

Respecting Alaska's Amazing Past

What you find on your allotment may show that people lived there before, maybe centuries or even thousands of years ago!

These earlier people, some may be your direct ancestors, should be honored and remembered, just as we want to be honored and remembered.



- *Small Wooden Mask (with red ochre painted design)*
- *800 A.D.*
- *Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta*

For more information contact your local agencies:

Bureau of Land Management

Alaska State Office
222 West 7th Ave., #13
Anchorage, AK 99513-7504
(907) 271-5960

Anchorage

BLM Anchorage Field Office
4700 BLM Road
Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 267-1246

Glennallen

BLM Glennallen Field Office
P.O. Box 147
Glennallen, AK 99588
(907) 822-3217

Fairbanks

BLM Fairbanks &
Arctic District Offices
222 University Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3816
(907) 474-2200

Nome

BLM Nome Field Station
P.O. Box 952
Nome, AK 99762
(907) 443-2177

Alaska State Historic Preservation Office

Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave. #1310
Anchorage, AK 99501-3565
(907) 269-8700

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Regional Archaeology Program
3601 C Street Suite 1200,
Anchorage, AK, 99503-5947
(907) 271-4003

BLM Alaska Public Information Center (Public Room)

www.blm.gov/media/public-room/alaska

Alaska Public Lands Information Centers (APLIC)

<https://www.nps.gov/anch/index.htm>

BLM Paleontology

www.blm.gov/paleontology

*All photos and illustrations courtesy of the
Bureau of Land Management unless otherwise noted.*

The Bureau of Land Management, a federal agency within the Department of the Interior, administers over 270 million acres nationwide, primarily in the western United States and Alaska. To do this, the BLM follows principles of multiple use management striving to find a combination of uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources. These resources include recreation, timber, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife, wilderness, and natural scenic, cultural, paleontological, and other scientific values.

*Cover Photo: One of many types of
stone artifacts found in Alaska.*

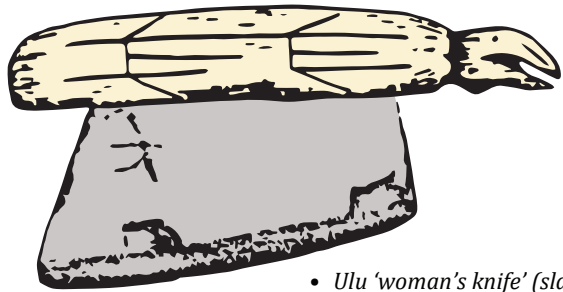


Alaska's Heritage

Your allotment may have remnants or artifacts from past use of the land, maybe by your direct ancestors. These materials are yours under law and are an important link between today and the past. If these resources are not protected, then future generations may lose a connection to the land and the honored elders that lived there. Much about Alaska's past remains unknown and the cultural resources on your lands may help future generations understand the past better.

As the allotment owner, you are the primary steward to provide protection and care of the material heritage on your lands. State and federal agencies are available to provide assistance and recommendations on how to safeguard and document cultural resources. Tribes and corporations may also be interested in knowing about the cultural resources on your land and provide assistance for their long-term protection. Telling people about what you find will NOT mean losing any part of your land or any use of your land.

Enjoy learning what to look for, making new discoveries and adding these findings to the body of knowledge for preserving and protecting the history of your land!



- Ulu 'woman's knife' (slate blade with antler handle)
- 800 A.D.
- Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

What to consider protecting

Artifacts

- Clusters of small flakes and fragments of broken stone may be the remains of making stone tools used for hunting, cutting, or scraping.



- Mesa Point
- 10,000 years old
- North Slope

Artwork

- Carved, painted patterns, or pictures on rocks (even trees) could have a variety of important meanings about past people and their beliefs.



- Painted Rock Design
- Early 1800s (est.)
- Southeast Alaska

Recent Settlements

- Dumping areas with old rusty cans and other metal, glass, or sometimes even wooden or broken plastic items may still be important.

Structures

- Rocks arranged in unnatural patterns (such as circular patterns) may be old fire hearths or stones used for holding down tents.
- Depressions and pits that may seem unnatural could be old houses or storage areas.
- Unnatural mounds with out-of-place vegetation may be old house sites.
- Old cut logs or boards could be remains of more recent cabins.



- Cabin
- Early 1900s
- Near Wiseman

How you can help

1. Leave it

If you find something that may have been left by past people, please don't destroy it! Leave it where you find it.

2. Record it

Make a record of its location and take photos if possible.

3. Notify the Tribe or Corporation

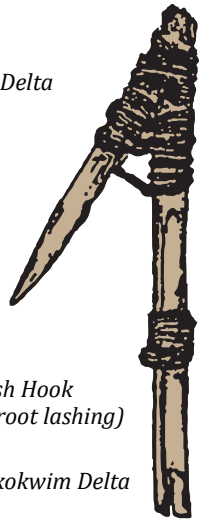
Tell your council about your discovery. They will notify someone who is interested in helping preserve the memory of past people and how they lived on the land.

4. Share

Inform the Bureau of Indian Affairs (Regional Archaeology Program) or State of Alaska Officials of your discovery. Their professional staff also want to help preserve and honor Alaska's amazing past.



- Wooden Figure
- 800 A.D.
- Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta



- Wooden Fish Hook (with split root lashing)
- 800 A.D.
- Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Telling people about what you find will NOT mean losing any part of your land or any use of your land.

You'll be a hero for preserving knowledge of how Alaskans, including your ancestors, lived in our great land!