

CHURCH OF THE HOLY ASCENSION

Unalaska

Unalaska Island

One of the oldest, largest, and most impressive of Alaska's Russian Orthodox churches, this 1894 wood-frame building is fronted with a three-story bell tower capped with an onion-domed cupola. Unalaska had long been a center of Russian Orthodoxy in Alaska, and a predecessor church on the site was built by Father Veniaminov, a missionary assigned to this post in 1824. He translated the Bible into the Aleut language and recorded Aleut customs and material culture.