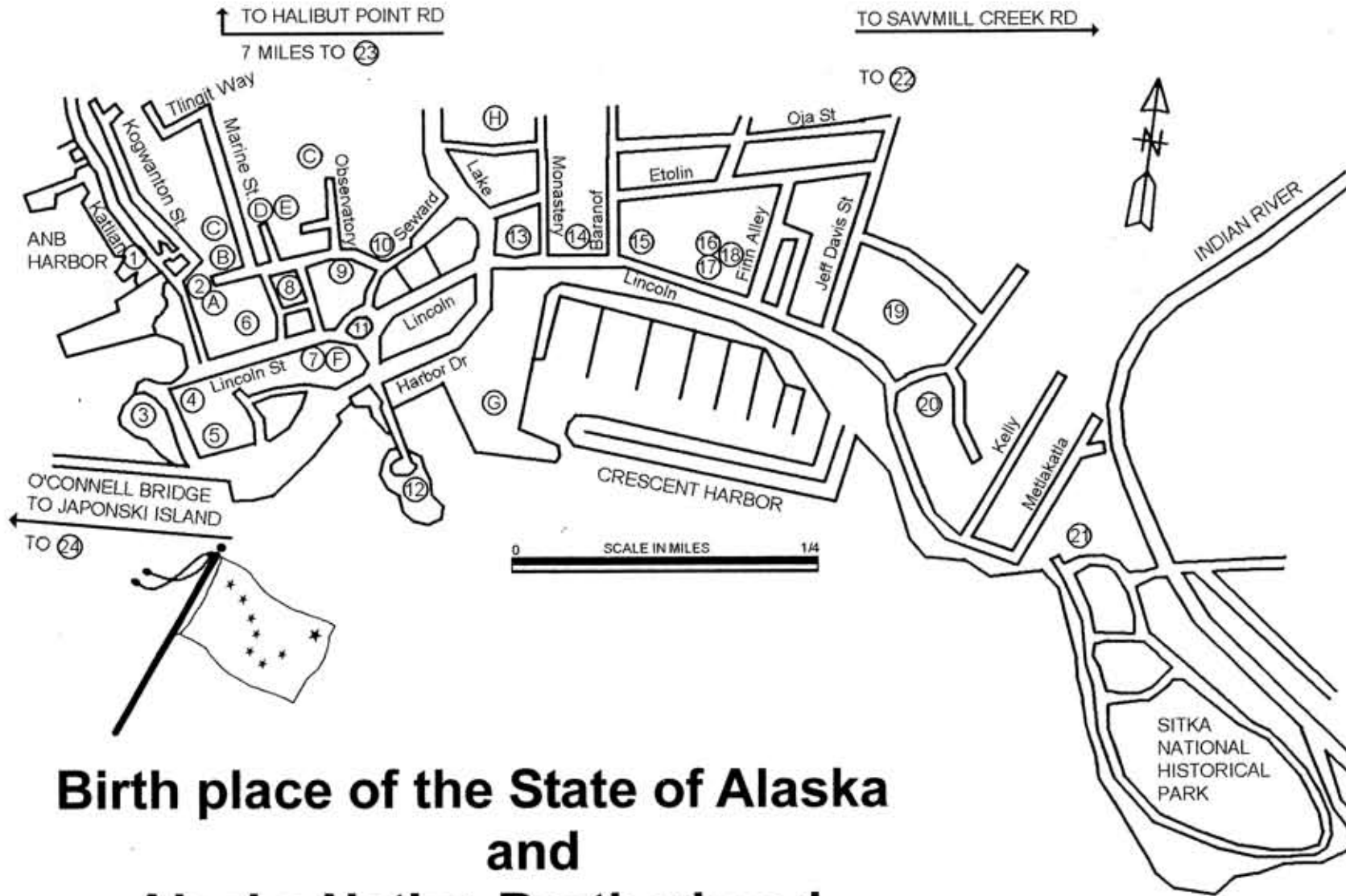


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# Historic Sites of Sitka

## National Historic Landmark Sites and National Register of Historical Places

1. Alaska Native Brotherhood (ANB) Hall
2. Katlian Street School Site
3. Cable House and Station
4. Sitka Post Office and Court House
5. Castle Hill
6. Pioneer's Home
7. Building No. 29, Tilson Building
8. Murray Apartments & Cottages
9. U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey House
10. Loretta Mae Mills House
11. Cathedral of St. Michael The Archangel
12. W. P. Mills House
13. Hanlon-Osbakken House
14. Russian Bishop's House
15. Emmons House
16. See House
17. St. Peter's Episcopal Church
18. Moore-Vanderbilt-DeGroff House
19. Sheldon Jackson College
20. Sheldon Jackson Museum
21. Sitka National Historic Park
22. Sitka National Cemetery
23. Redoubt St. Archangel Michael Site
24. Sitka Naval Operating Base & U. S. Army Coastal Defenses



**Birth place of the State of Alaska  
 and  
 Alaska Native Brotherhood**

## Other Sites of Interest

- A. Sitka Tribal Community House
- B. Russian Blockhouse
- C. Russian Cemetery
- D. Princess Maksutov's Grave
- E. Lutheran Cemetery
- F. Sitka Lutheran Church
- G. Sitka Historical Museum / Sitka Historical Society/ Centennial Building
- H. Swan Lake



**\*1. Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall**  
Founders established the Alaska Native Brotherhood in 1912

In order to secure equal rights for Natives (as guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution's 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment) ultimately winning citizenship for Alaskan Natives in 1914. The ANB Hall built in 1914 houses the original chapter of the Alaska Native Brotherhood.

**2. Katlian Street School Site**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs built the Katlian Street Elementary School in 1925/6 for native students. In 1947, the Katlian Native School was integrated and served as a Public Elementary School closing in 1967.



**3. Cable House and Station**

Built in 1909, the Cable House and Station was the office in Sitka for the Washington-Alaska Military Cable and Telegraph System. This system of overland and submarine cable telegraph linked the main military posts and communities of Alaska with the lower United States.

**4. Sitka Post Office and Court House**

This modern concrete building built in 1932 housed both the post office and a courthouse and was the first building in Sitka's history built specifically for a post office.



**\*5. Castle Hill**

The Tlingits' Kiksadi clan houses had a majestic view of the harbor prior to destruction by the Russians in 1804. The last of the Russian buildings was known as Baranov's Castle which burned in 1894. The 18 October 1867 historic land transfer ceremony of Alaska from Russia to the United States occurred on this site.



**6. Sitka Pioneer's Home**

The first Alaska Pioneer's Home was established in Sitka in 1913 in the abandoned U.S. Marine's Barracks. It served as a temporary Pioneer's Home until 1934 when the current building was constructed.



**\*7. Building No. 29, The Tilson Building**  
Designated Building 29 on the map that accompanied the

transfer of Sitka from Russia to the United States, this building was a residence for employees of the Russian-American Company. Built in 1835, it is one of two Russian American Company buildings remaining in Sitka, known by the name of an early American owner.



**8. Murray Apartments and Cottages**

These two cottages and one apartment building were built in Douglas, Alaska as housing for miners employed by the Treadwell Mine. Abner Murray, owner of the buildings, disassembled and barged them to Sitka in 1920 after the mine closed.



**9. U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey House**

This house has a long history as a site of scientific importance. It was the magnetic observatory nearest to the magnetic North Pole originally built in 1901.



**10. Mae Mills House**  
In July 1911, Seattle architect, Clyde A. MacLaren, designed this home for Loretta Mae Mills, daughter of a prominent Sitka family.

This elegant three-story house is 42-1/2 ft. x 30 ft. was completed in 1914. Ms. Mills planed the Balm of Gilead tree that stands in the front yard.



**\*11. Cathedral of St. Michael The Archangel**

The first Orthodox Bishop of Alaska, Bishop Innocent, shaped the plans for the original cathedral dedicating it in November 1848. When the original cathedral burned in a devastating fire, in 1966, it was the oldest religious structure from the Russian era in Alaska.



**12. W. P. Mills House**

This white frame house built in 1915 and 1916 is a Sitka land-mark by virtue of its location and foundation constructed on the foundation of the Russian saltery on a small island connected to downtown Sitka by a stone causeway. Seattle architect, Julius Mendel designed the home.

**13. Hanlon-Osbakken House**

The original owner, Anna (Schmakoff/Ricter) Hanlon, of this property was born in Sitka 7 yrs. before the historic Russian transfer. Construction of this house began in 1895 using lumber from the Ricter Brewery. Shortly after completion in 1900, Episcopal Bishop Rowe lived here while working on the See House.



**\*14. Russian Bishop's House**

This log building made of Sitka spruce was built in 1842. It has been a bishop's residence, a school, and an orphanage. Currently being restored by the National Park Service since the mid 1980's.



**15. Emmons House**

This home was built by the artist, Katherine May (Baker) and her husband, George Thornton Emmons, son of Captain George Foster Emmons, commander of the USS Ossipee when that vessel came to Sitka at the time of the transfer of Alaska to the United States. The building's profile follows that of the Russian public and residential buildings that dominated the Sitka scene with construction being completed in 1895. The house is reported to be the first house in Sitka with plastered walls.



**16. The See House**

The See House was the home and headquarters of Bishop Peter Trimble Rowe, the first Episcopal bishop of Alaska. Bishop Rowe designed and built the house completing it in 1905. The See House now serves as a parish hall for the current Episcopal congregation.



**17. St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church was built in 1899 of natural stone with wood beams with Peter Trimble Rowe overseeing the construction. He, his wife, and one of his sons are buried on the church grounds. One of three known cuttings of the thorn tree from the Glassenbury Abbey in England is planted beside the church. The other two cuttings are in the Queen's Garden in England and the National Cathedral in Washington.

**18. Moore-Vanderbilt-DeGroff House**  
Estelle & Benjamin Moore's home was completed 13 May 1899. Edward deGroff married widow Leona (Bancroft) Vanderbilt in 1894 and moved into this home ten years later. Edward deGroff is remembered as a photographer, promoter of the Chicagof Mine, and his service as an U.S. Commissioner.

**\*19. Sheldon Jackson School/College**

At the behest of Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary, Fannie Kellogg started the Sitka Missionary School for Natives in 1878. John Brady, a missionary who arrived with Fannie Kellogg to start a church, and who later became governor of the District of Alaska, staked and originally surveyed the land of the current Sheldon Jackson College transferring his claim to the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions five years later. The Sitka Industrial and Training School opened on this land with the first building completed in 1882. The New York architectural firm of Ludlow and Peabody designed the campus in 1910-1911. The core of this 15-acre historic district consists of 17 buildings with six early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Craftsman-style two-story buildings. The quadrangle plan following the design of Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia was completed 7 June 1911. Many of the buildings were originally painted or stained white.



**20. Sheldon Jackson Museum**

Established by Presbyterian Missionary Sheldon Jackson before the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, to preserve native artifacts. This is the first concrete building erected in Alaska.

**21. Sitka National Monument (Historical Park)**

The 54-acre park, one of the oldest areas of the National Park System and one of the smallest was declared a national monument by proclamation of President Taft in 1910, six years before the National Park Service came into being. The park preserves the site of the 1804 "Battle of Alaska" fought between the Kiksadi Clan of Tlingit Natives and the invading Russians.

**22. Sitka National Cemetery**

The Sitka National Cemetery is one of the smallest National Cemeteries in the United States and the only one west of the Mississippi during WW I. The oldest burial site dates 1867.

In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge signed an executive order designating it as "The Sitka National Cemetery." Many notable persons connected with the history of AK and some Civil War heroes are buried in this facility. Charles Paddock, known as the "fastest man alive" after winning the 1920 Olympics is buried there.

**\*23. Old Sitka**

Called Redoubt St. Archangel Michael by the Russians, this was the site of the first Russian settlement in the Sitka area, built in 1799. The Tlingits attacked and destroyed the site in 1802.

**\*24. Sitka Naval Operating Base & U.S. Army Coastal Defenses**

The causeway connected a series of islands that formed part of the coastal defense of Alaska. A battery of six-inch guns was placed at Fort Rousseau at the end of the causeway to protect Sitka harbor from possible invasion.

**\* National Historic Landmark; other sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places**