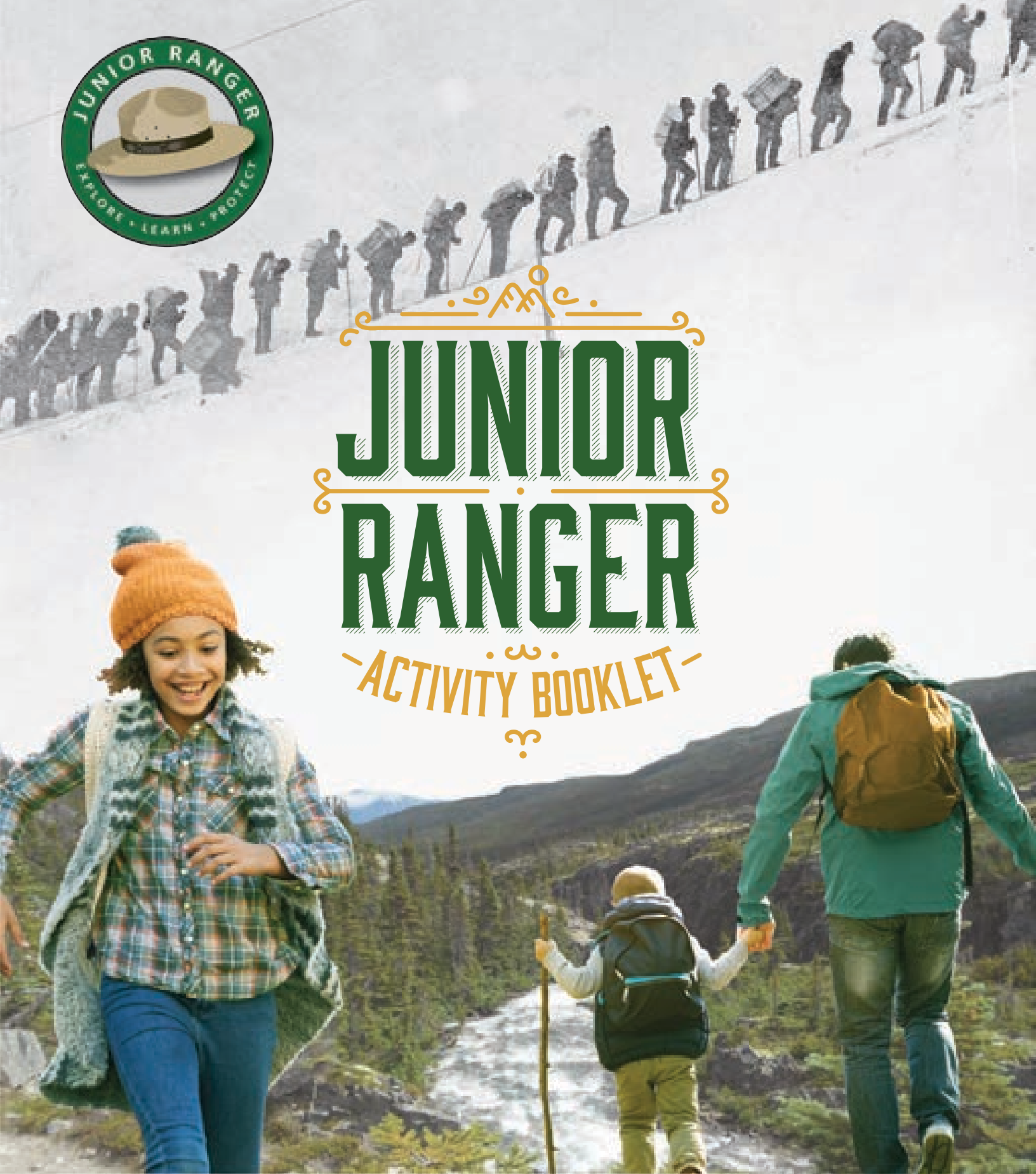




National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park



# JUNIOR RANGER

-ACTIVITY BOOKLET-

# WELCOME

TO

## KLONDIKE GOLD RUSH NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK!



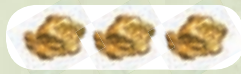
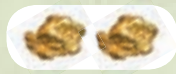
EXPLORE, LEARN, PROTECT...  
BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER!

READY TO EARN A JUNIOR  
— RANGER BADGE? —

### TO BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER,

To become a Junior Ranger, earn gold nuggets by completing activities. Some activities are worth more than one nugget.

Look for this symbol:



AGE:	NUMBER OF NUGGETS:
under 6	7+
6-10	10+
10 and over	15+

### IN ADDITION TO THE ACTIVITIES IN THIS BOOKLET, COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE:

- See the park film
- Go on a hike
- Explore a museum
- Take a walking tour of Skagway
- Explore the Dyea townsite
- Take a tour of Jeff. Smiths Parlor Museum

# PARK MAP



## THE NATIONAL PARKS BELONG TO ALL OF US.

These special places were set aside for all of us to enjoy America's natural beauty, historic places, and the wonderful stories the parks have to share. The National Park Service takes care of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. As a Junior Ranger, you can help care for the park too.

**Bring the completed booklet back to the visitor center to receive your official Junior Ranger badge!**

**You can also send your completed booklet to:**

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park  
Attn: Junior Ranger Program  
P.O. Box 517  
Skagway, AK 99840

**Be sure to include your home address so the park can mail your badge!**

## LEARN MORE AT:

[www.nps.gov/klgo](http://www.nps.gov/klgo)

OR

[KLGO\\_Information@nps.gov](mailto:KLGO_Information@nps.gov)

# GOLD!

## DISCOVERY STORY

In August 1896, a group of people discovered gold in the remote Klondike region of Canada's Yukon Territory. This discovery set off the great Klondike Gold Rush. A gold rush is when a lot of people travel to a place to look for gold because they heard that gold was found there. The dream of a better life sent thousands in search of gold.

### WHO DISCOVERED THE GOLD?

#### KEISH (SKOOKUM JIM MASON)

- Called Skookum Jim because he could carry over 100 pounds. "Skookum" means strong in his language.
- Donated his fortune to help First Nations people.

#### GEORGE WASHINGTON CARMACK

- Married to Shaaw Tláa
- Filed the first claim known as the Discovery Claim that earned him a fortune.
- He never stopped looking for gold.

#### SHA AW TLÁA (KATE CARMACK)

- Born to a Tagish chief in Southern Yukon.
- Discovered gold with her brother, Keish and husband, George Carmack.
- Never received any money from the Discovery Claim.

#### KA'A GOOX (DAWSON CHARLIE)

- Nephew to Keish and Shaaw Tláa.
- After discovering gold he became wealthy and was known as "Dawson Charlie"

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Candy Waugaman Collection, KLGO Library DP-116-10570

University of Washington Libraries, Asahel Curtis Collection, A. Curtis 62086

Yukon Archives. James Albert Johnson, 82/341, #41

MacBride Museum Collection, 1989-1-4

1

#### AGREE OR DISAGREE

Mark if you agree or disagree with the statement below.

The discovery of gold led everyone to have a better life.

AGREE

DISAGREE

EXPLAIN:

# THE GREAT ADVENTURE!

Of the 100,000 men, women, and children who set out for the Klondike, only about 40,000 made it to the gold fields. The Klondike Gold Rush was a long and dangerous journey. At each stage of the rush, more and more people turned back.

## 2 FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE WORDS FROM THE IMAGES BELOW



There were many routes to the gold fields. The routes typically began in a west coast town like Seattle and headed north to the towns of Skagway and Dyea. Once in Alaska, the journey continued on foot over the mountains and hundreds of miles up the Yukon River. It took gold seekers around nine months to reach their destination- the gold fields.

Gold seekers who rushed to the Klondike were called "stampers."

POSTAL TELEGRAPH COMMERCIAL CABLES

### TELEGRAM

Dear Family,

After I took the \_\_\_\_\_ from Seattle, I had to carry my \_\_\_\_\_ up the trail. Next, I built my own \_\_\_\_\_ . Then, I navigated the \_\_\_\_\_ . Finally, I began \_\_\_\_\_ in the gold fields.



Working a claim on Bonanza Creek -- Credit: H.J. Woodside / Library and Archives Canada / PA-016944

Boat building at Bennett Lake -- Credit: E.A. Hegg / Library and Archives Canada / C-004688

University of Washington, Special Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 2115B

U.S. Geological Survey. Department of the Interior/USGS. Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, Alaska. Steamer "Wheeling" anchored at Skagway, viewed from the pier. April 1898 photo by Brooks, Alfred Hulse

“Whichever way you go, you will wish you had gone the other.”

# CHILKOOT TRAIL vs. WHITE PASS TRAIL



University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 98

- Started in Dyea
- Called “The meanest 33 miles in history”
- Final ascent climbed 1,000 feet in only 1/8 of a mile
- “Golden Stairs” carved into the ice on steep incline



University of Washington, Special Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 259

- Started in Skagway: a dangerous, lawless town
- 44 miles long
- Advertised as good for pack animals
- Called the “Dead Horse Trail” because an estimated 3,000 horses died

U.S. Geological Survey, Department of Interior/USGS. U.S. Geological Survey, 1992, USGS 1:25000-scale Quadrangle for Skagway C-1 NW, AK 1992: U.S. Geological Survey

**One Ton Law of 1898:** The Canadian government required all stampeders to carry a year’s supply of food and equipment weighing close to one ton (2,000 lbs). Though the heavy loads made the journey more difficult, it prevented starvation.

3

HOW MANY MILES WOULD -YOU- HAVE TO TRAVEL TO GET ALL OF YOUR SUPPLIES OVER THE TRAIL?



How much each person on average carried:

CHILD  
20 pounds

AVERAGE STAMPER  
60 pounds

EXPERIENCED “SOURDOUGH”  
75 pounds

1.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Your supplies} \\ \text{(2000 pounds)} \end{array} \div \begin{array}{c} \text{how much} \\ \text{weight you can} \\ \text{carry at once} \\ \boxed{\phantom{000}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{number of loads} \\ \boxed{\phantom{000}} \end{array}$$

2.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Number of} \\ \text{loads} \\ \boxed{\phantom{000}} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{c} \text{distance traveled} \\ \text{back and forth on} \\ \text{selected trail} \\ \boxed{\phantom{000}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \text{total distance} \\ \text{travelled} \\ \boxed{\phantom{000}} \end{array}$$

White Pass: 88 miles  
Chilkoot: 66 miles

# PACK ANIMALS

Many kinds of animals were used for transportation during the Klondike Gold Rush including **horses, mules, goats, dogs, and even oxen**. Pack animals helped stampeders carry the “ton of goods” required by law.



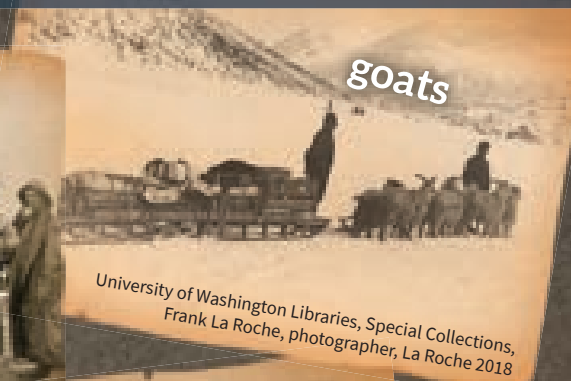
horses

University of Washington, Special Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 2279



mules

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-50200



goats

University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, Frank La Roche, photographer, La Roche 2018



dogs

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsc-01735



oxen

University of Washington, Special Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 214



4

**PRETEND -YOU- ARE A STAMPER WITH A TON OF GOODS TO MOVE UP THE TRAIL.**

Choose an animal to help move your supplies.

My animal companion is a: \_\_\_\_\_

I chose this animal because... \_\_\_\_\_



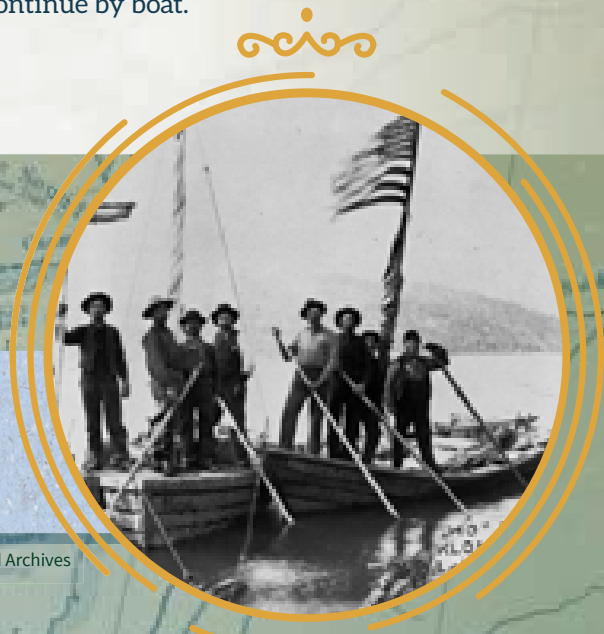
# NAVIGATE THE RIVER

The trails both ended at Lake Bennett, but the journey continued by boat. Stampeders floated more than 500 miles down the Yukon River to Dawson City. Because the river freezes in the winter, stampeders had to wait for the ice to break in order to continue by boat.

(c)British Library Board: (General Reference Collection 10460.dd.16)

On May 17, 1898, the ice on Lake Bennett broke apart. 7,000 boats departed Lake Bennett within an hour of each other. The race to the gold fields was back on!

Image D-04536 courtesy of the Royal BC Museum and Archives



With no prior experience building boats or running rivers, the stampeders took great risks on the river. Over 150 boats sank in the first few days. Mounties (police officers from Canada) set up a checkpoint to make sure only well-crafted boats and competent pilots attempted the rapids. This regulation helped save many lives.

University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, UW17194



## DID YOU KNOW?

The remains of **80 canvas boats** abandoned during the Klondike Gold Rush were found near the top of the Chilkoot Pass. Archeologists continue to monitor these artifacts.



Officers of "B" Division, North-West Mounted Police. L-R: Insp. Wm. H Scarth; Insp. Z.T. Wood; Insp. W.H. Routledge; Insp. Courtland Starnes; A/Surgeon Dr. A. Thompson. -- Credit: Library and Archives Canada/PA-202188





YOU MADE IT!

END:  
DAWSON CITY

University of Washington, Special  
Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg,  
photographer, Hegg 2278

FIVE FINGER  
RAPIDS

WHITEHORSE  
RAPIDS

5

MAKE YOUR WAY THROUGH  
THE RIVER MAZE

START:  
BENNETT TENT  
CITY

University of Washington  
Libraries, Special Collections,  
George G. Cantwell,  
photographer, AWC3828

# LINGÍT

## "YOO X'ATÁNGI"

Yoo X'atángi means **language** in Tlingit.

### THE TLINGIT PEOPLE INHABITED THE REGION LONG BEFORE THE GOLD RUSH.

Before the gold rush, the Tlingit people used the Chilkoot Trail, known as the "Grease Trail", to trade with other communities. The gold rush had a large impact on their lives. Disease killed many, lands were taken, and their everyday life was forever changed. Despite the effects of the gold rush, the Tlingit People survived.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Chief Isaac** was one of Dyea's first entrepreneurs. Through his business, stampedeers who wanted help carrying supplies up the Chilkoot Trail could hire local Tlingit and Tagish packers.



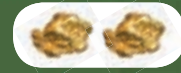
Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-30261

Courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-93695

Credit National Archives photo no. 524404

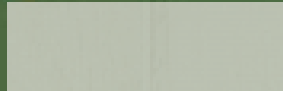


### WORD SCRAMBLE



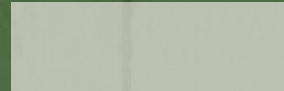
Unscramble the English words to find out what each Tlingit word means!

LINGÍT  
Tinitgl



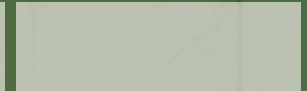
means "people"

DEIYÁA  
ayeD



means "to pack"

SHGAGWÉI  
waSkagy

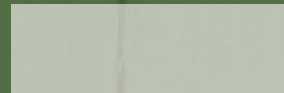


means "roughed up water"

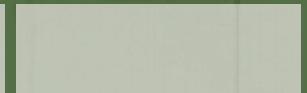
XŌOTS  
rgizzly abre



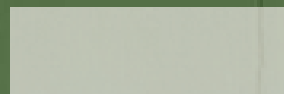
TAAN  
eas inol



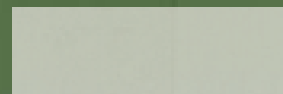
GUNALCHÉESH  
tahnk oyu



GŌON  
dglo



DEI  
latri



# DISCOVERING RICHES

## A GOLD STRIKE COULD MAKE YOU RICH, BUT ONLY A FEW WERE THAT LUCKY.

By the time stampedeers arrived in the gold fields, the best spots were already taken. **By August 1898**, stampedeers started going home, many of them broke.

University of Washington, Special Collections Library, Eric A. Hegg, photographer, Hegg 778



## WRITE A CINQUAIN POEM

Pick one thing you'll remember from your visit to Skagway. Find a quiet place and write your own cinquain poem about it. A cinquain poem is a five line poem that does not rhyme.

---

One word to name the subject (noun)

---

Two words to describe it (adjectives)

---

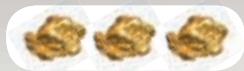
Three words of action about it (verbs)

---

Four-word phrase to describe how you feel about it

---

One new word that names the subject (noun)



Robert Services's famous poem *The Cremation of Sam McGee* captures the adventure, danger, and loss many stampedeers felt.

*"There are strange things done in the midnight sun  
By the men who toil for gold;  
The Arctic trails have their secret tales  
That would make your blood run cold"*

**How do you feel after reading this excerpt from the poem?**

# FROM BOOMTOWN TO RAILROAD TOWN

Captain William Moore predicted the importance of the Skagway River as an entry point to the interior ten years before the gold rush. He wanted to profit from travelers heading north but once the first ship of gold seekers arrived, others took control of the growing town.

THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS STILL STANDING IN SKAGWAY TODAY  
TELL THE STORY OF HOW THE CITY GREW.

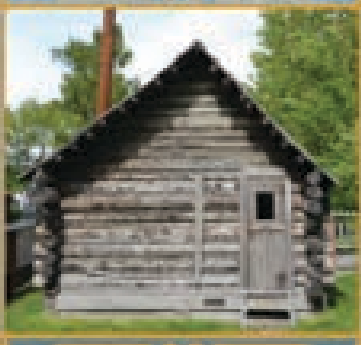
8



FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE YEAR  
WHEN THE BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED.

HINT:

Take a look at the  
plaques located on the  
front of each building  
or visit:  
[nps.gov/klgo](https://www.nps.gov/klgo).

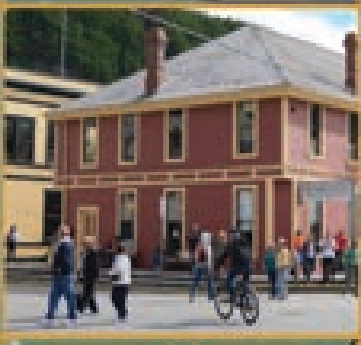


## MOORE CABIN

Captain Moore's rough log cabin was the first permanent structure to be built in Skagway.

## J. BERNARD (BEN) MOORE HOUSE

Ben Moore, Captain Moore's son, built this fine house for his family. Bennie, Edith, and Frances (his children) lived here with their pet moose.



## WHITE PASS & YUKON ROUTE DEPOT

Construction of the White Pass & Yukon Route railroad was completed in two years and connected Skagway to the Yukon River. The railroad depot now serves as the park's visitor center.

# MINING — THE — MINERS

Skagway and Dyea were boomtowns- towns that grew very rapidly. As the number of stampeders grew, so did the number of entrepreneurs and businesses that sold supplies and brought a taste of home to the area. During the gold rush, people started many businesses such as hotels, saloons, and shops.

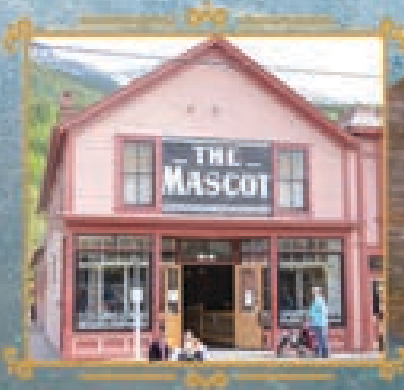
9



LEARN ABOUT THE BUSINESSES THAT WERE RUN IN THESE HISTORIC BUILDINGS. WRITE WHAT EACH BUSINESS DID, OR SOLD, DURING THE GOLD RUSH.

## DID YOU KNOW?

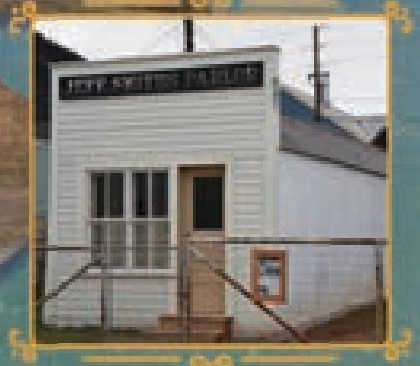
Friedrich Trump (President Donald Trump's grandfather), John Nordstrom (Founder of Nordstrom Department stores), and businesswoman Martha Black (one of the first women to serve in the Canadian parliament), all started as entrepreneurs in the gold rush!



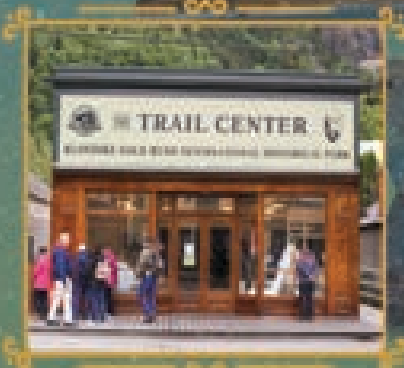
MASCOT SALOON MUSEUM



JEFF. SMITHS PARLOR MUSEUM



BOSS BAKERY



# SKAGWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT

Downtown Skagway, Alaska is recognized as a National Historic Landmark. Here, you will find dozens of historic buildings. Over twenty of these buildings are preserved by the National Park Service.

10



DRAW ONE OF THE BUILDINGS FROM THE SKAGWAY HISTORIC DISTRICT.

---

This building is interesting because:

I am glad this building was saved because:

What is important to you that you think should be preserved?:

# DYEA'S DECLINE

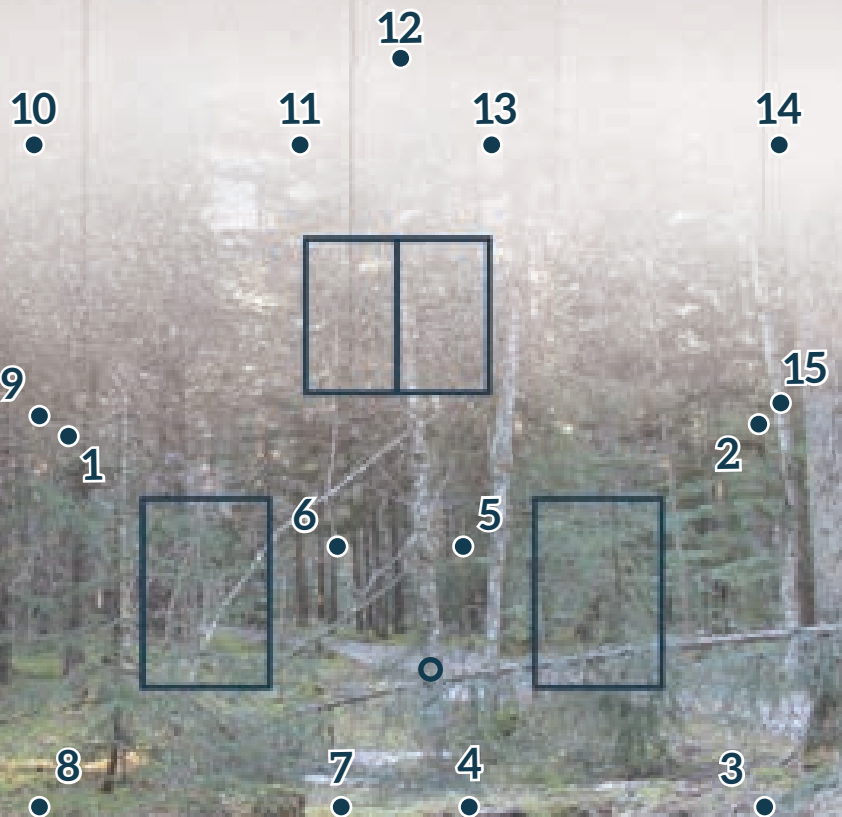
Dyea grew rapidly with the gold rush but four years later, the town was all but abandoned. The opening of the White Pass and Yukon Route railroad in Skagway led to Dyea's demise. Over the last century nature has reclaimed Dyea.

In 1897, Dyea competed with Skagway with over 150 businesses: hotels, restaurants, and stores, in the downtown area. The remains of the abandoned buildings have been worn down and only few remains can still be seen standing at the old townsite.



11

CONNECT THE DOTS BELOW TO REVEAL WHICH HISTORICAL BUILDING ONCE STOOD NEXT TO ONE OF DYEA'S MOST POPULAR GOLD RUSH RUINS.



# INHABITANTS OF THE YUKON

A stamper's journey passes through a variety of habitats that are home to different animal and plant species. Gold seekers were not the only ones on the trail. Many animals use this corridor to move from the coast to the interior and back.

12



## WHERE MIGHT YOU FIND THESE LOCAL INHABITANTS?

In the box below, draw a line to match the inhabitant to the place where they might be found.

### BALD EAGLE



Bald eagles have dark body feathers that are good at absorbing sunlight and help melt any ice and stay warm.

### MOUNTAIN GOAT



Mountain goats have yellowish-white fur that grows long and shaggy in the winter.

### BEAR



Bears change from being active every day to hibernating which makes the body temperature, heart rate, and need for energy lower.

### SALMON



Salmon make it from the ocean up rivers into the Yukon to spawn. They adjust how much water they drink to survive in both sea and fresh water.



BEAR



BALD EAGLE



SALMON



MOUNTAIN GOAT



NEST IN TREE



MOUNTAIN RIDGE



DEN



MOUNTAIN STREAM



# WHAT THEY LEFT BEHIND



helmet decoration



bullet cartridge with diagonal slice

**ARCHEOLOGY** is like finding a single piece of a puzzle and then using it to explain what the rest of the picture looks like. Each of the bullet cartridges to the left has a diagonal slice in it. Though archeologists have several ideas, we don't why know for sure.

## BUFFALO SOLDIERS

The Buffalo Soldiers of Company L were sent to help secure the US-Canada border and tame the lawless land.

The artifacts on this page belonged to the Buffalo Soldiers. What do these objects tell us about their lives?

To learn more, ask a ranger or visit: [nps.gov/klgo](https://www.nps.gov/klgo)



uniform buttons



13

WHY DO -YOU- THINK THE CARTRIDGES WERE SLICED? ANSWER BELOW.



copy



# CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is happening at Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. You can see the effects of rising global temperatures when you compare pictures taken one hundred years ago with recent pictures taken at the same time of year.



14

COMPARE THESE TWO PHOTOS.  
HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?



## EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

- Higher temperatures mean less snow falling in the mountains and more snow melting, causing glaciers to become smaller.
- Melting glaciers contribute to sea level rise which can flood coastal communities.



Learn about ongoing conservation efforts at:

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/index.htm>



**CLIMATE CHANGE** is caused by increases in greenhouse gases that trap heat in the atmosphere. These gases exist naturally but people are adding extra greenhouse gases (mostly carbon dioxide) when they burn fossil fuels for energy. The extra gases are causing the Earth to become warmer and are setting off changes that affect people and wildlife.

## CARING FOR OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND THE EARTH TAKES EVERYONE.

Do your part:

The following actions can make a difference in helping to protect the environment.



Recycle



Use less water



Pick up garbage and put it in the trash can



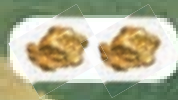
Walk and bike when possible



Turn off the lights when not in use

15

**SPREAD THE WORD!**



Choose one action you will do and create a drawing or poster to get others to help too!

What will you do to help prevent further climate change?

# JUNIOR RANGER CERTIFICATE

EXPLORE, LEARN AND PROTECT

## — THE JUNIOR RANGER PLEDGE: —

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to continue to learn about natural and cultural resources, and to help preserve them for future generations.



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



PARK RANGER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

You can find Junior Ranger activities & more at [www.nps.gov/kids](http://www.nps.gov/kids)