with George Hazelet and A. J. Meals in the Chistochina district. In 1899 he helped Ed Gates and James McCarthy locate the Nikolai copper lode before assisting USGS cartographer Oscar Rohn complete the first direct traverse over the Wrangell Mountains. He rejoined Hazelet in February 1900 to help develop the Chisna Mine. In 1903 McNeer, Lewis H. Carvey, and several others were working the left bench on Rex Creek No. 3.

**McNoe, Robert.** McNoe mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**McNutt, --.** Chisana miner McNutt sluiced Shamrock Creek in 1915 and, partnered with Al Wright, mined Bonanza No. 11 in 1916. This could be the Clarence B. McNutt who the 1910 census records as living in Valdez.

**McTanock, James.** McTanock is listed as the patentee of the Erickson Prospect on Glacier Creek.

**Meagher, T. J.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Meagher as a WAMCATS telegraph operator in Gakona.

**Meals, Andrew Jackson.** Born in Butler County, Pennsylvania, in 1852, Meals stampeded to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. More successful than most prospectors, he and partner George Hazelet made the first important discovery in the Chistochina district. Unfortunately, their profits never covered their expenses, and the pair lost the property to mortgage holder John McHugh in 1902. Meals eventually settled in Valdez, where he worked periodically for the Copper River and Northwestern Railroad, heading that company's townsite construction at both Port Valdez and Cordova, and in early 1907, transporting the disassembled steamboat *Chitina* from Valdez to the Copper River via Marshall Pass. During the 1920s, he owned a auto dealership in Valdez, where he died in October 1927.

**Means, Samuel B.** Born in Missouri in 1860, Means stampeded to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He first settled in Valdez, his address on the 1900 census. A determined prospector, Means worked Chititu No. 1 below in 1915. He apparently remained in the area, as he was reportedly still living in a cabin near the mouth of Chititu Creek in the mid-1930s.

**Mease, Edward.** Mease was mining near the Beaver Dam Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 41) in 1910.

**Meenach, Joshua D.** Born in Kentucky in 1858, Meenach, who was the general manager of the Ellamar copper mines in Prince William Sound, invested heavily in Robert Blei's Chititu Development Company in 1903. When contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, he was living in the Iditarod district. He eventually retired to Seattle, where he died in March 1928.

**Meier, Charles J.** Born in Germany in 1874, Meier (sometimes spelled Meiers) worked as a cook for Alvin Paxson and a local mail carrier before establishing Meier's Roadhouse on the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail in 1906. It burned in 1925.

**Melander, Charlie.** Melander worked as the cook at the Josevig-Kennecott Copper Company camp near Kennecott in 1917.

**Melby, Ed.** One of the first stampedeers to enter the Copper Basin in 1898, Melby built a cabin in Copper Center which was used as a saloon and poker hall that fall.

**Melley, E. G.** Melley located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Meloy, Jack.** Meloy was working as a Chisana miner in 1918, when he crossed the Wrangell Mountains with Percy Thornton, V. Catching, and Claude James to report to the McCarthy Draft Board. In 1925 he, his brother Joe, and Billy Trim completed the assessment work on William Sulzer's White River mining claims.

**Meloy, Joe.** Meloy reached the Wrangell region before 1924, when he worked as a horse packer for outfitter Andy Taylor. In 1925 he, his brother Jack, and Billy Trim completed the assessment work on William Sulzer's White River mining claims. Prospecting in the Bremner district above Golconda Creek, Meloy and partners John Letendre and Carl Killian discovered the Yellow Band lode in 1934. He remained in the district until at least 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Menaken, Max.** Menaken worked as a laborer at the Tiekell Roadhouse in 1907.

**Merchant, Norman.** Born in England around 1875, Merchant stamped to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via the Valdez Glacier. One of the first to placer mine in the Nizina district, he worked Dan Creek No. 2 in 1903 and Chititu No. 6 in 1904. He also operated in the Kotsina Basin, where he held claims near Roaring Creek in 1906. He and his wife Mary left Alaska in 1918.

**Messala, Chief.** see Bacile.

**Meyer, Herman.** Meyer managed the Nizina Trading Company's store in Nizina from 1903 until at least 1907. This may be the same Herman Meyer that the U.S. census enumerator recorded as living in Fairbanks in 1910.

**Millard, Benjamin Franklin.** Born in Barraboo, Wisconsin, in May 1850, Millard worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad before joining the Klondike rush. Landing at Valdez in March 1898, his company prospected the Copper Basin, establishing an important trail from Copper Center to the mouth of the Slana River. In 1899 his group and another headed by Reuben F. McClellan joined to develop the Nikolai copper lode. Their merger ultimately resulted in years of litigation over the ownership of the nearby Bonanza mine. Although Millard lost that critical struggle, he remained a regionally influential figure. His Galena Bay Mining Company built an elaborate camp called Coppertown on Copper Creek in the Kotsina Basin about 1910 and he later served in the Alaska Territorial House from 1913-1917. Millard moved to Seattle in 1917, where he died in January 1926.

**Miller, Albert.** Miller was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Miller, "Bath House".** In 1915 Miller and Brown worked a claim on Sunday Gulch, a tributary of Chititu Creek. A man named Miller was also reportedly prospecting the bench on the right limit of Chititu No. 8 and Lost Gulch that same year.

**Miller, Charlie.** In 1899 Miller and Charles Simenstad located the Mullen, Angle, and Sport lodes on Copper Creek in the Kotsina district, but soon sold the claims to the Galena Bay Mining Company.

**Miller, Frank.** Miller established Chisana City's first saloon, the "Miner's Home Bar," during the winter of 1913-1914. He had earlier operated a hotel and bar of the same name in Fairbanks.

**Miller, Harry R.** Born in Iowa in January 1866, Miller was reportedly prospecting along the Bremner River in 1910. In 1912 he and his wife purchased the Ernestine Roadhouse, situated at mile 62 of the Valdez Trail, which they operated until 1916.

**Miller, J. A.** Miller operated a roadhouse in Chisana City in 1915.

**Miller, Jay J.** Born in Iowa in 1879, Miller probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator recorded him as living in Cordova. Miller was postmaster of McCarthy from August 21, 1917 until March 1, 1918.

**Miller, John.** Miller, originally from St. Louis, Missouri, joined the rush to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. After two years of fruitless prospecting in the Copper Basin, he, Charles Kraemer, D. B. Seavell, and Bert McDowell discovered placer deposits on Slate Creek on June 20, 1900. Two days later, Miller located Miller Gulch, the most profitable drainage in the Chistochina district.

**Miller, John B.** In about 1905, Miller and partner James Barkley crossed the icefield between Yakataga beach and Granite Creek and prospected the upper Kiagna River. After a short stay, they returned to Yakataga by the same route. Miller was living on Kayak Island when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. Mt. Miller, the highest point on the Barkley Ridge, which separates the Bagley Icefield from the coast, was probably named in his honor.

**Miller, Joseph.** *Polk's* 1911-12 directory lists Miller as a Chitina bridge carpenter.

**Miller, Robert.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Miller as a Tiekell City mail carrier.

**Milligan, S.** Milligan rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

**Millsap, James.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Millsap as a Tiekell City [stage] driver.

**Mockler, Billy.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Mockler and his partners worked No. 1 above on Summit Creek in 1902.

**Moderhak, William.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Moderhak as a WAMCATS telegraph operator living in Gakona.

**Moffit, Fred Howard.** Born in Princeville, Illinois, in April 1874, Moffit joined the U.S.G.S. in 1900. In 1903 he joined its Alaskan Branch, where he completed most of his work. Although he worked on the Seward Peninsula in 1903, 1905, and 1906, and on the Kenai Peninsula in 1904, he spent the majority of his time in Southcentral Alaska, including surveys of the Kotsina, Kuskulana, Chitina, Nizina, Gulkana, Chistochina, Nabesna, White, and Bremner Rivers. He died in Washington, D.C., in January 1958. The U.S.G.S. named Mt. Moffit, the highest peak in the central Alaska Range, in his honor.

**Monahan, Peter.** Born in Washington in 1865, Monahan and partners Guy Banta and Angus Gillis located the Bremner district's first placer deposits on Golconda Creek in the fall of 1901. The following year he and John Van Iderstein worked No. 4 above in that drainage and No. 2 on Summit Creek. In August 1903, Monahan and several other Valdez miners made an important placer discovery on Valdez Creek, an upper tributary of the Susitna River. Four years later, Monahan and his partners William Grogg and Sidney Woffington recovered \$80,000 from a bench claim there. Although Monahan did well on Valdez Creek, he sold out too early, and soon went broke. He resumed prospecting in the early 1920s, but this time was not so lucky. Caught in a blizzard on the Susitna Flats in March 1929, he froze to death in his sleeping bag. Bremner prospectors named Monahan Creek in Monahan's honor.

**Monson, John.** Monson worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Montgomery, Dr. Charles.** Montgomery mined in the Chisana district in 1915, working Big Eldorado No. 4 below. The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies him as a Chisana City physician.

**Montgomery, James.** Montgomery prospected the Copper Basin in 1901 and that fall descended the Copper River with Addison Powell. He returned to the interior the following season, staking some copper property at the head of the White River. Montgomery worked that claim until 1906, when he, his wife, and two-year old son (who was apparently born in Canyon City) all drowned while attempting to raft the Nizina River.

**Moore, --.** Chisana miner Moore worked the lower end of Bonanza No. 11 in 1915.

**Moore, Clark A.** Former train robber Clark Moore rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer.

**Moore, Harry.** An early resident of Glennallen, Moore invested heavily in the Yellow Band Mining Company and served as one of its directors in the 1940s.

**Moore, H. L.** Moore located a claim on Copper Creek in 1899. Later that summer, he seems to have also prospected in the Chistochina district, where he witnessed a claim on the Chisna River.

**Moore, J. E.** Moore ran the Bremner Gold Mining Company's Lucky Girl Mill in 1936.

**Moore, M. W. "Slim".** Moore and "Doc" Calvin Krite constructed a cabin on the east side of Summit Lake in the 1930s which eventually evolved into the Moochigan Lodge. Moore changed the name of the establishment to the Summit Lodge after securing sole ownership in 1953. He operated it until 1962, when he sold it to Dave Lanni.

**Moore, R. H.** In 1911-1912 Moore was operating a general merchandise store in the vicinity of McCarthy.

**Moore, S. C.** Moore located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Moorhead, E. P.** Moorhead owned the Edison Association placer claim on Rex Creek in 1922.

**Mondard, --.** Mondard rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center in January 1899.

**Morey, Arthur G.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Morey as a Chitina druggist. He also served as U.S. commissioner during this period, as well as Chitina's first postmaster. According to the *R. G. Dunn* directory, Morey was still operating his Chitina drugstore in 1923. After leaving Chitina, he settled in Long Beach, California.

**Morgan, Horatio E.** The first U.S. recorder in the Chisana district, Morgan served during July and August 1913. Partnered with Robert Wiley, Morgan mined Gold Run Creek in 1913. In 1914 he operated a claim on Discovery Pup and worked several other claims the following summer, including Bonanza No. 8 fraction and Bonanza No. 10, which he leased from Carl Whitham.

**Morris, James.** In 1916 McCarthy resident Morris owned the Skolai Butte group, 21 claims adjacent to the Golden Eagle group about a mile above Dan Creek.

**Morris, Joe.** Morris, who prospected in the Chistochina district in 1901, worked Dan Creek No. 5 with Charlie Range, Tom Lynch, and Charlie Schlosser in 1904.

**Morrissey, Patrick.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Morrissey as a Chitina bartender employed by McCutcheon and Griffiths.

**Morrison, --.** Morrison was one of six men actively freighting into the Chisana district in 1914. A Morrison--perhaps the same man--was also mining near the head of White Creek in 1915.

**Morse, S. A.** Morse rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim in March 1899.

**Moses, Otto.** Moses rushed from New York to the Klondike in 1898, remaining in the Yukon and Alaska until about 1915, mining, cooking, and entertaining the miners with his trained singing voice. He married Rilda Martin in 1917 and the couple settled in Des Moines, where he managed a general store. Following that store's failure in 1930, O. A. Nelson asked him to return to Alaska to manage the Chitina Cash Store, which he did until 1940. During his stay in Chitina, Moses and his family lived in the historic Ed S. Orr superintendent's cabin, now the National Park Service's local visitor center.

**Mosier, George.** Mosier prospected in the Chisana district in 1915, examining benches along Shamrock Creek.

**Moulton, Noyes.** A member of the Manhattan Mining Company, Moulton rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He prospected around Klutina Lake and Grayling Creek before helping found the short-lived community of Tiekell City. Moulton left Alaska in October 1899.

**Moyes, Capt. Emanuel.** Moyes, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, withdrew from the party after reaching the upper Klutina River and prospected instead with William Williams and Charles Butts. He wintered on Grayling Creek.

**Moylan, Patrick.** Rushing to Alaska in early 1898, Moylan led a six-man party of stampedeers over the Valdez Glacier and into the Copper Basin.

**Mueller, Frances.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Mueller as a Copper Center housekeeper working at Hotel Holman. She remained in that community through at least 1911.

**Mullen, Ed.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Mullen as a Chitina bartender employed by Thomas Cloninger.

**Mullendorth, Benjamin.** After mining in the Nizina district, Mullendorth drowned while trying to descend the Chitina River in September 1909.

**Mullett, Ezekiel.** Mullett, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner. He later operated in the Chisana district, where he and partner Percy Thornton worked a claim on Skookum Creek in 1919.

**Mullins, Ed.** Mullins homesteaded between Oscar Anderson's property and Long Lake in 1918, and later sold his property to Alvin Fagerberg who sold vegetables to Kennecott. Unfortunately, Fagerberg never obtained title, so it was vacant when acquired by Cliff Collins in 1961.

**Munsell, --.** Chisana miner Munsell and his partners sluiced Gold Run No. 3 below in 1915.

**Munson, "Big".** Munson, Jack Tansey, and Slim Gray prospected along Crooked Creek, a tributary of the Nelchina River, in 1907.

**Munson, Harry B.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Munson as a Tikel City [stage] driver. *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory has him working as a Chitina stableman employed by the Orr Stage Company.

**Murfin, LeRoy.** A member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, Murfin was accidentally shot before even ascending the Valdez Glacier, and died of his wound.

**Murie, James H.** Born in Old Fort Gary [Indiana?], Murie reached Alaska via the Mackenzie River and the Rat-Bell River portage to the Porcupine River. Partnered with Jack Costello, Murie worked Bonanza No. 10 in 1915. Leaving the Chisana district about 1916, he moved across the Wrangell Mountains, where he and his wife Tess (later Tess Murie Holmes) operated the popular Nizina Roadhouse until his death in 1940. During the 1930s he also worked claims on lower Chititu Creek.

**Murphy, D. T.** Murphy, who came to Alaska as president of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, withdrew from the party after reaching the upper Klutina River and returned to the States.

**Murphy, Patrick.** Murphy reportedly prospected in the Kotsina Basin from 1907 until about 1912.

**Murray, Joseph H.** Born in Albany, New York, in June 1877, Murray practiced law in New York City before moving to Alaska in 1903. Reaching Valdez, he prospected in the Nizina district, locating claims on Calamity Gulch which he worked with partner Anthony J. "Tony" Dimond. The 1907-1908 *Polk's directory* records Murray as the Municipal Magistrate of Valdez. He later practiced law in Cordova and served in Alaska's Territorial House from 1917-1919 and again from 1921-1933. He died in Cordova in June 1944.



**Myers, Bill.** A trapper, Myers was living on the Nabesna River near Cross Creek Village in 1929.

**Myers, George.** A seasoned prospector, Myers, collapsed, died, and was buried on Bonanza No. 10 bench in July 1915.

## N

**Nachant, John.** Originally from Germany, Nachant was one of four prospectors who spent the winter of 1909-1910 on the Nabesna River.

**Nafsted, Jacob M. “Jake”.** (sometimes spelled Nafstad). Nafsted and partner Fred A. Martin leased Yager’s Roadhouse in Upper Tonsina from Albert White in 1902, renaming the facility the Tonsina Roadhouse. In 1906 Nafsted bought the Copper River Trading Post at the mouth of the Tonsina River from Debord and Stevens. Assigning his younger brother Knute responsibility for the trading post, Nafsted remained at Upper Tonsina until about 1911, when he opened a modern new roadhouse at Lower Tonsina. Nafsted and his wife May operated this facility until 1925, when they sold it to Frank Lampson. Nafsted was reportedly living in Fairbanks in May 1950 when he was assessed for taxes due on his 10 percent interest in the Hubbard-Elliott property. He remained there until at least 1952.

**Nafsted, Knute M.** (sometimes spelled Nafstad). Born in Norway in 1886, Nafsted, the half-brother of Jake Nafsted, operated the Copper River Trading Post at Lower Tonsina from 1906 until 1910. He then moved to Upper Tonsina, where he ran the Tonsina Roadhouse from 1911 until it closed in 1916.

**Natenstedt, Lars.** Natenstedt was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Neagle, John M.** Born in Massachusetts in 1884, Neagle worked as a bookkeeper for the Great Northern Development Company from 1907-1912. He was also Kotsina’s last postmaster, serving from August 31, 1911 until service to the community was discontinued on August 31, 1915.

**Neal, J. W.** Neal established the U.S. Agricultural Experiment Station at Copper Center in July 1902. He resigned his position in January 1907 and left the region.

**Nelson, --.** The 1909-10 *Polk’s* directory identifies Nelson as a Copper Center resident who was working as a lineman for the U.S. Signal Corps.

**Nelson, Aaron E.** Nelson prospected Canyon Creek in 1915. Listed as a prospector on the 1920 Chisana census, he served as the district’s U.S. Commissioner from 1921-1930. Nelson mined Big Eldorado Creek in 1923, and worked an unidentified claim on Bonanza Creek in 1926 and again in 1929.

**Nelson, Adrian C.** Nelson, the son of O. A. Nelson, was employed as an electrician at Asa Baldwin’s Yellow Band Mining Company in 1941. He was still living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band stockholders.

**Nelson, Charles A. “Chick”.** Born in Norway in 1860, Nelson reached Alaska in 1901, entering the interior via Valdez. The region’s most extensive copper exploration in the late 1920s occurred on Glacier Creek, where Nelson discovered a promising deposit in 1928.

Lacking the capital to work the claims himself, he arranged with the Kennecott Copper Corporation to conduct additional investigations. Kennecott, however, failed to locate any significant deposits and returned the claims to Nelson in 1930. Nelson continued his assessment work and even patented six of his claims in 1935, but none were ever developed any further. During the mid-1930s, he located a claim in the Bremner district at the head of Pocket Creek, just east of the Sheriff group. He remained in the Chitina Valley through at least 1943. Nelson Mountain, located south of the Chitina River, was named in his honor.

**Nelson, Fred J.** Fred Nelson was reported to have made a strike on Foley Creek, a tributary of Notch Creek, in May 1916. According to Linnie Nelson, N. P.'s wife, Nelson worked James Murie's Bonanza Creek claim in 1918. He was living in Fairbanks in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Nelson, Harry.** Nelson and H. H. "Bert" McCutcheon opened a saloon in Chitina in 1909.

**Nelson, J.** *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Nelson as a Tonsina clerk.

**Nelson, Jack.** Nelson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Nelson, Johnny.** Nelson and partner George L. Davis operated the Ernestine Roadhouse, situated at mile 62 of the Valdez Trail, in 1902 and 1903.

**Nelson, Nels P.** Born in 1870 in Bleken, Sweden, N. P. Nelson served in the U.S. Navy before coming to Alaska in the mid-1890s. Although he was prospecting in the Fortymile country when George Carmack made his 1896 Klondike discovery, Nelson failed to join the initial wave of stampeders up the Yukon River and therefore missed his first and best opportunity to strike it rich. Despite that setback, in 1913 Nelson, Billy James, and Matilda Wales, discovered gold in the Chisana district. In the fall of 1913 they leased their most productive claims to a syndicate of Alaskan investors, who in turn assigned them to Fletcher Hamshaw. Recovering the claims in 1916, Nelson and various partners worked them continuously through the 1940s. In 1947 he still controlled Bonanza No. 8, No. 8 fraction, No. 9, and the Discovery claim at the mouth of Coarse Money Creek. Nelson retired to California in the early 1950s, where he died in 1966. He was a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, Cordova Igloo No. 19.

**Nelson, Otto A.** Born in Revere, Missouri, about 1885, and trained as a civil engineer, Nelson worked as a school teacher before coming to Alaska in 1908 for a surveying job on the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. He soon settled in Chitina, where he operated the Chitina Cash Store, served as postmaster from 1924-1955 and also served as the community's U.S. commissioner during the 1920s. Nelson owned several parcels of local mining property, including a Copper Creek placer claim in the Nizina district. During the 1930s he and N. P. Nelson, who were not related, formed the Nelson Mining Company to mine in the Chisana district. In addition, Nelson was a stockholder in Gillam Airways and the Hubbard-Elliott property, a director of the Nabesna Mining Corporation, and a director and secretary-treasurer of the Yellow Band Mining Company. An indefatigable booster of Chitina, Nelson led the effort to construct a connecting highway to Cordova, personally building the first two miles of the road in the early 1950s. He died in Seattle in June 1962.

**Nelson, Warren D.** Born in Wisconsin in 1878, Warren probably reached the region before 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez. In 1923 Nelson mined on Pan Creek, a tributary of Tchawsahmon Creek, just across the international boundary from Horsfeld.

**Nevelius, Charles.** Nevelius was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district. He later operated the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse, situated at mile 32 of the Valdez Trail, in 1913 and 1914.

**Newhouse, Peter.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Newhouse as owner/manager of a Chitina general merchandise store.

**Newman, John.** Newman, hired to do assessment work on Mrs. Underwood's claims above Dan Creek, was fatally injured while working there in July 1925.

**Neys, John.** Neys was employed by the Nabesna Mine in 1939 as its watchman.

**Nichols, Fred.** Nichols managed Yost's Roadhouse, formerly called McCallum's Roadhouse and situated at mile 203 on the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, during the winter of 1912-1913. Nichols bought the Paxson Roadhouse in 1913 and operated it until it burned in 1923. He also served as postmaster at Paxson from June 27, 1914 until service was discontinued in December 1916.

**Nichols, John.** In 1915 Nichols prospected Bonanza No. 17 for owner Sam Shucklin. As late as 1943 he was still in the region, living in the Chitina Valley.

**Nicholson, James M.** Born in Scotland in 1865, Nicholson emigrated to the United States in 1882 and settled in Chicago. He rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier. After spending the summer prospecting along the Copper River, he crossed to the upper Tanana River and returned to Seattle. He joined the Nome stampede in 1900 and visited Siberia in 1902, but after a short stay he returned to Nome. Nicholson eventually settled in Anchorage in 1916, where he was employed by the Alaskan Engineering Commission as a carpenter.

**Nickels, George.** Nickels managed the Nizina Mining Company's upper camp in 1923.

**Nicklie, Oley.** An early resident of Valdez Creek, Nicklie left that area about 1941.

**Nickolai, Chief.** Nickolai, the uncle of Charley Sanford, was a leading resident of the upper Ahtna region, living at Indian River until his death about 1940 (Nickolai was still living at Indian River when contacted by Frolich Rainey during the summer of 1939). His daughter was married to trader Lawrence DeWitt.

**Nicolai, Chief.** Born around 1840, Nicolai was the lower Ahtna's leading *denae* (usually translated as "chief") from 1884 until his death about 1900. The date of Nicolai's death is supported by A. C. Dowling's account of his journey down the Copper River in September 1901, where he identifies Hanagita as chief of the lower Ahtna. Nicolai is noted for having assisted several early exploring parties, including Allen in 1885 and Schwatka in 1891. In 1899 it was he who revealed the site of the Nikolai copper lode to the McClellan group in exchange for a cache of food left near the mouth of the Bremner River by H. G. Allis. Local

prospectors named several important local features in his honor, including Nikolai Creek and Nikolai Butte.

**Nieding, Burton Budd.** Nieding (which some sources spell Niedling), who was trained as a mining engineer, managed Kennecott in the 1920s. Nieding, Asa C. Baldwin, and John B. O'Neill briefly optioned the Ramer brothers' Topsy group on Golconda Creek in the late 1920s, but they soon abandoned their effort. Niedling's wife, whose first name is not recorded, was the daughter of H. R. Shepard, a member of the Alaska Territorial Legislature in 1923.

**Nielson, Peter.** Born in Denmark in January 1863, Nielson came to Alaska in 1884 and operated a ferry between Juneau and the Treadwell Mine on Douglas Island. In 1896 he joined a party of seventeen miners who explored much of the White River country, wintering there with his brother John and partner Harry Madson. He descended the White in 1897, and settled in the nearly established community of Dawson, where his brother John established the Klondike Hotel. Nielson died in Berkeley, California, in March 1928.

**Niemi, William J.** Born in Calumet, Michigan, in 1904, Niemi was employed by the Alaska Road Commission as a construction engineer in the early 1930s. He remained with the ARC through many jobs and in many locations, until he finally transferred to the Federal Highway Administration in 1962. He moved to Oregon following his retirement in 1967.

**Nierman, Dr. H. G.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Nierman spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center, where he treated many of the ill prospectors.

**Nilson, Morris.** Nilson was employed by the Yellow Band Mining Company in 1941.

**Nolan, Frank J.** Nolan is listed as the patentee on a claim group located on the Middle Fork of the White River.

**Noon, John.** Born in Red Bluff, California, in August 1859, Noon rushed to the Klondike in 1897, where he held a productive claim on Bonanza Creek. Nevertheless, he moved to Nome in 1899 and then the Koyukuk in 1900. He next tried Seward, where he worked for Cal Brosius. He then went to Fairbanks, remaining there until 1905. After leaving Fairbanks, Noon managed the Summit Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 25.5) from 1906 until at least 1910. He was living in Seward when he was elected to the Alaska Territorial House, serving from 1915-1917 and again from 1919-1920, when his failing health forced him to leave Alaska. He died in Portland, Oregon, in July 1923.

**Nordwick, Ed.** Nordwick mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Norwood, Al.** Norwood, who operated the Meier's Roadhouse in 1928-1929, was a well known local moonshiner. He was also suspected of killing trapper Bob Smith near the outlet of Paxson Lake, but he was never charged with the crime and the real killer was never apprehended.

**Nuckolls, Richard.** Originally from California, Nuckolls (sometimes spelled Nuskolls) and his three pack dogs ascended the Copper River in 1898 and may have prospected the headwaters of the Tanana River as well. He later settled in Ketchikan.

**O'Brien, --.** An early arrival in the Bremner district, O'Brien prospected Beaton Gulch in 1902.

**O'Connell, Daniel.** O'Connell was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**O'Conner, George A.** Born in Missouri in 1853, *Polk's* 1907-1908 directory identifies O'Conner as a Tonsina blacksmith. He was still living in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**O'Conner, Joseph.** O'Conner worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**O'Conner, Neal.** Born in Ireland in 1836, O'Conner rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In 1902 he rushed to the Bremner district, where he worked No. 31 on Banta Creek.

**O'Conner, William.** Born in Kansas about 1851, O'Conner came to Alaska in 1907, settling in Fairbanks, where he was a Labor Party candidate for Alaska's territorial delegate to the U.S. Congress in 1910. He later moved to Cordova, where he practiced law until May 1914, when he was appointed U.S. Commissioner at Chitina. He died in Cordova in April 1922.

**O'Hara, Jack.** O'Hara was prospecting in the Chisana district in 1918, when he reported a Nabesna River gold discovery made by Chisana John. He was listed as a placer miner on the 1920 Chisana census, and mined on Big Eldorado in 1923. Later, partnered with Joe Meloy, he prospected in the Bremner district, where he helped develop the Yellow Band group during the 1930s. He was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**O'Hara, Tom.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, O'Hara spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center, where he died from scurvy.

**O'Langan, Pat.** O'Langan worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**O'Leary, Jerry and Murry.** Jerry O'Leary mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1915. That year he and his brother Murry prospected Chititu No. 2 below before moving on to Young Creek.

**O'Malley, Mike.** In 1914 O'Malley mined an unidentified but reportedly profitable claim on Big Eldorado Creek in the Chisana district.

**O'Neill, John B.** Born in North Dakota in 1889, O'Neill established the McCarthy Mercantile Company in 1911, making it one of that community's most longstanding businesses. Always interested in mining, in the late 1920s he, Asa C. Baldwin, and B. B. Neidling briefly optioned the Bremner district's Topsy group, but they soon abandoned their effort. In 1936 O'Neill and another group of associates purchased the old Brooks property—also called the Edison Associates Placer Mines, situated on Rex Creek. He restaked the Westover Prospect, which had been abandoned by the Alaska Westover Copper Company in 1930, that year as well, but abandoned it a few years later. O'Neill later served as McCarthy's postmaster from November 28, 1940 until the post office was abolished on January 31, 1943.

**O'Neill, M.** O'Neill worked as a Nizina freighter in 1907.

**O'Neill, Patrick.** The nephew of J. B. O'Neill, Pat O'Neill worked summers as a laborer on Charles Kraemer's Chititu Creek claims from 1931-34. Following his graduation from the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines (the predecessor of the University of Alaska), he managed the Fairbanks dredging operations for United States Smelting and Refining.

**O'Toole, Paddy.** O'Toole worked for the Chititu Mining Company in 1926.

**Oberfeld, Adolph.** Oberfeld, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, abandoned that party at the summit of the Valdez Glacier and left Alaska.

**Ohlason, N. E.** Ohlason rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He continued prospecting in the Copper Basin until 1900, when he was among the first to locate on Slate Creek in the Chistochina district.

**Ohlhausen, Alexander C.** Born in Missouri in 1873, Ohlhausen (sometimes spelled Ahlhausen) rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim in March 1899. The 1900 census records him as living in Valdez.

**Oishi, Frank.** Oishi, who was born in February 1888, died and was buried in the Strelna cemetery in October 1923.

**Oliver, James R.** Born in Scotland in 1845, Oliver, a resident of Copper Center from 1907 until at least 1910, was reported to be a miner.

**Olsen, Edward.** Olsen was mining near the Beaver Dam Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 41) in 1910.

**Olsen, Henry.** Born in Norway in 1864, Olsen probably reached the region prior to 1910, when the U.S. census enumerator reported him living on Kayak Island. He helped Andy Taylor and Scotty Atkinson freight the supplies for the 1925 Mt. Logan expedition, and operated McCarthy's Golden Hotel during the 1930s.

**Olsen, J.** Olsen operated the Tacoma Roadhouse, situated at mile 57.5 of the Valdez Trail, in 1907.

**Olsen, J. M. "Laughing Ole".** Olsen reached Alaska in 1900 and spent most of his life prospecting in the upper Susitna country along Valdez Creek. When contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930, he was still living in Cantwell.

**Olsen, Olaf.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory identifies Olsen as a Tonsina cook.

**Olson, --.** Olson and a prospector named Getchell made the first discovery in the Nelchina district in July 1913.

**Olson, A.** Olson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Olson, Harold C.** Olson mined in the Nizina district from 1920 to 1923. He was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Olson, J.** *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Olson as a Tonsina carpenter.

**Olson, John.** Olson operated a general store in Chisna in 1907-1908, according to the *Polk's* directory which covers those years.

**Olson, M. G.** Olson was reportedly mining with Charles Swanson, Gus F. Johnson, and Lawrence DeWitt on Ahtell Creek in 1934 .

**Olson, Otto.** Born in Minnesota in 1880, Olson mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Olson, O. C.** An employee of the Alaska Road Commission, Olson supervised construction of the Kotsina River Bridge in early 1907.

**Olts, Homer.** Olts was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Onstead, William.** Onstead located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in October 1898.

**Orr, Ed S.** Born in Clarion County, Pennsylvania, about 1850 (some sources say 1854), Orr served as the mayor of Tacoma, Washington, in the mid-1890s, but lost a hotly contested election in August 1896. The Klondike discovery brought new opportunities in 1897. Orr moved to Dyea, where he and partner William V. Tukey operated a string of packhorses, hauling freight over the Chilkoot Pass. In 1900 the pair relocated to Dawson, where they engaged in similar activities, and when business slowed there, Orr moved to Fairbanks, where he established the Ed S. Orr Stage Company. Orr's transportation venture was immediately successful and quickly became the territory's largest stageline. During this period, Orr opened major offices in Fairbanks, Valdez and Chitina, and also operated a string of relay stables adjacent to the trail's main roadhouses. In poor health, Orr sold his business to the Northern Commercial Company in 1910 and left Alaska. He died in Chehalis, Washington, in June 1926.

**Orr, Therold.** The son of Ed S. Orr, Therold Orr rushed to the Klondike in 1898 and later moved to Valdez where he held a U.S. mail contract. He was living in Tacoma, Washington, when he died in 1926.

**Orr, William C.** Born in Pennsylvania in 1869, Orr was employed by his brother Ed S. Orr as a Tiekell City stage driver in 1909-1910. He left Alaska in 1910 and was living in Tacoma, Washington, when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Orr, W. H.** Orr rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In October 1898 he located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Ottaway, Dr.** A resident of Rochester, N.Y., Ottaway operated a 14-foot-long steam launch called the *Manhattan* on Klutina Lake in August 1898, carrying passengers and freight.

**Otterness, J. A.** Otterness and partner Nels Johnson were living on the Copper River opposite the mouth of the Sanford River—near the present site of Gakona--in 1898.

**Owens, Frank R.** Born in Illinois in 1870, Owens rushed to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier. In October 1898 he located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Owens, Peter.** Owens worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Overheiser, Charles B.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory lists Overheiser as a Copper Center saloon owner. The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies him as a Copper Center contractor.

## P

**Page, Edgar E. "Ed".** Page, who came to the Copper Basin from Cook Inlet, operated the Ernestine Roadhouse, situated at mile 62 of the Valdez Trail, from 1904 until 1912.

**Palmer, Jack.** Palmer operated Chitina's Commercial Hotel—Jack Palmer's Place—during the community's heyday.

**Palmer, Harry.** *Polk's* 1911-12 directory identifies Palmer as a Tonsina cook.

**Palmer, Stephen H.** Palmer was working for the Andrus family on Chititu Creek as early as 1920 and replaced Lewis Carvey as the manager of the property in 1923. He was in turn succeeded by Charles Kraemer in 1925. Palmer served as the postmaster of Nizina from August 21, 1923, until February 20, 1925.

**Parsons, Job.** In 1899 Parsons located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Patrick, William.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Patrick as an employee at the Copper Center Saw Mill.

**Patricus, Paul.** Patricus, an electrician by trade, was one of the first prospectors in the Kotsina district.

**Patterson, J. H.** Born in Cold Spring, New York, in 1877, Patterson rushed to Alaska in 1898, and spent his first few years prospecting the Copper, Bremner, and Chistochina districts, as well as around Prince William Sound. In 1906 he established a blacksmith business in Valdez, which evolved into a Chevrolet dealership and repair shop, marine supply shop, and gasoline station. Patterson served two terms as the mayor of Valdez and also several terms as the Third Division's Representative to the Alaska Territorial Legislature.

**Paulson, John.** Born in Sweden in 1884, Paulson, who reported his occupation as freighter, was living in Gulkana in 1910-1911.

**Paulson, Paul.** Born in Norway in 1860, Paulson apparent reached Alaska in 1899, entering the country via Valdez. In 1905 he joined with K. J. Fjeld to form the Royal Gold Mining Company (RGMC) in order to develop property near Jacksina Creek in the Nabesna district. After erecting a three-stamp mill, their company processed about sixty tons of ore from an outcrop on Cabin Creek. The RGMC, which eventually reorganized as the Royal Development Company, continued its effort for several seasons, driving two tunnels for a total of about 130 feet. About 1914 it suspended operations and allowed its claims to lapse.

**Paxson, Alvin J.** Born in Iowa in 1872, Paxson rushed to the Klondike in 1898, but soon moved to the Fortymile district, where he wintered on O'Brien Creek. Paxson eventually moved south, locating along the original Valdez-Fairbanks Trail. In 1905 he established the Timberline Roadhouse in 1905 on the Gakona side of the ridge separating the Gakona and Gulkana Rivers. In the summer of 1906, Paxson built the two-story Paxson Roadhouse in the vicinity of the present Paxson Lodge, which he operated until 1913. During his final year at the location, Paxson also served as postmaster of the local post office.



**Payment, Eli.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Eli Payment and his partner worked Monahan No. 14 below in 1902. Later that summer, Payment was hired by Arthur McNeer to help work claims in the Nizina district.

**Payton, A. E.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory identifies Payton as a Upper Tonsina lineman.

**Peters, D. T.** Chillicothe, Missouri, resident D. T. Peters rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer, but left that fall via the Copper River.

**Peterson, Almer J.** Born in Madison, Minnesota, in 1890, Peterson practiced law in Valdez before becoming involved in various mining ventures in the Chisana district. Partnered with Charlie Hawkins, Peterson prospected Coarse Money Creek in 1940. In 1946 he, Billy James, and Agnes James formed the Nutzotin Placer Company to exploit the James' claims. Seemingly more successful as a politician than a miner, Peterson was elected to Alaska's Territorial House of Representatives in 1941, 1945, and 1946.

**Peterson, Bertle O.** Peterson, who wintered at Taral in 1898-99, was one of the group that staked the Nikolai Property in July 1899. Peterson, Charley Young, and Andrew Halvorsen staked the Spirit Mountain nickel-copper prospect near the head of Canyon Creek in 1907. They abandoned the property in 1917.

**Peterson, C. F.** Peterson operated a tobacco shop in Chisana City in 1915.

**Peterson, Jimmy.** Peterson homesteaded just east of the Kennicott River in the 1920s.

**Peterson, Pete.** Peterson and O. Gommere worked Roe and Moore's Canyon Creek molybdenum property in 1918.

**Peterson, Knut D.** Born in Denmark, Peterson immigrated to the United States in 1914 and on to Alaska in 1923, where he worked at Kennecott before starting to prospect on his own. Partnered with his brother Ulrich, he prospected in the Chisana district from 1933 until 1938, where he mined Big Eldorado No. 1 below Discovery. In August 1949, Peterson nearly succumbed to injuries received in a bear attack near Slana.

**Peterson, Ulrich.** Peterson came to Alaska in 1929 to join his brother Knut. The pair prospected in the Chisana district in the 1930s, where they worked property on Big Eldorado Creek.

**Petrie, Joe.** Petrie first entered the Nizina district in 1912, working for years at the Westover Prospect. The only witness to Gustave Priesner's presumed murder of popular McCarthy prostitute Rose Levine (alias Rose Silberg) in March 1918, Petrie was poisoned before he could testify.

**Petterson, John T.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Petterson as a hostler working in Tiekell City for the Ed S. Orr Stage Company.

**Phillips, Clifford H.** Born in Quakertown, Pennsylvania, in 1872, Phillips rushed to the Klondike in 1897, but soon returned to Seattle. He came back to Alaska in 1902 with the Richard Blei party, transporting horses into the Nizina district. While there, he was appointed the first postmaster of Nizina, serving from March 19, 1903, until July 18, 1904. Phillips moved to Seattle in 1906, but returned to Alaska in 1929, when he settled in Anchorage. He died there in January 1950.

**Pickles, Jake.** Pickles mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Pigg, Richard.** Pigg mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Pinkston, Charles.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Pinkston as a Copper Center rancher.

**Piper, David.** After mining in the Nizina district, Piper drowned while trying to descend the Chitina River in September 1909.

**Pippin, J. B.** Pippin was living in Kennecott—presumably as a watchman—in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Pitcher, Lena.** Pitcher cooked at the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse in 1913-14.

**Poeska, Bill.** Poeska managed the Donaldson Roadhouse, situated at Upper Tonsina, in 1901.

**Pohl, George.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Pohl as a Chitina waiter employed by Hirst and Brown.

**Pollard, Robert H.** Born in Kansas in 1889, Pollard was listed as the manager of the Sourdough Roadhouse (Valdez-Fairbanks Trail Mile 152) in the 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory. When contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, he was living in Copper Center. The 1911-12 *Polk's* directory identifies Pollard as a Tonsina roadhouse manager.

**Poot, Simon.** Poot entered Alaska in 1895, traveling to the Forty Mile district via Chilkoot Pass. One of the first placer miners in the Nizina district, Poot and John Van Iderstein operated Dan Creek No. 5 in 1903. He later owned the St. Elias Hotel in Valdez, finally leaving Alaska in 1909.

**Porter, --.** Porter and his partner Bundy built the first roadhouse north of the Tazlina River. They operated the facility until about 1905, when they sold or leased it to Billy Kliske.

**Potochkin, Semyen.** Potochkin (sometimes spelled Patochkin) was the first European known to have ascended the lower Copper River completely. Dispatched by Shelikov Company Manager Alexandr Baranov to conduct a census of local inhabitants in 1798, Potochkin traveled from Nuchek to the mouth of the Chitina River and wintered at the Ahtna village of Taral. He returned to Nuchek the following spring.

**Potter, Ocha.** Potter first entered the Wrangell Mountains in 1905, when he was asked to evaluate some copper property belonging to H. H. Greer near the head of the Lakina River. Although Greer's property proved worthless, Potter did locate a promising deposit in the Chitistone Basin. He also held one of the early patents to part of the Mother Lode group on Bonanza Ridge.

**Potts, John.** Potts was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Poulin, Archie.** According to the *R. G. Dunn* directory, Poulin owned a McCarthy tobacco store and billiard parlor in 1923. He remained there into the 1940s.

**Poulin, P. J.** Poulin and his brother—who was probably Archie—operated a roadhouse in Chisana City in 1915.

**Powell, Addison Monroe.** Born in Liberty Township, Indiana, in 1856, Powell arrived in Alaska in May 1898. He served as a guide for Capt. William Abercrombie's Copper River

Exploring Expedition in 1898 and 1899, and continued to work seasonally in the region as a surveyor, guide, scout, and prospector until 1908. Powell staked five claims in the Chistochina district in 1900, and the *Valdez News* reported that the Santa Ana Claim on Slate Creek, in which he held a one-half interest, produced \$125,000 in gold in 1902. Powell published his account of his Alaskan adventures, *Trailing and Camping in Alaska*, in 1909. The U.S. census enumerator recorded that Powell was living with his youngest sister, Ida Iliff, in Santa Maria, California, in 1920.

**Powell, Arthur L.** Powell and Cooper leased the upper end of J. S. Taylor's Rex Creek claim in 1915. Later that season, he and a miner named Bodie reportedly prospected the bench on the right limit of Chititu Creek and sank a 60-foot shaft on the bench on the right limit of White Creek No. 8. Powell also built a cabin on Blygh Gulch and prospected Fly Gulch. He hydraulicked on the left bank of Rex Creek in the early 1920s, where he was killed by a falling rock in August 1925. He is buried at Kennecott.

**Poy, Clarence W.** A professional mining engineer, Poy worked at Kennecott's Latouche mine and the Superior Mines, Inc., on Mineral Creek near Valdez before becoming general manager of the Bremner Gold Mining Company in 1937.

**Preston, George.** Born in Scotland in November 1877, Preston traveled to the Klondike in 1900 for a bookkeeping job in Dawson City. He left the Yukon in 1902 for Vancouver, but joined a stampede to the Copper Basin in early 1903, and spent that summer prospecting on Dan Creek. He soon moved on, rushing to Fairbanks the following November and eventually finding work with the Northern Commercial Company. A leading member of the community, he was still living there in 1948.

**Price, --.** Price and Henry Deyo sluiced a claim on Slatka Creek in 1904. In the teens the pair was reported to still hold claims on Slatka Creek, both sides of the Kuskulana Glacier, just west of the Chokosna River, and just north of Hidden Creek.

**Price, John J.** Having stampeded to the Klondike in 1898, Price worked there briefly before joining the rush to Nome in 1900. He later journeyed to Fairbanks, where he acquired property on Cleary Creek, and the Iditarod district, where he secured a claim on Glen Gulch, a tributary of Otter Creek. In 1913 Price was one of three Alaskan investors who jointly optioned the James-Nelson holdings in the Chisana district. In 1915 the same group optioned the so-called Brooks property on Rex Creek, but the claim did not pay and it was quickly abandoned. In 1927 he and Lewis A. Levensaler obtained Birch's Dan Creek property, forming the Nicolai Placer Mines Company. Price continued working claims on Dan Creek until 1942. In addition to his other duties, he served as Dan Creek's postmaster from May 1, 1924, until its mail service was discontinued on April 30, 1932.

**Priceler, Charles.** Priceler was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Priesner, Gustave.** Priesner, who operated a drug store at McCarthy, and his partners mined White Creek's Kiser bench in 1915. Accused of murdering his girl friend, local prostitute Rose Silberg, in March 1918, Priesner fled the region. Although he was detained briefly in Fairbanks, he somehow escaped and was never apprehended.

**Punches, Claude.** Punches reached the Copper Basin sometime prior to 1901, when he was Charles Schlosser were reportedly prospecting in the Chistochina district. He and Schlosser worked a lay on Rex No. 1 in 1903, and the following year the pair joined with Charlie Range, Tom Lynch, and Joe Morris to form the Centrifugal Mining Company, which worked Dan Creek No. 5.

**Pusher, Nelson.** Pusher mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Pytel, Steve.** Pytel and Mack Sanford located the Bear Mine group between Monahan Creek and the West Fork of the Chakina River in 1936. Pytel and his wife operated a grocery in McCarthy until November 6, 1940, when it burned in the devastating fire that destroyed most of downtown. Nevertheless, he remained in the community until at least 1942, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

## Q

**Quick, Doctor.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Quick spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center, where he diagnosed the first cases of scurvy.

## R

**Radovan, Martin C.** Born in Zrnovo, Austria in 1884, Martin Radovanovich shortened his name to Radovan when he immigrated to the United States at age 15. He moved to Alaska in 1908, helping to construct the Copper River and Northwestern Railway before beginning to prospect in the Nizina district. He was mining in the region by 1918, when he and his wife spent a month prospecting on upper Young Creek. He worked the Discovery and Bessie Nos. 1 and 2 Dan Creek bench claims from 1921 to 1925, and in 1929 staked thirty copper lode claims in and around Radovan Gulch, a tributary of Glacier Creek, including the so-called “binocular prospect.” While Radovan achieved little success, he continued operating on Glacier Creek until the mid-1960s, when he was over 80 years old. Radovan died in 1975.

**Raeder, John.** Raeder participated in the short-lived Canyon Creek gold rush in 1902.

**Rafferty, J. J.** Rafferty guided part of the military expedition which was dispatched by Capt. William Abercrombie to explore the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Ramer, S. Leon “Lee’.** Born in California in September 1889, Ramer worked as a hard-rock miner in California, Nevada, Idaho, and Oregon, before beginning to prospect the Bremner district in about 1910. He staked the Topsy group above Golconda Creek in 1927. Although he and his brother Peyton C. Ramer established the Bremner Gold Mining Company to develop the property, their claims were ultimately acquired by Asa Baldwin and incorporated into his Yellow Band group.

**Ramstad, John Nelson.** Beginning about 1905, Ramstad helped partner K. J. Fjeld develop the Royal Development Company’s gold property at Nabesna.

**Ramsted, Carl N.** The 1907-08 *Polk’s* directory identifies Ramsted as a Copper Center rancher.

**Ramstead, Charles.** Ramstead, a resident of Chitina in 1911-1912, was reported to be a miner.

**Randen, Pete.** Randen worked as the Chititu Mining Company’s cook in 1926.

**Range, Charles Inman.** Born in February 1862 near Lincolnville, Pennsylvania, Range joined the stampede to the Klondike in 1898, but actually ended up in Rampart, Alaska, where he worked some ground near Little Minook Creek. He then rushed to the Koyukuk district and later to the Nizina district as well, where he mined Dan Creek No. 2 in 1903. In 1904 Range, Tom Lynch, Charlie Schlosser, and Joe Morris worked Dan Creek No. 5. In 1911-1912, Range again mined in the Nizina district. He was also active in the Chisana district, operating Skookum Creek No. 1 in 1914 and 1915. Range died in Sunnydale, Washington, in March 1924.

**Rape, E.** Rape rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim in March 1899.

**Rasmusson, Hans.** Originally from Denmark, Rasmusson was one of four prospectors who spent the winter of 1909-1910 on the Nabesna River.

**Rawson, John.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Rawson as a Chitina laundry operator..

**Rayl, B. W.** Rayl was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Rector, B. Van.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Van Rector as a WAMCATS line inspector based in Copper Center. The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies him as a Copper Center telegraph operator.

**Rector, Currie.** In 1910 Currie Rector was the operator in charge of the U.S. Military Telegraph and Cable office in Copper Center.

**Rede, Max.** Rede was employed as superintendent of the Dan Creek Mining Company in 1918.

**Reed, Grant.** Born in Michigan in 1868, Reed probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Cordova. He worked as the cashier for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway before stampeding to Chisana in early August 1913. Although he located claim No. 1 above on the left fork of Chathenda Creek, he was better known for operating a store at Bonanza City. He remained in the district through at least 1916.

**Reed, Robert L.** A well known Chitina area moonshiner, Reed was charged with the murder of Cap Goodlataw in May 1932, but, despite extensive evidence of his guilt, was inexplicably acquitted by a Valdez jury.

**Reese, Mathew M.** Born in Wales in 1877, Reese first reached Valdez in 1908, where he served as a deputy mineral surveyor. He left Alaska in 1921, and was living in Seattle when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930. However, Reese returned to the Copper Valley in the 1930s to help partner John Barrett develop their Gold King group on Williams Peak in the Nizina district. They eventually constructed two camps and completed three tunnels on the property, but never discovered any rich ore body.

**Reeve, Robert Campbell.** Bob Reeve began flying into Chisana in 1932, carrying food and equipment for the local miners. He later founded Reeve Aleutian Airways.

**Reid, Max.** Worked for Jack Price on Dan Creek during the mid-1920s.

**Reigel, J. H.** Reigel was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Reischl, August.** Reischl, the cook for the Chititu Development Company at Nizina, and three companions drowned while trying to raft the Nizina River in July 1903.

**Reist, Fred.** Reist prospected in the Kotsina Basin in 1907-1910.

**Remington, Charles H.** Born in Iowa in 1859, Remington stampeded from Minnesota to Alaska in 1898, entering the Copper Basin via Valdez. Although he extensively prospected the Kotsina-Kuskulana district in 1899, he seems to have never located a paying claim. He left Alaska in 1900, but returned to the region in 1907, when he worked a profitable lay in the Chistochina district. He was still living in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez.

**Remington, Grant H.** Born in Iowa in 1861, Remington (sometimes spelled Remmington) was Charles Remington's younger brother. Like Charles, he crossed the Valdez Glacier in 1898 and prospected the Kotsina-Kuskulana district in 1899. He was still living in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez.

**Renney, John E.** Renney operated the Eureka Roadhouse, situated at mile 31 on the Valdez Trail, in 1905 and 1906.

**Rice, B. H.** Rice, who reached Alaska in 1898, located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Richards, Hiram W.** The son of Orphanus, Richards was a member of the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Richards, Rev. Orphanus A.** Richards was a member of the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Richardson, Benjamin.** Polk's 1911-1912 directory lists Richardson as a Chitina freighter.

**Richardson, Tom.** Richardson and Issac Banta prospected the upper Lakina River in 1902.

**Richardson, Col. Wilds Preston.** Born in Texas in March 1861, Richardson first visited Alaska in 1897 when the War Department sent him to help maintain order on the Yukon River. The Army appointed him Adjutant for the Department of Alaska in 1900 and in that capacity he selected the sites for the military posts along the Yukon River. When Congress established the Alaska Road Commission in 1905, Richardson was chosen to head it, and he devoted the next 12 years to building Alaska roads. As a result, Alaska's longest highway, stretching from Valdez to Fairbanks was named in his honor. Richardson left Alaska to fight in the First World War, where he commanded the U.S. expeditionary forces to Archangel, Russia. That service earned him a Distinguished Service Meday and a promotion to Brigadier General. He retired from the U.S. Army at his own request after 40 years of service in October 1920, and died in Washington, D.C., in May 1929, and was buried at West Point. The Richardson Highway, connecting Valdez and Fairbanks, was named in his honor..

**Rickey, J. K.** Rickey was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Rigler, Max.** Rigler, sometimes spelled Righer, was born in Iowa in 1867 and reached Alaska in 1899. One of the first to mine in the Bremner district, he worked claims on Golconda and Monahan Creeks in 1902.

**Ripstein, William E.** Ripstein, sometimes spelled Ribbstein, prospected on the Kenai Peninsula and in Prince William Sound before examining parts of the lower Copper Basin in 1897. Ripstein provided local geographical information to Samuel J. Entrickin for his "Sketch Map of Route to Copper River via Valdes Pass," published in Seattle in 1898.

**Roberts, --.** An early miner in the Nizina district, Roberts and his partners worked the discovery claim on Dan Creek in 1903.

**Roberts, Lorain.** Roberts, a barber, rushed to the district in August 1914, eventually settling in Bonanza City. Before leaving the district in 1915, she married fellow barber William Zacharias.

**Robertson, Sgt. Cady.** Robertson was a member of Lt. Henry Allen's three-man party which completed a military reconnaissance of central Alaska in 1885. Leaving Nuchek (on Hinchinbrook Island in Prince William Sound), Alaska, on March 20th, Robertson surveyed the Copper and Chitina Rivers before crossing the Alaska Range and descending the Tanana River to its mouth. Allen's expedition is notable for the amount of U.S. territory it explored, only exceeded by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's monumental exploration of the Louisiana Purchase in 1804-06. Allen named the Robertson River, a major southern tributary of the upper Tanana River, for Robertson.

**Robinson, Robert R.** Robinson and partner George Threat operated the Beaver Dam Roadhouse, situated at mile 41 of the Valdez Trail, in 1906 and 1907.

**Robinson, William C. "Stikine Bill".** Originally from Maine, Robinson came north to work as the general superintendent of construction on the McKenzie-Mann Railroad—the so-called Stikine River Railroad. When that job ended, he accepted employment as Michael Heney's master of transportation during construction of the White Pass and Yukon Railroad in 1898-99, and when the WP&Y was completed, he moved to Katalla where Heney was also invested. That led to a job as master of transportation during construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. Robinson died in Maine in September 1926.

**Rockafellow, Jack P.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Rockafellow as the Chitina agent for the Orr Stage Company. He became the company's superintendent following the resignation of Jesse Martin in September 1911.

**Rodia, Ralph.** Rodia and Louis Swenson. completed their assessment work on unidentified White Creek claims in 1915.

**Rogan, James.** Rogan located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Rogers, Jim.** Rogers prospected near the head of Carden Creek in 1935.

**Rogers, Samuel.** In 1911-1912 Rogers was operating a store in the vicinity of McCarthy.

**Roggers, T. O.** Roggers was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, but withdrew from the party while still ascending the Valdez Glacier and returned to the States.

**Rohn, Oscar.** Rohn served with the United States Geological Survey party which explored the Yentna, Skwentna, and Kuskukwim Rivers in 1898. He continued that work in 1899, joining Capt. William Abercrombie's military exploration of the Copper Basin as that expedition's topographer. As part of those duties, he and prospector Arthur McNeer examined the upper Chitina and Nizina Valleys before crossing the Wrangell Mountains via the Nizina and Chisana Glaciers. Turning west at the head of the Chisana River, the pair reached the headwaters of the Copper River before returning to the coast (see Rohn, "A Reconnaissance of the Chitina River and Skolai Mountains," in USGS, *Twenty-first Annual Report, Part II*). According to the USGS geologist Josiah Spurr, Rohn later became a mining engineer and was ultimately killed while testing a safety device which he himself had invented. During his stay in the Copper Basin, Rohn named two important local features, the Kennicott Glacier and McCarthy Creek, and the U.S.G.S. subsequently named the Rohn Glacier for him.

**Romohr, Charlie.** Romohr and his wife Inez owned and operated the Tiekel Roadhouse from 1925 to 1936.

**Rood, C. E.** Rood, who lived in Yakutat in 1902, listed his occupation as miner.

**Root, P.** Root worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Rope, --.** Rope, whose first name was never recorded, was reportedly hunting with Andrew Whirley in October 1898.

**Rorer, George B.** Born in New York in 1846, Rorer managed the Gakona Roadhouse in 1904 and 1905, also serving as Gakona's postmaster. In 1906, he and his partner Edwards built the Dry Creek Roadhouse (Mile 118 Valdez Trail), which he operated until at least 1911.

**Rosell, Charlie.** Rosell built two trapping cabins on the east side of the Chokosna River south of the railway around 1930. He was apparently the only person to settle near the CR&NW Railway's Chakosna Station.

**Rosenberg, Charles.** Rosenberg established a trading post at Alaganik about 1891.

**Rossi, Hugo.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Rossi as a partner in a Chitina business called Bregonze and Rossi. The nature of the business is unknown.

**Rothkranz, Louis M.** Born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1871, Rothkranz was one of the first to prospect in the Wrangell Mountains, examining the upper Kotsina River in 1898. He remained there through at least 1901, when he was reportedly working with Charlie Mayman and Bethel Von Zeipel. He was still in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez.

**Rouge, E. L.** Rouge mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Rowan, J. C.** *Polk's* 1907-1908, 1909-1910, and 1911-1912 directories identify Rowan as a Tonsina miner.

**Rowland, A. F.** Rowland and four men worked lower Chititu No. 7 in 1904.

**Rowland, M. T.** In 1902 a prospecting party financed by Robert Blei and led by Rowland made the initial gold discoveries on Rex Creek in the Nizina district. Rowland also helped finance



a prospector named Ike Banta, who located copper deposits near the head of the Lakina River that same year. Rowland was later associated with the Chititu Development Company, which mined Rex No. 2 in 1903. In 1904 he was reportedly working upper Chititu No. 7.

**Running, Hans.** Listed as a Chisana placer miner on the 1920 census, Running partnered with John Swanson to operate Bonanza No. 6 in 1921.

**Rushman, Antone.** Born in German in 1878, Rushman probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator on Kayak Island. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Russell, F. A.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Russell as superintendent of the U.S. Indian School in Copper Center.

**Russell, Fred.** A resident of Marshfield, Wisconsin, Russell and Joe Brost rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the Copper Basin that spring via the Valdez Glacier. They were grub-staked by a Wisconsin physician named W. H. Budge.

**Russell, Mrs. F. A.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Mrs. Russell as a teacher at the U.S. Indian School in Copper Center.

**Russell, L. W.** Russell lived in Kotsina from 1907 to 1910, where he worked as the assistant manager of the New York-Alaska Copper Company.

**Russell, Mark.** A prospector, Russell accompanied Frederick Schwatka's 1891 expedition which explored the region north of the St. Elias Mountains and included the first reconnaissance of the White and upper Nizina Rivers. Russell, Schwatka, and USGS geologist C. Willard Hayes initially entered Canada via the Taku River, later traversing to Teslin Lake and descending the Teslin River to old Ft. Selkirk on the Yukon. From there, the party traveled overland to the lower White River and crossed Skolai Pass to reach the headwaters of the Nizina River. After building a boat, they descended the Nizina and Chitina River to Taral, where they received a warm welcome from Ahtna Chief Nicolai. Their 1891 expedition is best remembered for having connected Schwatka's 1883 Yukon River survey with Lt. Henry Allen's 1885 chart of the Chitina and the Copper Rivers.

**Rust, George.** Rust reportedly held mining property in Fourth-of-July Pass in 1916.

**Ryan, Dan.** One of the first stampeders into the Chisana district, Ryan was prospecting near the head of the White River with H. E. Morgan when the initial discovery was made. Partnered with a miner named Eagan, Ryan mined Bonanza No. 13 in 1915. He also worked Poorman Creek that same year.

## S

**Sales, Oscar.** Partnered with Oscar Hoglund and Jack Smith, Sales staked the Mother Lode property in 1906. Unfortunately, while hauling supplies up the Chitina River the following season, Sales broke through the ice and nearly drowned. Although he was rescued and revived, he never fully recovered and disappeared in 1908 while on a trip "outside." The uncertainty over Sales's whereabouts clouded the Mother Lode's title, hindering efforts to develop it.

**Sam, Mentasta (Kalts'el Ta').** Sam succeeded his brother, Mentasta John, as *denae* of Mentasta Village in about 1915. He died in 1948.

**Samoilov, Konstantin A.** Samoilov, who seems to have been dispatched by the Lebedev-Lastochkin Company, led the first Russian trading party which attempted to explore the Copper Basin. Some accounts suggest that he began his trip in Nuchek while others favor Cook Inlet. Either way, his entire party of 13 *promyshlenniki* were killed somewhere on the Copper River, probably in retaliation for the Russian mistreatment of fellow Natives.

**Sampson, Joe.** Sampson mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Sanderson, --.** Sanderson and Jackson worked a lay on Brooks's Edison group in 1915.

**Sands, Frank M.** Sands rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located a claim on Vaber Gulch in 1899.

**Sands, John.** Sands located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Sanford, Charley ('Iizin Ta').** Born at the mouth of the Sanford River in 1876, Sanford was *denae* of Batzulnetas by 1929, when visited by Robert McKennan, and later headed Suslota as well, following the death of Suslota John. The father of Katie John and Houston Sanford, Sanford served as one of archaeologist Frolich Rainey's leading informants during his Copper Basin investigations in 1939. Sanford died in 1945.

**Sanford, Houston.** Born in 1922, Sanford was the son of Charley Sanford and the brother of Katie John. A gold miner in his early years, he traveled extensively, maintaining traditional ties with villages from Mentasta to Scottie Creek. Sanford died in 1994.

**Sanford, Mack.** Sanford and Steve Pytel. located the Bear Mine group between Monahan Creek and the West Fork of the Chakina River in 1936.

**Sanford, Sarah (Nelggodi).** Sarah Sanford was the wife of Charley Sanford, whom she married in about 1899. She was originally from Nabesna.

**Santien, --.** In 1915 Santien and Haar were reported to be building a new cabin on Chititu No. 11.

**Sapiro, Jack.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Sapiro as the manager of a Chitina business called Ficklestein and Sapiro. The nature of that business is unknown.

**Sargent, Draper C. "Bud".** Born in June 1864, Sargent was one of the first prospectors in the Nabesna-Chisana region, entering the area with Henry Bratnober's crew in 1905. Sargent eventually constructed a cabin on the east side of the Nabesna River near the mouth of Camp Creek, about a mile south of Cooper Creek Village, which was still serving as a regional landmark in the 1940s. On March 24, 1909, Sargent was appointed postmaster of Nabesna, a position he held until October 3, 1910, when the post office there was abolished. In 1913 Sargent rushed to the Chisana district, staking Skookum Creek No. 1, and, partnered with Percy Thornton, he worked the claim in 1917. Sargent Creek, a tributary of Glacier Creek, was apparently named in his honor.

**Satterfield, John P.** Satterfield reportedly held the Green Butte property in 1935.

**Savage, C. B.** Savage mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Schaupp, Fred.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Schaupp as a Chitina tinsmith.

**Schembeck, Herman.** Schembeck mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Schirripa, Clement.** Schirripa was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Schlosser, Charles N.** Born in Oneida Valley, New York, in November 1859, Schlosser joined the Klondike stampede in 1898. He later located in Valdez, from where he prospected in the Chistochina district in 1901. In 1903 he mined a lay on Rex Creek with Claude Punches, and the following year worked Dan Creek No. 5 with Punches, Charlie Range, Tom Lynch, and Joe Morris (calling themselves the Centrifugal Mining Company). After realizing considerable money from the sale of copper property located on Fidalgo Bay, Schlosser retired to Washington, but returned to Valdez a few years later. He died in Cordova in May 1927.

**Schnedeger, Wesley.** Schnedeger rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He froze to death near Copper Center in February 1899.

**Schneider, E.** Schneider, a member of the Thorp party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Schneider, Peter.** In 1911 Schneider, sometimes known as Tazlina Jake, was reportedly ranching (probably raising foxes) in Tazlina.

**Schonborn, Louis K.** The former owner of the Yukon Hotel in Dawson City, Schonborn rushed to the Chisana district in August 1914 and opened a store in Bonanza City. He later moved his business to Chisana City, where he was murdered in late December 1914.

**Schrader, Frank Charles.** Born in Sterling, Illinois, in October 1860, Schrader received an A.M. degree from Harvard University in 1894. He began his career with the U.S.G.S. in 1896, when he accompanied J. E. Spurr on his reconnaissance of the Yukon Valley. Returning to Alaska in 1898, Schrader accompanied Capt. William Abercrombie's Copper River Exploring Expedition, where he joined an overland party which crossed the Valdez Glacier and descended the Klutina River to the Copper. After reaching the present site of Copper Center, the party split. Schrader led his portion down the right bank of the Copper to a point near the present site of Chitina, from where he used boats to descend to the mouth of the Tasnuna River. He then ascended the Tasnuna, crossed Marshall Pass, and descended the Lowe River to the present site of Valdez (see Abercrombie, *Alaska 1899: Copper River Exploring Expedition*). Schrader returned to the area in 1900 when he and Arthur Coe Spencer explored the Chitina Valley (see Schrader and Spencer, *Geology and Mineral Resources of a Portion of the Copper River District, Alaska*), and in 1902, when he and D. C. Witherspoon surveyed the northern slopes of the Wrangell Mountains (see Walter C. Mendenhall and Schrader, U.S.G.S. Professional Paper 15, *Mineral Resources of the Mount Wrangell District, Alaska*). Schrader, who retired from the U.S.G.S. in 1932, died in April 1944.

**Schrock, Dr. E. B.** Schrock was reported to be Kennecott's doctor in 1911-1912.

**Schultz, Otto.** The 1909-10 *Polk's* directory identifies Schultz as the hostler at the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 33).

**Schultzman, C. A.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Schultzman as a Chitina blacksmith.

**Schuman, --.** Schuman stampeded to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Chetaslina and Cheshnina Rivers, and was a member of a party, including Charles Kraemer and Bethel Von Zeipel, which tried to reach the headwaters of the Copper River by crossing Mt. Wrangell.

**Schwatka, Frederick.** Frederick Schwatka's 1891 expedition explored the region north of the St. Elias Mountains that included the first reconnaissance of the White and upper Nizina Rivers. Schwatka, geologist Charles Willard Hayes, and prospector Mark Russell initially entered Canada via the Taku River, later traversing to Teslin Lake and descending the Teslin River to old Ft. Selkirk on the Yukon. From there, the party traveled overland to the lower White River and crossed Skolai Pass to reach the headwaters of the Nizina River. After building a boat, they descended the Nizina and Chitina River to Taral, where they received a warm welcome from Ahtna Chief Nicolai. Schwatka's 1891 expedition is best remembered for having connected his earlier 1883 Yukon River survey with Allen's 1885 chart of the Chitina and the Copper rivers.

**Scott, Fred.** Scott was a member of the so-called Keystone Company, which crossed the Valdez Glacier into the Copper Basin in 1898. In March 1899 he located a claim in the upper Tonsina district.

**Scott, George.** Scott worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as a conductor.

**Scott, William.** Scott and his brother worked Rex No. 4 in 1904.

**Seagrave, W. H.** Originally brought to Alaska to run the mine at Latouche, Seagrave managed operations at Kennecott's Bonanza Mine from 1912 to 1916.

**Searing, L. A.** Searing was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Seavell, D. B.** Seavell, John Miller, Charles Kraemer, and Bert McDowell discovered Slate Creek in June 1900. A few days Seavell joined Miller in taking the first gold out of Miller Gulch, the richest stream in the Chistochina district.

**Seifert, P.** Seifert worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Semple, C. Carleton.** Semple managed the Alaska Copper Corporation's Nugget Creek operations in 1918.

**Sender, Isaac.** Sender, who may have been associated with McClellan's group, located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Seppings, H. T.** Seppings was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Serebrennikov, Ruf.** The Russians tried to complete their exploration of the Copper Basin in 1848. Assigned the task of traversing from the Copper to the Yukon River, Serebrennikov's party wintered at Taral before continuing upriver in May 1848. All were killed by the upper

Ahtna about two months later, probably at Batzulnetas. No further Russian exploration was attempted.

**Severtsen, L.** Severtsen, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Sexton, George.** Born in Dayton, Indiana, in 1862, Sexton worked as an engineer during the construction of the White Pass and Yukon Railroad before moving to the Copper River district, where he supervised the government's census efforts in 1900. During this period he also prospected in the Nabesna district and may have held some claims there. In 1903 he moved to Sunrise and later served as the first U.S. marshal at Seward. He remained there until his death in February 1936.

**Shade, George.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Shade as a Chitina machinist.

**Shaffer, Frank F.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Shaffer as a WAMCATS telegraph operator living in Gakona.

**Shaffer, John and Henry.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists John and Henry Shaffer as partners in a Chitina business called the Shaffer Brothers. The nature of their business is unknown.

**Shanklin, R. E.** Shanklin operated Yost's Roadhouse, situated at mile 203 of the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, during the winter of 1911-1912.

**Shapiro, --.** The 1915-16 *Polk's* directory identifies Shapiro as a partner in a Chitina clothing store called Finkelstein and Shapiro.

**Shaw, Chauncey.** Shaw worked as a mail carrier on the Valdez Trail.

**Shaw, H. C.** Shaw rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center the following June.

**Shedwick, William John** Shedwick worked as a mining engineer at Kennecott in 1911-1912.

**Sheehan, Daniel.** Sheehan lived in Kotsina from 1907-1910, managing operations for the Alaska-Kotsina Copper Company. Great Northern Development Company records note that he was renting them horses in 1907.

**Shelly, J.** Shelly mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Shepard, Jack.** Shepard and Pete Jackson were two of the first prospectors to cross the Valdez Glacier, reaching Klutina Lake in 1896.

**Shepherd, Lon E.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory identifies Shepherd as a Tonsina miner.

**Sherlock, J.** Sherlock was mining near the Beaver Dam Roadhouse (Valdez Trail Mile 41) in 1910.

**Sherman, E. H.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Sherman as a Chitina carpenter.

**Shimizu, S.** Shimizu, a Japanese resident of McCarthy, was initially charged with the murder of Rose Silberg, but eventually released.

**Shipp, Frank.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Shipp as a Chitina stableman working for the Orr Stage Company. Shipp was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Shucklin, Sam.** Shucklin operated a clothing store in Chisana City from 1913 until at least 1915. He was living in Seattle in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Shultz, Jack.** Born in Germany, Shultz was employed as a packer and horse wrangler in the McCarthy vicinity in 1916.

**Shultz, Otto.** Shultz (sometimes spelled Schultz) worked as a hostler at the Ptarmigan Drop Roadhouse in 1909-1910. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Sias, George.** Sias purchased his first Valdez Creek claims in 1907, and after raising additional capital, bought out Peter Monahan, Dan Kain, and most other local miners by 1916, forming the Valdez Creek Placer Mines Company. Although the company spent over \$1 million on development work, it folded in 1921, selling most of its assets to the McKinley Gold Placer Company.

**Silberg, Rose.** See Rose Levine.

**Simenstad, Charles.** Simenstad, a mining engineer by trade, rushed to Alaska in 1898, locating property on Slate Creek in the Chistochina district. In 1899 he and Charlie Miller located the Mullen, Angle, and Sport lodes on Copper Creek in the Kotsina district, but soon sold the claims to the Galena Bay Mining Company. He later directed work at the Nikolai Copper Mine near Kennecott, as well as serving as the managing engineer for the Copper Creek Copper Mines, situated on Copper Creek in the Kotsina Valley. In 1937 he was managing the famous Cliff Mine, situated just south of Valdez.

**Simons, Charles A.** Born in March 1857, Simons operated the most important store in Chisana City from about 1914 until his death in October 1929. He also served as the community's postmaster from May 1917 until his death. Simons was buried in Chisana City.

**Simpson, --.** In the 1920s, a man named Simpson reportedly operated Simpson's Roadhouse in Tazlina.

**Simpson, G. E.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Simpson as a Copper Center rancher.

**Simpson, James.** Simpson was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Sittell, Jacob.** Sittell, a landscape gardener from Portland, Oregon, is said to have planted the first garden in Copper Center in June 1898.

**Skarsten, Kasper A.** Skarsten was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Skinner, --.** Horace Conger reported encountering a prospector named Skinner on Jacksina Creek in June 1899.

**Slimpert, William H.** Slimpert rushed to Alaska in 1898 and worked as a freighter and a prospector in the Nizina district before handling horses for a contractor during construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. He seems to have started his career as a hunting guide in 1919, when he was hired as a wrangler by Morley Bones, a famous outfitter headquartered on Kluane Lake. Slimpert made most of his income guiding sportsmen

during the 1920s and 1930s, but drowned tragically in 1942 while fording the Nabesna River. He is buried on the Nabesna Bar.

**Smith, Adolph G. “Dolph”.** Born in Missouri in 1878, Smith first examined Chititu Creek in 1902 with Edward H. Stroeker, but spent the winter of 1903-04 prospecting near the head of the White River. The pair returned to the Nizina district in 1904, but their specific activities are unknown. Smith and partner Charles L. Hoyt bought the Gulkana Roadhouse from Koon about 1907, and Smith remained there until 1909, when Hoyt purchased his share of the property. Smith was still living in the region when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910.

**Smith, Bob.** Smith, who trapped the upper Gulkana drainage, was shot and killed by an unknown assailant at his cabin near the outlet of Paxson Lake in the late 1920s.

**Smith, Charles B.** A Pennsylvania resident, Smith was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Smith, Charles Parker** Smith, W. R. Abercrombie, J. J. Abercrombie, Phil Blumauer, Louis Blumauer, and James C. Black located a claim on the Kotsina River in 1899. In 1906 Smith worked in the Kotsina Basin, holding four claims on the middle fork of Peacock Creek. The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Smith as a tourist and exploration guide based in Copper Center. The 1910 census and the 1909-10 *Polk's* directory also list him as a resident of Copper Center, and he later served as the U.S. Commissioner there.

**Smith, Frank.** Smith a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring. This could be the same F. M. Smith who located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Smith, Harry T.** A resident of St. Paul, Minnesota, Smith was the leader of the Great Northern prospecting party, which entered the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Smith, Heber.** Born in Fulton, New York, in 1855, Smith rushed to Alaska in 1898. Although he did some initial prospecting in the Mineral Creek district near Valdez, he entered the interior via the Valdez Glacier early that summer and participated in the Manker Creek rush. He apparently also prospected in the Chistochina district, where he witnessed a claim on the Chisna River in September 1899. The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Heber as a miner living in Copper Center. He was still living in Copper Center in 1910, when he was recorded by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Smith, I. N.** Smith located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in October 1898.

**Smith, Jack H. “Tarantula Jack”.** A resident of Arizona, Smith was a member of the so-called McClellan group, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1899. In 1900 Smith and partner Clarence Warner were examining the slopes above the Kennicott Glacier when they discovered the Bonanza copper lode.

**Smith, James S.** Smith, Pete Monahan, John M. Johnson, and J. C. Clarkson are credited with making the first gold discovery on Valdez Creek in August 1903.

**Smith, Lynn H.** Smith worked as a carpenter in Chisana City during 1914 and 1915. A gifted amateur photographer, he captured some of the most evocative images of Chisana and its gold rush.

**Smith, Mike.** A prospector named Mike Smith froze to death while attempting to cross the Valdez Glacier in November 1898.

**Smith, Robert.** Smith worked for the Yellow Band Mining Company as a cook and truck driver in 1941.

**Smitt, Tom.** Smitt, who was said to have lost his voice when he worked in the “caissons” during construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway’s Miles Glacier Bridge, owned a Strelna cabin, which he rented to Carl and Louise Anderson in 1915. Smitt himself spent that winter in a tent.

**Smock, George.** Trapper George Smock lived in a CR&NW Railway building at Long Lake during the 1950s and may have been there in the 1940s as well. Cliff Collins bought Smock’s property in 1961.

**Snap, Wendell.** Originally from California, Snap rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. Upon reaching the Copper River, Snap joined the Millard Party’s effort to establish a trail across the flanks of Mt. Drum to the mouth of the Slana River. He later partnered Luther Guiteau and Philo Snow, who lined a boat up the Copper River as far as the Chistochina River, which they prospected on foot. Unfortunately, they stopped short of Slate Creek, the site of a later gold discovery.

**Snell, John.** *Polk’s* 1909-10 directory identifies Snell as a Tielke City mail carrier.

**Snow, Philo.** A resident of Freeport, Illinois, Snow rushed to Alaska in 1898 with Luther Guiteau, Bill Becker, and Ed Kingsly, reaching the Copper Valley via the Valdez Glacier. After descending the Klutina River, Snow joined the Millard Party’s effort to establish a trail across the flanks of Mt. Drum to the mouth of the Slana River. Snow and partner Luther Guiteau later lined their boat up the Copper River as far as the mouth of the Chistochina River and prospected further up that drainage on foot before abandoning their effort and returning to Copper Center. Snow left the region in mid-August, taking a boat down the Copper River to Orca.

**Snyder, Roy F.** Snyder and his wife operated McCarthy’s Mecca Café and Pool Hall during the 1930s. He and his partners also mined Asa Baldwin’s Rex Creek property in 1938.

**Sollers, A. R.** Sollers worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Sommers, Joseph F.** Sommers worked for the Yellow Band Mining Company as a miner/mucker in 1941. He was living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band stockholders.

**Soostadt, Olaf.** Soostadt and partner John Lucky prospected in the Bremner district in 1931, digging a 200-foot-long bedrock drain at the mouth of Standard Creek.

**Soule, William T., Jr.** Born in Massachusetts in 1875, Soule rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via Valdez. The 1907-08 and 1909-10 *Polk’s* directories identify Soule as a Copper Center merchant (associated with Andrew Holman and Ringwald Blix in the Copper Center Mining and Trading Co., Inc.), but he prospected during this period as well, working claims as far north as Valdez Creek. He left Alaska in 1914 and settled in Buxton, Maine, where he was living when contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.



**Southard, W.** Southard, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Spadaro, Mrs. Frank.** Spadaro was living in McCarthy in 1943, when her name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Speck, --.** One of the first to mine on Dan Creek in the Nizina district, Speck and his partners worked No. 2 in 1903.

**Spencer, Arthur Coe.** Born in Carmel, New York, in September 1871, Spencer earned a Ph.D in geology at Johns Hopkins in 1896, and was appointed as one of the first four civil service professionals to the U.S.G.S. During field work in the Copper Basin with Frank C. Schrader in 1900, Spencer independently discovered and described the massive copper deposits on Bonanza Ridge which were later developed by the Kennecott Mines Company and its successor, the Kennecott Copper Corporation. Unfortunately for Spencer, prospectors Clarence Warner and Jack Smith had located and staked the deposits a few days earlier (see Schrader and Spencer, *Geology and Mineral Resources of a Portion of the Copper River District, Alaska*). Spencer worked for the U.S.G.S. until his retirement in 1939. He died in Los Altos, California, in October 1964.

**Spenser, Carey N.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Spencer as Gakona's assistant postmaster and a local farmer.

**Spersted, Edward.** Born in Norway in 1884, Spersted (sometimes spelled Sperstad) mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Sprau, Roy.** Sprau was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Stacy, Dan.** A McCarthy resident who was among the first wave into the Chisana district, Stacy staked claims on Bonanza and Shamrock Creeks in 1913. Stacy apparently drowned while fording the Nabesna River in July 1936. His body was never recovered.

**Stanley, Lewis V.** Having first come north as part of the Klondike stampede, Stanley prospected around Nome in 1901 before joining the Chisana rush in 1913. Although he examined upper Bonanza Creek in 1915 and 1916, he is more commonly remembered as a photographer. His shots remain some of the most evocative images of the Chisana district's mining boom. After leaving Chisana, Stanley operated gold dredges for several large mining companies, before retiring to Seattle in 1940. He was still living there in 1952.

**Stannard, Earl Tappen.** Stannard managed the Kennecott operation from 1916 to 1920, and served as the president of the Kennecott Copper Corporation from 1933 until his untimely death in September 1949.

**Stanton, --.** Stanton and Slaucer constructed a flume and penstock to work their White Creek claim in 1915.

**Stair, D. C.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Stair as a Chitina driver for the Orr Stage Company.

**Stangneth, Karl.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Stangneth as partner in a Chitina business called Gessner and Stangneth. The nature of that business is unknown.

**Stark, Jim.** An Australian miner, Stark participated in the Atlin, British Columbia, gold rush before joining the Copper River stampede in 1898.

**Starkel, H. L. “Babe”.** Starkel was a shift boss at the Nabesna Mine in 1939.

**Starkel, R. A.** Starkel was a shift boss at the Nabesna Mine in 1939.

**Stead, Lindsey.** Stead, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, broke his knee before ascending the Valdez Glacier, but rejoined his party later that summer in time to participate in the Manker Creek rush. Mining records establish he was still in Valdez as late as 1901.

**Stead, Philip.** Stead was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Steel, Harry G.** Born in Ashland, Pennsylvania, in 1868, Steel worked as a journalist and newspaper editor before coming north in 1899 and co-founding the *Dawson Daily News*. In 1900 he moved to Nome, where he co-edited the *Nome Daily News* until 1906. From 1909 to 1915 he was co-owner/editor of the *Cordova Times*, and from 1910 to 1911 he was co-owner/editor of the *Chitina Leader* with his brother Will. He later edited other newspapers including the *Anchorage Daily Times* and the *Seward Daily Gateway*. Steel died in Seattle in August 1936.

**Steel, William Alexander.** Born in Ashland, Pennsylvania, in 1866, Steel worked as a journalist in Seattle before coming north in 1899 and co-founding the *Dawson Daily News* with his brother Harry. In 1900 he moved to Nome, where he co-edited the *Nome Daily News* until 1906. From 1909 to 1915 he was editor of the *Cordova Alaskan* and the *Chitina Leader*. He later edited the *Juneau Daily Capitol* before moving to Seattle in 1932, where he died in 1934.

**Stehn, John.** Stehn, a gold stamper enroute for the Klondike, was killed by an accidental gunshot in 1899 and buried near the mouth of Jacksina Creek, just west of the Nabesna River.

**Stein, Gus.** In 1911 Stein was reportedly ranching (probably raising foxes) in Tazlina.

**Steinberger, William.** Steinberger prospected the mouth of Canyon Creek in the Chisana district in 1914.

**Steinfeld, John.** Steinfeld was employed as a placer miner by the Chititu Mines Company in 1943.

**Stephens, James Griffith.** Having first reached Alaska in 1893, Stephens joined the Klondike stampede in 1898. Stephens and three partners later formed the Skookum Development Company, which worked Rex Creek No. 4 in 1904. Stephens was also reported to be mining Rex Creek's Homestake fraction that season. He left Alaska in 1927 and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Stevens, Bert.** Stevens and partner Bob Fulkerson reportedly discovered gold on Canyon Creek—a tributary of the Chitina River—in 1902.

**Stevens, J. Griffith.** Stevens and partner C. Debord established the Copper River Trading Post near the mouth of the Tonsina River in 1902, but sold the facility to Jake Nafsted in 1906.

**Stevens, Red.** A relative latecomer to the Chisana district, Stevens worked Big Eldorado Nos. 3 and 4 below Upper Discovery in the mid-1920s.

**Stevenson, Fred.** Stevenson mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Stevenson, J. D. F.** Stevenson held extensive Young Creek mining property in 1918.

**Stewart, Alex.** Stewart and partner William Willhelm disappeared while prospecting in the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Stewart, Claude (sometimes spelled Claud).** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory lists Stewart as a Tiekell City mail carrier. *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists him as a Chitina driver for the Orr Stage Company. He later became a successful Chitina businessman and served as a director of the Nabesna Mining Corporation in the 1930s. He also invested heavily in the Yellow Band Mining Company, serving as its president in the 1940s. During the early 1950s he operated the only general store in Copper Center.

**Stewart, Charles.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Stewart as a bartender working for S. O. Breedman.

**Stewart, J.** In 1903 Stewart and John Van Iderstein were reportedly working Dan Creek No. 5.

**Stewart, R. K.** Jack John Justin credits Stewart, who he calls a "government coyote hunter," with constructing the first cabin on Nabesna Bar about 1927. He later gave that building to Justin, who in turn gave it to Jimmy Brown. Stewart was living on the Nabesna River near Orange Hill in 1929.

**Stickwan, Chief (sometimes called Stickman or Stephen).** A leading Ahtna *denae*, Stickwan resided at a village called *Nic'akuni'aaden*, about eight miles below the mouth of the Klutina River, during the gold rush period. He later moved a few miles north to Wood Camp (*T'aghes Tah*), where he died in 1907.

**Stodart, J.** Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania, resident J. Stodart rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer, but left that fall via the Copper River.

**Stone, George S.** Born in Virginia in July 1864, Stone lived in Kotsina from 1907-1910, working as bookkeeper for the Great Northern Development Company. He prospected the Bremner district in 1910.

**Stoter, Henry W.** Born in New York in 1879, Stoter was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working claims on Lime Creek, a tributary of Rock Creek in the Kotsina district. He mined in the Nizina district in 1911-1912.

**Stotter, John V.** Born in New York in 1874, Stotter entered Alaska during the gold excitement of 1898, and located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899. He was still living in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Valdez.

**Stroebeck, Fred.** Stroebeck and Charles Mayman reportedly mined along the Little Bremner River in 1911.

**Stroecker, Edward H.** Born in 1877 and raised in San Francisco, Stoecker came to Alaska in 1900 to prospect along Kuskukwim River. Finding nothing there, he tried the Copper Basin. Crossing the Valdez Glacier in 1901, he first examined the Chistochina District, but moved to the Wrangell Mountains the following season. Stroecker prospected Chititu Creek in

1903, but failing to make a discovery, continued on into the White River country, where he prospected with Adolph Smith, Robert Fulkerson, and William Gibbon. In 1904 Stroecker, Pete Campbell, Jim Stephens, and Bill McLain formed the Skookum Development Company, which worked Rex Creek No. 4.

**Strom, Otto.** Strom operated the McCarthy barber shop in 1918.

**Struckman, Fred H.** Born in Germany in 1866, Struckman probably reached Alaska prior to 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in Copper Center. He (or perhaps a son with the same name) prospected near the mouth of Monahan Creek in 1936 and was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Stuart, Claude.** Stuart worked as a Tiekell City mail carrier in 1909-1910 before leasing the Willow Creek Roadhouse from Frank J. Bingham in about 1915.

**Stull, H. L.** Stull and his wife operated Yost's Roadhouse in 1910.

**Suhn, --.** Suhn was reportedly working a claim on upper Rex Creek in 1912.

**Sullivan, F.** Sullivan operated a roadhouse at Horsfield in 1915.

**Sullivan, R. A.** Sullivan was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Sullivan, T. F.** Sullivan worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Sulzer, William.** Born in Elizabeth, N.J., in March 1863, Sulzer served as a member of the New York state assembly from 1890-95; a U.S. representative from 1895-1912 (11th District 1895-1903, 10th District 1903-09, 16th District 1909-11, 10th District 1911-12); and governor in 1913. Impeached later that same year, Sulzer tried his hand at mining, developing claims near the upper White River and Horsfield Creek in the 1930s. He died in New York City in November 1941. Mt. Sulzer, situated just east of Skolai Pass and south of the White River, was named in his honor.

**Summers, Joe.** In the late 1930s and early 1940s, Summers and partners Walter Holmes and Scotty McFreely mined Asa Baldwin's property on upper Rex Creek. Summers remained in the Nizina district until at least 1946, when he drove an adit on his Williams Peak prospect.

**Sundberg, Axel William.** Sundberg worked at McCarthy in 1910 but moved to Nome in 1911 and then to Seattle in 1917. He was still living there when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Sundberg, Matt.** Sundberg (which some sources spell it Sundberry) worked as the Nabesna Mine cook in 1939. He was still there in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Sundstedt, August.** An employee of the Nabesna Mine in the late 1930s, Sundstedt was living in Seattle in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Sundt, Arne.** Originally from Norway, Sundt purchased the Gakona Roadhouse from the Slate Creek Mining Company in about 1926. Sundt was a director of the Nabesna Mining

Corporation in the 1930s. He died in 1946. His wife, Henra, continued to operate the roadhouse until 1975.

**Sutherland, Harry.** Partnered with Earl Hurst, Sutherland mined on Bonanza Creek in 1946 and 1947.

**Swanson, C. L.** Swanson located claims on Porcupine Gulch, Stewart Creek, Vaber Gulch, and Sam's Gulch in the upper Tonsina district in 1899.

**Swanson, Carl A.** Swanson and a partner established the Poplar Grove Roadhouse, situated at mile 137.8 of the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail, about 1906. In 1907 he sold his half interest in the property to Ben Torbell. Swanson was reportedly mining on McCarthy Creek in 1910.

**Swanson, Charles.** Swanson was reportedly mining with Gus F. Johnson, M. G. Olson, and Lawrence DeWitt on Ahtell Creek in 1934.

**Swanson, Jennie Elizabeth.** Born in Sweden about 1884 and raised in Minneapolis, Swanson participated in the Klondike stampede, crossing Chilkoot Pass with her sister Josephine Swanson Loomis and brother-in-law Ike Loomis in 1898 when she was just 14 years old. The three moved from Dawson to Valdez in 1900 and opened the Loomis Roadhouse at Upper Tonsina in 1902. Swanson met Guy Banta at a Valdez dance in 1902 and the couple married in Shelton, Washington, in 1904. Over the next 15 years, she lived throughout Prince William Sound, following her husband to mines like Latouche, Ellamar, and Galena Bay. Swanson divorced Banta in 1923, and died in Corvallis, Oregon, about 1964.

**Swanson, Joe.** Swanson rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior via the Valdez Glacier. In February and March of 1899, he located claims on Porcupine Gulch, Stewart Creek, Vaber Gulch, and Sam's Gulch, all located in the upper Tonsina district.

**Swanson, John.** Listed as a placer miner on the 1920 Chisana census, John Swanson partnered with Hans Running, working Bonanza No. 6 in 1921.

**Swanson, Otto.** Swanson was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Sweeney, Jack L.** Sweeney joined the stampede to Alaska, becoming a member of the so-called McClellan group, which prospected throughout the Copper Basin in 1899. Among other property, Sweeney shared in the ownership of the Nikolai lode and the Bonanza copper lode, which he sold to Stephen Birch in 1900.

**Sweet, Grant.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Sweet and partner Guy Banta worked Golconda No. 5 above and Summit Creek Discovery in 1902. In the teens, Sweet held lode claims just south of Castle Peak, near the headwaters of the Lakina River.

**Sweet, Henry H.** Sweet, from Hornellsville, New York, was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898. He participated in the Manker Creek rush that July, and apparently later prospected on the "north fork of the Cottsina [Kotsina] River," probably the Klavesna River, where he witnessed a claim staked by Jones and Moore. Sweet left the interior via the Copper River in the fall of 1898 with Margeson and Jaynes, but apparently returned to Valdez, where he remained until at least 1899.

**Swenson, Louis.** Swenson located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899. He apparently stayed in the region, because he and Ralph Rodia completed assessment work on some unidentified White Creek claims in 1915.

**Swetz, Sam.** The Nabesna Mine employed Swetz in 1939 as a diamond driller.

## T

**Tagstadt, Fred.** In 1929 Tagstadt worked for Harry Boyden, hauling freight into the Chisana district. He mined in the Bremner district in 1931, operating two claims on Golconda Creek about 1.5 miles below the mouth of Standard Creek. He did some prospecting that season as well, erecting a sod wing-dam about 2.5 miles upstream. He was reportedly still working on Golconda Creek in 1932, but died of blood poisoning in September 1933 as the result of a thumb injury he received while employed by the Bremner Gold Mining Company.

**Talbot, --.** One of the first miners in the Bremner district, Talbot and partner Eli Payment worked Monahan No. 14 below in early 1902. Later that summer, Talbot was hired by Arthur McNeer to help work claims in the Nizina district.

**Tam, Fred.** Tam, a resident of Fairbanks, drowned in the Chitistone River in July 1913 while participating in the Chisana stampede.

**Tansey, Jack E.** Born in Indiana in 1861, Tansey, Slim Gray, and Big Munson prospected along Crooked Creek, a tributary of the Nelchina River, in 1907. Tansey was still living in the region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Tansey, Thomas Bernard.** Born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, in December 1860, Tansey came north in 1896, and prospected north of Cook Inlet. He lived in Cordova during construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway and later worked as the assayer for the Kennecott Mines Company. He also represented the Third Division in the 1915-1917 Alaska Territorial House..

**Tarkhanov, Demitri.** After establishing a post at Yakutat Bay in 1796, Shelikov Company Manager Alexandr Baranov dispatched Tarkhanov, a sergeant of the Mining Engineering Corps, to locate a route leading from Alaska to Hudson Bay as well as rumored copper deposits on the upper Copper River. Although Tarkhanov examined the coast between Yakutat and the Copper Delta and may have ascended the lower river, he probably stopped near the mouth of the Tiekol River. In May 1787 Tarkhanov descended the Copper River and eventually reached Kodiak Island.

**Tatro, Adlor.** Tatro and wife Maude owned and operated the Meier Lake Lodge in the early 1950s.

**Taylor, Andrew M.** Taylor, who was born in eastern Canada in October 1875, was one of the first prospectors in the Chisana district. Arriving at the beginning of the rush, Taylor staked Bonanza No. 2 in 1913. In 1915, he mined No. 7 fraction, and worked a series of claims on Bonanza Creek for the remainder of the decade. During the 1920s, Taylor worked as a freighter, and gained international recognition as a hunting guide. In 1925 he was a member of the first party to climb Mt. Logan, Canada's highest peak, and later also completed the first ascents of Mt. Bona, Mt. Fairweather, and the first recorded north-south traverse of the central St. Elias Mountains. Taylor died in May 1945.

**Taylor, John S.** Taylor owned a claim on Rex Creek in 1915 which he leased to two different parties. The upper part was worked by Powell and Cooper and the lower by Bill Woodward. Taylor returned to the area in the early 1930s, when he tried to develop his lode claims at the head of Rex.

**Taylor, Warren A.** Born in Chehalis, Washington, in April 1891, Taylor came to Alaska at 18, settling in the Copper Basin. He prospected locally, worked on crews constructing the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, and was one of the first to stampede to Chisana in 1913. Taylor served with the U.S. army during the First World War, but returned to the Copper Basin at its conclusion, and eventually obtained an appointment as U.S. deputy marshal in Cordova. He was living in Kodiak in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Temple, Tom.** Temple, an African-American, joined the Alaska gold rush in 1898 as part of the Lewis party, entering the interior via Valdez. He spent that summer prospecting between Klutina and Tazlina Lakes.

**Thompson, Arthur G.** Born in Chicago, Illinois, in January 1870, Thompson moved to Cripple Creek, Colorado, in 1895, then on to Alaska in 1900. He practiced law and mined in Nome during the stampede, then went to Yatataga, where he dredged and beach-mined from 1903 to 1907. He then moved to Katalla, where he invested in coal and oil. He moved to Anchorage in 1916.

**Thompson, Len J.** Thompson operated the Beaver Dam Roadhouse, situated at mile 41 of the Valdez Trail, in 1903 and 1904. The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies him as operating an an Upper Tonsina general store as well as working as a Gakona blacksmith.

**Thompson, Robert.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Thompson as a Chitina freighter working for the Orr Stage Company.

**Thornton, Duval Percy.** Partnered with Bud Sargent, Thornton mined Skookum Creek in 1917. Although drafted into the U.S. Army in July 1918, he returned to the Chisana district in 1920. Thornton and Billy James worked Bonanza No. 6 and Little Eldorado No. 1 in 1923.

**Thorp, --.** Thorp and a miner named Aufinson worked a lay on Chititu No. 5 in 1904.

**Thurmond, King.** Thurmond was employed by the Great Northern Development Company in 1907, working the Iron Mountain claims in the Kotsina district..

**Tibbitt, A. W.** Tibbitt located three claims, the Chitty, the Queen, and the Fourth of July lodes, along the upper Cheshnina River in July 1902.

**Tibbitts, Archie C.** Tibbitts was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Tibbs, William W. "Billy".** In 1909 Tibbs and Ben Chase opened the Tibbs Roadhouse, located at approximately mile 129 of the CR&NW Railway. *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Tibbs as a partner with his brother, Boaz B. Tibbs, in an unidentified Chitina business, probably a clothing store. He remained in the area until at least 1923, when that year's *R. G. Dunn* directory has him operating his business next door to O. A. Nelson's Chitina Cash Store.

**Tiedjen, John.** Tiedjen, who worked for the Fish Brothers, served as one of the first mail carriers over the Valdez-Eagle Trail. In April 1901 he relayed mail from Chistochina to Tonsina—a distance of 90 miles—in 19 hours of continuous travel, a record run.

**Tiffany, George.** Born in New York in 1864, Tiffany worked as a freighter at the Tiekell Roadhouse in 1907. He was still in the Valdez region in 1910, when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Tilly, H. L.** Tilly, a resident of Copper Center in 1907-1908, was reported to be a miner.

**Titus, Scotty Creek (aka Titus John).** Originally from Scotty Creek, which is located near the Canadian border, Titus was a well known local shaman, or sleep doctor. Titus was married to Corinne, the sister of Chisana Joe and Nabesna John, and he and his family were living at Copper Creek Village when visited by Robert McKennan in 1929-1930.

**Tjelle, Hans.** Tjelle, who was apparently a miner or a prospector, lived around McCarthy in the 1930s.

**Tjosevig, Christian** (some accounts say Christopher). Born in Norway in 1874, Tjosevig rushed to Alaska in 1898, where, after crossing the Valdez Glacier, he skippered the two-masted schooner *Admiral Dewey*, hauling commercial traffic on Klutina Lake. Later that summer he prospected in the upper Tonsina district and served as a packer for Capt. William Abercrombie's army expedition in 1899. Tjosevig and his brother Nils eventually developed some claims west of the Kennicott Glacier just south of Hidden Creek. He left Alaska in 1917 and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Tjosevig, Nils.** Born in Sandnes, Norway, in 1876, Tjosevig worked as a Tonsina blacksmith in 1909-10. Prior to 1920, Nels and his brother Chris held a group of claims west of the Kennicott Glacier just south of Hidden Creek. In 1923 Tjosevig staked eight lode claims on upper McCarthy Creek, designated Big Ben lodes Nos. 1-6 and Big Ben Extension claims Nos. 1 and 2, as well as the Big Ben Mill site. All were patented in 1928. Tjosevig died in Ballard, Washington, in 1936.

**Toby, Andy.** Toby and his family were living at Cooper Creek Village when visited by Robert McKennan in 1929-1930.

**Toddman, Fritz.** Born in Germany in 1881, Toddman was mining near Nabesna in 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Toffit, Emil.** Toffit—whose occupation is unknown—died in August 1919 and was buried in the Strelna cemetery.

**Tolley, Fred.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Tolley as a WAMCATS telegraph operator living in Gakona.

**Tompkins, A. C.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Tompkins as a Nizina building contractor.

**Torbell, Ben.** Torbell purchased a half interest in the Poplar Grove Roadhouse from Carl A. Swanson in 1907.



**Torgensen, Hans.** In 1900 Torgensen and Ringwald Blix traveled from the Chistochina to the Delta River through Delta (later called Isabel) Pass, becoming two of the first Euro-Americans to cross the central Alaska Range.

**Townsend, Leroy Stewart.** Townsend, a physician, rushed to Alaska in 1898 as a member of the so-called Keystone Company and entered the interior via the Valdez Glacier. While unsuccessful at mining, he operated a small clinic in Copper Center over the winter of 1898-99, saving many hapless prospectors who otherwise would have almost certainly succumbed to scurvy. Townsend left Alaska in 1899, returning to Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, to practice medicine. He died there in August 1936. Townsend Peak, situated about 17 miles north of Valdez and overlooking the Valdez and Klutina Glaciers, was named in his honor.

**Tracey, Frederick R.** Born in Maine in 1880, Tracey served as the U.S. deputy marshal in Nizina from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Tramonoff, "Shorty".** Tramonoff and Al Jackson mined White No. 9 in 1921.

**Traveland, Christopher.** Eureka, California, resident Christopher Traveland rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer, but left that fall via the Copper River.

**Treat, George C.** Born in Maine in 1853, Treat was a member of Charles G. Hubbard's party, which left Eyak for the interior in October 1898. Working with Hubbard and Elliott, he staked some of the earliest claims on Elliott Creek, all of which were eventually incorporated into the holdings of the Hubbard-Elliott Copper Mines Development Company. Treat and partner Robert R. Robinson operated the Beaver Dam Roadhouse, situated at mile 41 of the Valdez Trail, in 1906 and 1907, and he was still living in the Valdez region when contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910. Treat died in West Newton, Massachusetts, in August 1921.

**Trim, --.** Trim, his wife, and daughter Janice were reportedly living in Horsfeld in 1918.

**Trim, Billy.** In 1925 Trim and brothers Jack and Joe Meloy completed the assessment work on William Sulzer's White River mining claims.

**Trimm, Austin C.** Trimm, who farmed near McCarthy in the 1920s and 1930s, was living in Chitina in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Trinko, John.** Trinko trapped the upper Chitina Valley during the winter of 1917-1918, but apparently drowned near the mouth of the Tana River the following spring while trying to descend the Chitina. His body was never recovered.

**Ts'alnes.** An early Batzulnetas *denae*, *Ts'alnes* died in 1835.

**Tucker, Judge.** Tucker was reportedly operating the May Creek Roadhouse in 1912.

**Tuffin, Horace.** One of George C. Hazelet's nephews, Tuffin froze to death near Mentasta Pass in December 1901 while carrying the mail from Chisna to Copper Center.

**Tully, H. L.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Tully as a Copper Center miner.

**Tweedale, George.** Juneau miner Tweedale reached the Chisana district in 1914, mined Shamrock Creek in 1915, and reportedly made a new strike on Foley Creek, about 20 miles west of Chisana City, in 1916.

**Tyielle, Hans.** In 1931 Tyielle and partner E. C. Koivula prospected Sellers' Bar on Golconda Creek in the Bremner district.

## U

**Underwood, Mrs. ---.** Mrs. Underwood reportedly owned some claims above Dan Creek in the mid-1920s.

**Uppercue, L.** Uppercue prospected in the upper Tonsina district in 1899, staking claims on Porcupine Gulch, Stewart Creek, Vaber Gulch, and Sam's Gulch.

## V

**Vagenberg, Albert.** Vagenberg operated a store in Nizina in 1911-1912.

**Valack, Mike.** Valack was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Valentine, Thomas S.** Born in Iowa in 1865, Valentine prospected along the south fork of the Bremner River in 1911.

**Van Brundt, Ed C.** Van Brundt, who was with M. T. Rowland when the initial Chititu strike was made in 1902, headed the crew working the right upper limit of Rex Creek No. 2 in 1904.

**Van Iderstein, John.** One of the first to mine in the Bremner district, Van Iderstein and his partners worked claims on Golconda and Summit Creeks in 1902. In 1903 Van Iderstein, Jason Stewart, and a miner named Poot worked a lay on Dan Creek No. 5. Van Iderstein eventually returned to the Bremner district, probably working Golconda No. 4 above in 1911.

**Van Wagenen, Theodore P.** Van Wagenen is listed as the original patentee on claims located on MacDougall Creek.

**Varley, Pat.** One of the first stampeders to enter the Copper Basin, Varley spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center. He and partner Charles Kraemer later prospected the Cheshnina River, where he nearly succumbed to scurvy.

**Vaughn, Frank B.** Frank (some accounts say Frederick) Vaughn operated the Tiekell Roadhouse (sometimes called Vaughn's Roadhouse), situated at mile 50.8 of the Valdez Trail, from about 1909 until 1924. He also served as the site's postmaster from 1917 to 1919.

**Vickery, Charles W.** Vickery prospected near the mouth of Golconda Creek in 1936. He was living in Richmond Beach, Washington, in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Vine, George.** Vine, a member of the Neillsville party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring.

**Vinquist, John.** Vinquist worked for the Copper River and Northwestern Railway from its opening in March 1911 until it closed in November 1938. His final assignment was as bridge foreman.

**Voight, George.** Voight was employed as the Chititu Mining Company's bull-cook in 1926.

**Voight, Richard.** Voight was a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Von Mollendorf, Ben.** Von Mollendorf reportedly was operating a restaurant in the community of Nizina in 1909.

**Von Zeipel, Bethel "Ben".** Born in Germany in 1875, Von Zeipel (sometimes spelled von Zeiple or von Ciple) stamped to Alaska in 1898, entering the country via Valdez. In 1901 he was reportedly prospecting with Charlie Mayman and Louie Rothkranz on the Kotsina River. In 1902 he and William Hertzfelt examined the head of the Little Bremner River. In 1908, mountaineer Robert Dunn reported him living in a cabin on the upper Cheshnina River—probably the one constructed by the Cheshnina Mining Company, with which Von Zeipel may have been associated. Von Zeipel remained in the Copper Center region until at least 1910, when he was contacted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Voilorich, Sam.** Voilorich worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Voss, George E.** Voss was living in Nabesna in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

## W

**Wachter, Hazel.** Wachter managed the Sourdough Roadhouse in the 1920s.

**Wada, Kay.** Wada and John Fujitani were operating the McCarthy Laundry when it burned in 1925.

**Waggoner, --.** Waggoner operated in the Chisana district. Partnered with a miner named Johnson, he worked Little Eldorado No. 3 in 1914.

**Wagner, --.** In 1915 Wagner, partnered with Ned Hill, prospected Sargent Creek in the Chisana district.

**Wahlstrom, Axel B.** Joining the stampede to the Chisana district, Wahlstrom worked Bonanza No. 6 in 1913. He remained an active miner, leasing Asa Baldwin's Rex Creek property in 1938. Wahlstrom worked for Asa Baldwin's Yellow Band Mining Company in 1941. He was living in McCarthy in 1943, when he was listed as a stockholder in the Yellow Band. He lived in Chitina in the 1950s.

**Wakald, H.** *Polk's* 1907 directory identifies Wakald as an Upper Tonsina bartender.

**Waldron, George S.** Born in Nevada in 1876, Waldron mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Wales, Matilda.** Born about 1870, Wales participated in the Klondike rush of 1898. After many years prospecting in the Klondike and Fortymile districts, she and partners Billy James and N. P. Nelson discovered gold in the Chisana district in 1913. That fall, the trio

optioned their block of claims to a group of Alaskan investors, who in turn leased them to Fletcher Hamshaw. Having regained their claims in 1916, Wales and her partners mined them until her untimely death in September 1925.

**Wall, E. A.** Wall worked for the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Waller, Harold H.** Besides working as Horatio E. Morgan's assistant recorder at Bonanza City, Waller surveyed parts of Bonanza Creek in 1913.

**Waln, Alfred F.** Born in Iowa in May 1861, Waln reportedly worked placer claims on the Little Bremner River in 1910.

**Walsh, Jack.** Walsh filed a homestead on land north of Strelina in 1917. Bill Clark acquired the property after Walsh's death.

**Wann, Fred.** Wann served as emergency recorder at the start of the Chisana rush and prospected Glacier Creek in 1914. This may be the same Wann who prospected in the Chistochina district in 1899.

**Ward, Joseph B.** Ward rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he witnessed a claim in March 1899.

**Ware, Elsie.** Ware taught school at Kennecott in 1917 and 1918.

**Warner, Clarence L.** Born in Portville, New York, in December 1856, Warner worked as a lumber grader at the Mersereau Sawmill before stampeding to Alaska in 1897. A member of the so-called McClellan group, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1899, Warner and partner Jack H. Smith were examining the slopes above the Kennicott Glacier when they discovered the Bonanza copper lode in 1900. The following year, Warner and partner Dan Kain found gold on Dan Creek, leading to the development of that drainage. During the 1920s Warner served as treasurer of the Mother Lode Coalition Mines Company, which was operated as a unit of the Kennecott mines. Warner died in Altadena, California, in 1935.

**Waters, Dick.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists Waters as a Chitina carpenter.

**Waters, H.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Waters as a Gakona storekeeper managing the Gakona Trading Company.

**Watkins, Henry J., Jr.** Born in Virginia in 1876, Watkins came north in 1899 to help Arthur McNeer develop claims on the Chisna River. Unfortunately, McNeer neglected to inform him about his Miller Gulch discovery, costing Watkins a potential fortune. Watkins later worked as Kennecott's business manager from 1907-1914 and served twice as its postmaster: from March 23-30, 1908 and from February 25, 1912 until December 14, 1914.

**Watkins, W. H.** Watkins served as the CR&NW Railway's Kennecott agent in 1911-1912.

**Watsjold, O. G.** Watsjold operated a general store in McCarthy during the 1930s.

**Weber, Robert.** Born in Illinois in 1875, Weber and Bethel Von Zeipel prospected on the Cheshnina River in 1908. Weber was still living in the Copper Center vicinity in 1910, when contracted by the U.S. census enumerator.

**Wells, Frank.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Wells as a resident of Copper Center but does not identify his occupation.

**Wells, Orland A.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Wells as a resident of Copper Center but does not identify his occupation.

**West, Myrle.** *Polk's* 1911-1912 directory lists West as a partner in an unidentified Chitina business called Cooke and West, probably a restaurant.

**Wheeler, Lou.** Wheeler, who formerly worked at the Senate in Valdez, drowned with her three companions while trying to raft the Nizina River in July 1903.

**Winters, G. H.** Indianapolis, Indiana, resident G. H. Winters rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer, but left that fall via the Copper River.

**Wehrley, Andrew.** Wehrley was a member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party, which reached the Copper Basin via the Valdez Glacier in 1898.

**Wehrley, Druey.** The son of Andrew Wehrley, Druey was the member of Horace Conger's Minnesota prospecting party who accidentally shot fellow stamper LeRoy Murfin, a member of his own group. Wehrley continued into the interior, but left the party shortly after reaching Copper Center in June and returned to the States.

**Wenke, Harry.** Wenke, who stamped to Alaska in 1898, was an early prospector in the Kotsina district and seems to have also worked as a market hunter in the same region.

**Wessling, William.** Born in Canada in 1871, Wessling mined in the Nizina district in 1910.

**West, Capt. I. N.** West claimed to have explored the Copper Basin in the mid-1890s and to have made the first gold strike on the Chistochina River. No solid evidence to support his claims has ever surfaced.

**Whan, Nick.** Whan rushed to Alaska in early 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier Trail. He died of scurvy in Copper Center the following October.

**Wheat, Ernest B.** Born in Utah in 1873, Wheat was one of the first stampedeers to enter the Copper Basin in 1898, and is identified by Luther Guiteau as remaining in Copper Center that fall. He later partnered with Arthur McNeer and L. H. Carvey working Rex No. 3 bench in 1903. When contacted by the U.S. census enumerator in 1910, he was still living in the Valdez region.

**Wheatley, Berta.** See Berta Cochran.

**Wheatley, O. J.** A Canadian citizen, Wheatley participated in the Balkan War of 1902-13, serving as a Sergeant-Major with a British Red Cross Mission. Once the war was over, Wheatley stamped to Chisana, where he met Berta Cochran, who ran the local Red Cross hospital. His previous experience made him invaluable to Cochran, and romance bloomed. They married in December 1913 in a civil ceremony officiated by A. J. "Tony" Dimond. Wheatley was called back to military service in August 1914, but at the conclusion of the First World War, he returned to Canada to accept the position of Assistant Superintendent of Investigation and Police for the Canadian National Railways. He retained that position until he retired in 1949. He and his wife were still living in Langley, British Columbia, in 1955.

**Wheaton, Ralph.** Wheaton was one of the first miners in the Bremner district, working Golconda No. 3 below in 1902. In 1903 he reportedly operated a roadhouse in Taral.

**Wheeler, Lou.** A resident of Upper Tonsina, Miss Wheeler and three companions drowned while trying to raft the Nizina River in July 1903.

**White, Donald.** White was living in Copper Center in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**White, George.** White was employed by the Yellow Band Mining Company at the Lucky Girl Mill in 1941.

**White, Thomas.** White—whose occupation is unknown—died in February 1911 and was buried in the Strelna cemetery.

**White, Thomas George.** Born in Port Huron, Canada, in March 1865, White visited Juneau in 1888, before returning in 1890 with Israel C. Russell as a member of the National Geographical Society's Mt. St. Elias expedition. From then until 1910, White was never out of Alaska, and only left then because he was called as a witness in a coal case. In 1891 and 1892 White prospected around Yakutat and worked for the Swedish Missionary Society in 1893. In 1894 he moved west to the vicinity of the Copper River Delta, where he discovered the Katalla oil fields. He eventually settled in Katalla, where he was still living in 1928.

**Whiteford, Don.** Whiteford bought the Paxson property in 1928, remodeling the barn to serve as a roadhouse. He operated it until 1930, when he lost his mortgage. He then tried his hand at mining, establishing a camp on the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River, just west of Canyon Creek.

**Whitham, Carl Farwell.** Born in Olympia, Washington, in 1882, Whitham was one of the first prospectors to examine the northern slope of the Wrangell Mountains. After several years spent prospecting along the upper Nabesna River, Whitham moved to the Chisana-White River District, where in May 1913 he staked the second claim on Little Eldorado Creek. Beginning about 1916 Whitham also mined Little Eldorado No. 2 fraction and the adjoining property on Snow Gulch. During the First World War Whitham served with the U.S. Army Tank Corps. In the early 1920s Whitham shifted his attention back to the west, where he developed a gold lode on White Mountain in the Nabesna district. That operation, the Nabesna Gold Mine, is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Whitham also served as the postmaster of Nabesna from April 24, 1940, until June 15, 1942, when the post office was abolished for the second and final time, and helped direct the Yellow Band Mining Company following the death of Asa Baldwin. He died in Seattle in March 1947.

**Whitham, Marie L.** The sister of Chisana miner Percy Thornton, Marie married Carl Whitham in 1919. She was living in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1943, when her name appeared on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Whiting, Dr. Fenton B.** Born in California, Whiting was chief medical officer during the four-year construction of the White Pass and Yukon Railroad, during which he performed the autopsy on the outlaw Soapy Smith. After the WP&Y was completed, Whiting joined the rush to Nome, where he opened an office and practiced medicine for about a year and a half. He then moved to Seattle, but returned to Alaska at the request of Michael Heney to serve as

chief medical officer during construction of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway. Whiting Falls, located just west of the Copper River below the mouth of the Tasnuna River, was named in his honor. His book, *Grit, Grief and Gold*, documents his Alaska adventures. Whiting died in Seattle in January 1936.

**Whitzler, Charles.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory identifies Whitzler as a Tielcel City [stage] driver.

**Widmaier, C. A.** British Columbia resident Widmaier and Ralph Wheaton opened a roadhouse at Taral in the spring of 1903. Later that summer, he and three companions drowned while attempting to raft the Nizina River.

**Wilcox, Howard G.** Formerly employed at both Kennecott and Westover, Wilcox joined the U.S. Army in 1918.

**Wilds, Billy.** Wilds and partner Tom Holland prospected the upper Chitina country in 1911.

**Wileben, W. J.** One of the first stampeder to enter the Copper Basin, Wileben spent the winter of 1898-99 at Copper Center, where he helped staff the prospectors' makeshift hospital.

**Wiley, J.** *Polk's* 1909-10 directory identifies Snell as a Tielcel City [stage] driver.

**Wiley, Robert W.** The owner of mining property on Beaver Creek, Wiley was an early stamper to the Chisana district. Arriving in August 1913, he obtained an option on Carl Whitham's Snow Gulch claim. Partnered with Horatio Morgan, he worked Gold Run in 1913, and with Joe McLennan, mined the upper end of Bonanza No. 3 fraction in 1915. Wiley Creek, a tributary of the White River, was named in his honor.

**Willcut, Logan.** The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Willcut as a WAMCATS telegraph operator living in Gakona.

**Willhelm, William.** Willhelm and partner Alex Stewart disappeared while prospecting in the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Williams, Clyde C. "Slim".** Born in Piedra, California, about 1881, Williams participated in the Klondike rush and then remained in Alaska, making a living by prospecting, freighting, trapping, and bootlegging. In 1926 Williams resided on the Copper River at the mouth of the Sanford, trapping the northern and western flanks of Mt. Sanford, and in 1930 he built a cabin on the Gulkana River, just north of Sourdough. In an attempt to promote construction of an international highway linking Alaska with the Lower 48, Williams drove his dog team 4,600 miles from Copper Center to the Chicago World's Fair in 1933, and in 1939 he and partner John Logan rode motorcycles from Fairbanks to Vancouver. Williams eventually earned his living lecturing on Alaska. He died in 1974.

**Williams, George.** An early arrival in the Chisana district, Williams worked Bonanza No. 3 in 1914.

**Williams, Jack and Billy.** The two Williams, Bob and Sol Kane, and two associates spent the winter of 1903-04 drifting on Dan Creek No. 3. They remained in the Nizina district until at least 1912.

**Williams, John M.** Williams rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the interior via the Valdez Glacier. He apparently first prospected in the upper Tonsina district, where he located and witnessed several claims in March 1899. He later prospected in Nizina district, where he

was killed by an avalanche in March 1909. Local miners named Williams Peak in his honor.

**Williams, William.** Williams, who came to Alaska as a member of the Connecticut and Alaska Mining and Trading Company in 1898, withdrew from the party after reaching the upper Klutina River and prospected instead with Emanuel Moyes and Charles Butts.

**Wilson, Alexander G.** Wilson managed the Nizina Trading Company's store in 1904. He also served as Nizina's postmaster from July 19, 1904 until March 9, 1905. The 1907-08 *Polk's* directory identifies Wilson as a Nizina grocer. This may be the same Alexander Wilson recorded by the 1910 U.S. census enumerator as living in Valdez.

**Wilson, Dan.** Wilson stampeded to Alaska in 1898, and, entering the country through Valdez, was one of the first to prospect in the Kuskulana district. In 1899 he and Frank Hoffman claimed to have located the Billum copper lode on Copper Creek, a tributary of the Kotsina River. This may be the Dan Wilson recorded by the U.S. census enumerator as living in Cordova in 1910.

**Wilson, George C.** Wilson was one of the first prospectors to examine the Chisana district, entering the area with Henry Bratnober's crew in 1905. Early Chisana miners apparently renamed Chavolda Creek in his honor, and despite the objections of the USGS, the name remains in local use today.

**Wilson, Gustaf "Gust" Tobias.** Born in Sweden in November 1865, Wilson reached Alaska about 1905 and subsequently prospected, trapped, and homesteaded near the mouth of the Chitina River near the Ahtna village of Taral. He died in December 1930 after falling from the Fox Creek trestle along the Copper River and Northwestern Railroad. Wilson is buried in Chitina.

**Wilson, John.** An experienced Washington placer miner, Wilson rushed to Alaska in 1898, reaching the Copper River Valley via the Valdez Glacier. He later prospected the Tazlina River.

**Wilson, John.** During the 1920s and 1930s, Wilson worked underground at Kennecott during the winter and operated the tailing giant for the Chititu Mining Company during the summer. He was still living in McCarthy in 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders. It is not known if this John Wilson is the same individual that stampeded to Alaska in 1898.

**Wilson, W. H.** A Connecticut resident, Wilson was a member of the so-called Moylan party, which prospected the Copper Basin in 1898.

**Winberg, Charles.** Born in Sweden in 1888, Winberg mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.

**Winchell, C.** Winchell purchased thirteen bench claims and one adjoining creek claim, apparently Rex No. 1, on Rex Creek from Carvey and McNeer in 1904. The property was managed by J. A. Hazelet.

**Windmiller, Richard.** Born in Germany in 1855, Windmiller operated the Tacoma Roadhouse, situated at mile 57.5 of the Valdez Trail, in 1908. From 1913 to 1918 he operated the Poplar Grove Roadhouse.



**Windstrom, O. A.** The 1907-1908 *Polk's* directory lists Windstrom as a Copper Center millwright.

**Windust, John.** Windust owned and operated the Paxson Lodge in the early 1950s.

**Winstrom, August.** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, resident August Winstrom rushed to Alaska in 1898 and prospected in the Copper Basin that summer, but left that fall via the Copper River.

**Witthop, Fred.** Witthop was employed as a placer miner by the Chititu Mines Company in 1943.

**Wold, Sigurd.** Wold, who operated a McCarthy transportation company during the 1930s, is listed as the original patentee on claims situated on Dan Creek. He was living in Fairbanks by 1943, when his name appears on a list of Yellow Band Mining Company stockholders.

**Wood, Mrs. Edward.** Wood operated the Tiekell Roadhouse, situated at mile 50.8 of the Valdez Trail, from 1904 to 1909.

**Woodin, Billy.** Woodin, who ran the Spruce Point Roadhouse for a time in the early teens, was working as a hunting guide for J. P. Hubrick in 1918. He also apparently completed some mineral development work on Fourth of July Creek prior to 1920.

**Woodman, Dick.** Woodman and Jim Hussey built three Alaska Road Commission relief cabins on the Skolai Pass trail in 1918.

**Woodman, George.** Partnered with a miner named Deffinbaugh, Woodman prospected Skookum No. 2 above in 1915. Woodman was also reported to have brought one of the first keystone drills into the Chisana district.

**Woodward, Bill.** Woodward worked the lower part of J. S. Taylor's Rex Creek property in 1915.

**Wooldridge, W. H.** Wooldridge rushed to Alaska in 1898, entering the interior from Valdez and prospecting in the Copper Basin. He remained in the vicinity until 1918 and was living in Seattle when last contacted by the Sourdough Stampede Association in 1930.

**Wortham, F. R.** Wortham located a claim in the upper Tonsina district in March 1899.

**Worsters, Harry.** Worsters was employed by the Great Northern Development Company on the Kotsina River in 1907.

**Wright, Alfred T.** One of the Chisana district's most committed miners, Wright worked local claims for more than 35 years. Partnered with Anderson, Wright mined the upper end of Bonanza No. 11 fraction in 1915. He remained in the district until at least 1947, when he still controlled Gold Run Creek Nos. 1 and 2 above Discovery.

**Wulff, Charles G.** Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1877, Wulff rushed to Alaska in 1898, apparently prospecting in the Nizina district. He spent the summer of 1905 working for the receiver of the Chititu Development Company and later developed claims in the Kotsina Valley. Wulff also served as the manager and editor of the *Valdez Prospector* before leaving Alaska in 1915. He died in San Francisco in August 1930.

**Wyatt, Buck.** Wyatt was managing the Gulkana Roadhouse in October 1913.

**Wyeres, William.** Wyeres was listed as a freighter on the 1920 Chisana census.

## Y

**Yager, Charles C.** Yager operated the Donaldson Roadhouse at Upper Tonsina in 1901 and 1902.

**Yager, Nellie.** Yager (sometimes spelled Yaeger) operated the Sourdough Roadhouse from 1908 until 1922 and later ran the Commercial Hotel in Chitina. In 1925 she and husband Jack Lampson bought the Lower Tonsina Roadhouse from Jake Nafsted. Yaeger died in 1933, and she and Lampson are both buried in the small cemetery on the hill overlooking Lower Tonsina.

**Yalniil Ta'.** *Yalniil Ta'* is the earliest Batzulnetas *denae* of whom there is any memory. He died about 1825 and was succeeded by his son.

**Yost, Charlie.** Yost purchased McCallum's Roadhouse in 1906, changing the name to Yost's Roadhouse. He operated the establishment until about 1909.

**Young, --.** In 1913 Young and co-owner C. F. Boggs operated a roadhouse on the Hazelet trail near the foot of the Chisana Glacier.

**Young, Charley.** Young, B. O. Peterson, and Andrew Halvorsen staked the Spirit Mountain nickel-copper prospect near the head of Canyon Creek in 1907. They abandoned the property in 1917.

**Young, Edward.** Young, a member of the Loyal party, rushed from Wisconsin to Alaska in 1898, crossing the Valdez Glacier that spring. This could be the same Young that *Polk's* 1907 and 1909-10 directories identify as a Tonsina freighter. Young prospected in the Kotsina Basin in 1910-1912.

**Young, Jack.** Young and Robert Clark mined several claims on Monahan Creek in 1931.

**Young, Robert E.** Young, who was born in California in 1860, stampeded to Alaska in 1898. Entering the country via the Valdez Glacier, he was one of the first to prospect along the Kuskulana River. In 1902 Young and Charles Craig prospected Copper Creek, a tributary of the Kotsina River, and in 1903 he and Archie Hendrie worked a lay on Chititu No. 11. Young also worked White Creek No. 15 that season. He eventually acquired claims on Porcupine Creek and just below the terminus of the Kuskulana Glacier. Young's name was given to Young Creek in 1901 by T. G. Gerdine, the leader of a prospecting party of which Young was a member.

**Young Man, Suslota (*Sasluuggu' Ciit*).** Suslota Young Man was *denae* at Suslota until his death about 1910.

## Z

**Zacharias, William.** Zacharias operated a barber shop in Chisana City until September 1915. Before leaving the district, he married fellow barber Lorain Roberts.

**Ziegler, Eustace Paul.** Ziegler was one of Alaska's and the Pacific Northwest's most popular artists. Born in Detroit, Michigan, Ziegler went to Cordova, Alaska, in 1909 to manage an

Episcopal mission. He had been trained in art in Detroit and continued to paint while traveling his widespread missionary route, which brought him often to the Copper Basin. After receiving a major painting commission from the Alaska Steamship Company in 1924, Ziegler moved to Seattle and left the ministry. He died there in 1969.

**Ziegler, J. A.** Ziegler mined in the Nizina district from 1909 until at least 1912.