# Skagway **GATEWAY TO THE KLONDIKE**

### WALKING TOURS

MINI TOUR (#1-#15) 1\2 MILE (45-60 MINUTES)

**EXTENDED TOUR REGULAR TOUR PLUS** SIDE TRIP TO GOLD RUSH CEMETERY





## **ALASKA STREET**



## YAKUTANIA POINT A.B. MOUNTAIN FOOTBRIDGE

Z

AVE

MAIN STREET

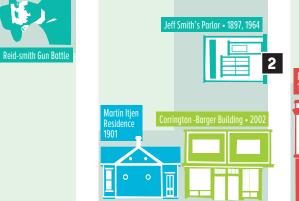
3RD

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## WHITE PASS RR YARDS

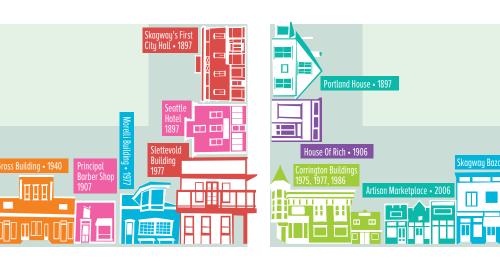
**CEMETERY** REID FALLS

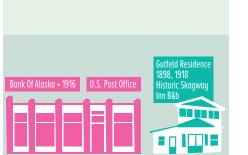
## STATE STREET

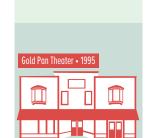


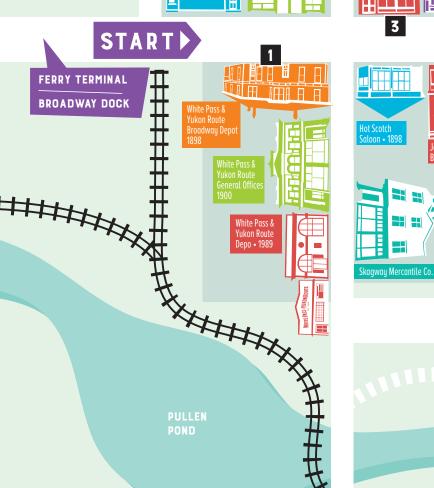


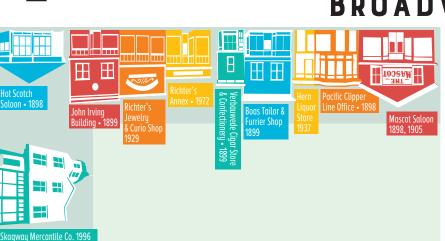




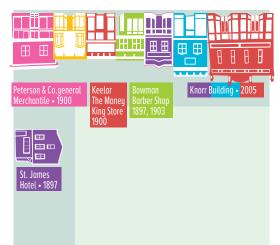


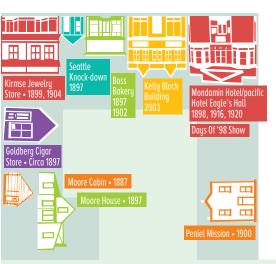


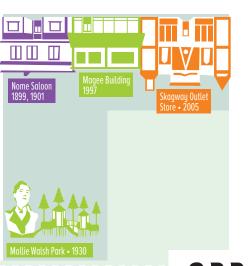


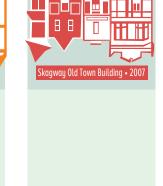












## SPRING STREET





STURGILL'S LANDING

#### A BRIEF LOOK AT SKAGWAY'S HISTORY

Skagway, one of America's great historical shrines, played a key role in the dramatic Klondike Gold Rush of 1897-1898. For several hectic months, uncounted thousands poured through these streets on their way north. They were headed for Dawson City, more than 500 miles inland. Conditions were so rigorous that fewer than half of those who arrived in Skagway reached the gold fields.

WHITE PASS RAILROAD DOCK

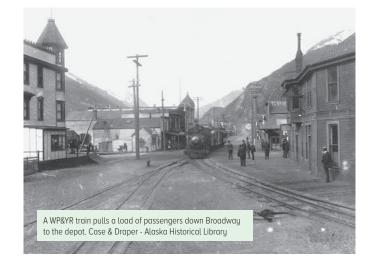
For the first year of its existence, Skagway was a roughand-tumble frontier port. Skagway boasted more than 80 saloons; gun play was common; the town was controlled by a gang of organized criminals. Civilization arrived when the White Pass and Yukon Route began constructing its railroad in May 1898, and it advanced when the criminal element was purged two months later. The WP&YR was completed to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory in the summer of 1900; by this time, the gold rush was over.

Since 1898, Skagway has served as a port and railroad town. Life here since the gold rush has been relatively sedate, except for the hectic World War II years, when thousands of Army troops were stationed here in order to supply materials for the Alcan (Alaska) Highway and other war-time construction projects. The railroad was the main industry in Skagway for more than 80 years. It closed in 1982, but reopened in 1988 as a summer operation. Tourists first arrived

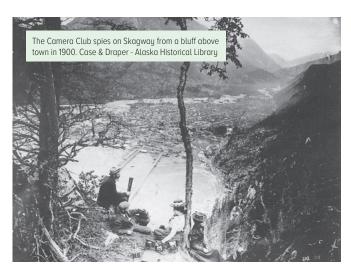
in 1898. The visitor industry remained small until the 1920s; since then it has grown steadily into a major economic force. Regular ferry service came to Skagway in 1963; the Klondike Highway to the Yukon was completed in the fall of 1978.

While history dominates the Skagway landscape, life here resembles that of small towns throughout America. Our citizens are proud of our past, confident about our present, and optimistic about the future. We are glad you have chosen to visit us, and hope you can return some day.

Walking Tour Map: PR Services • Updates: PR Services • Historical Photographs: Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Dedman's Photo Shop, Skagway Museum & Archives 08/06







Information Center and the National Park Service Visitor Center.  $^{**}$ The Skagway Trail Map is available at the Skagway Visitor

south on State Street around to the airport terminal, cross the footbridge and turn left.\*\* towers over the entire local area. The first two points are less than a mile away. Continue Smuggler's Cove is a secluded nearby hideaway, and A.B. Mountain (elevation 4,900 feet) trails go to several points. Yakutania Point is a picnic area overlooking Skagway's harbor, Attention Hikers! Another system of trails begin just south of the Airport Terminal. These

beace and dulet ever since. shooting. Smith's gang was rounded up and sent off to jail. Skagway has enjoyed sustained an agonizing groin injury. He rallied bravely, but died 12 days after the collapsed to the dock. Smith was killed instantly, a bullet through his heart. Reid it, however, Reid stopped him. A wild blaze of gunfire ensued, and both men left his saloon and stalked down State Street to the wharf. Shortly after reaching outsiders. They expected trouble, and soon got it. Smith heard about the meeting, Reid and several others were chosen to guard the entrance to the wharf against near this street corner, and headed in the direction of the present ferry terminal. meeting on the Juneau Co. wharf to organize against Smith. That wharf began Respectable townspeople were jolted into action, and decided to hold a mass in Soapy's saloon, and the angry victim told one and all about the robbery. a stampeder just back from the Klondike had his \$2,800 poke of gold stolen the July 4th parade, and was cheered by his fellow citizens. On the 8th, however, undisputed leader of Skagway. He had been chosen as the grand marshal for shot it out on the evening of July 8, 1898. Just four days earlier, Smith was the Near here, criminal kingpin Jefferson R. "Soapy" Smith and surveyor Frank Reid

other religious groups were in evidence.

Skagway had but one house of worship, the Union Church. But by 1900, several the previous year, moved in and have remained ever since. During the gold rush, Skagway in 1917. The Presbyterians, who had lost their church building to a fire Methodists, but in a denominational realignment, that church body vacated It is Skagway's only remaining gold rush church. It was built in 1901 by the

22 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

fire that year damaged the facility. The new owners have restored it as a bed & "No! Let him stay downtown!" The hostelry operated through the 1977 season; a interested in keeping Eisenhower in the White House?" The owner's response was, the knock, but because the door was ajar, the worker called out, "Would you be when a Republican campaign worker stopped by to visit. No one responded to occasionally caused delightful confusion. One story about it dates back to 1956, The Army used it for a small hospital during World War II. The building's name official. After Guthrie Left town, the house was converted into a small hotel. Built in 1902, and originally the home of Lee Guthrie, saloon keeper and civic 17 WHITE HOUSE

is about 1.9 miles. Allow 30-45 minutes each way, plus 30 minutes at the cemetery and cemetery for another quarter mile. The total one-way distance from town to the cemetery Alaska & 23rd and follow the designated signs. To reach Reid Falls, continue through the Falls. The railroad yards are 15 blocks up State Street. To reach the cemetery, turn north at To the right are the WP&YR railroad yards, the Gold Rush Cemetery, and 300-foot high Reid

Skagway is one of the oldest towns in Alaska. The stampeders

called it Skaguay, but the post office insisted on a spelling

change, so it's been known as Skagway since 1899. (Neither name was very satisfactory to Captain William Moore, the

valley's pioneer; he thought Mooresville was appropriate. But

Schkague, Shkagway, Sch-kawai and Skagwa.

that "Skag-waugh" meant "cruel wind."

rough water.'

Skagway stuck.) It's a Tlingit name, and has been spelled Cquque,

The name has many definitions. One author says that "popularly,

Recent research from local Tlinglit natives has revealed that the

name comes from the word Shqaqwéi meaning "bunched up or

Old travel guides give us more information, further confusing the

issue. Old-timer Arthur Church claimed that Skagua means "rough

water." And Frank Carpenter, a travel writer in the 1920s, stated

John G. Brady, who was governor during the gold rush, knew a

the word comes from "Skagua, home of the north wind. But it

really comes from 'Sch-kawai,' meaning end of salt water."

Ross-Higgins warehouse (1901) from 4th Avenue and the rear wing was added by moving the vacant Max Guttela Duilt tris residence in 1978, in the 1920's Built using materials from an 1897-1898 building, 16 GUTFELD RESIDENCE (HISTORIC SKAGWAY INN) storehouse of Skagway history from the gold rush

Museum, open daily in the summer, is a fascinating to the venerable McCabe building. The Skagway chapel of McCabe College. In 2000, the City of Skagway completed a new addition

The Cottage during the Gold Rush.

where they were. A local brothel included the red,

the "soiled doves" plied their trade) occupied the

the gold rush, rows of cribs (two-room huts where

and jail on the first floor. District Court was held on the second floor in the former until 1956, the building served as the U.S. Court House with the U.S. Marshal's office financial difficulties, private McCabe College closed after only three terms. From 1901 named for Bishop McCabe, was Alaska's first institution of higher education. Facing native granite brought from Clifton on the WP & YR railroad. The Methodist school, Currently occupied by the Skagway Museum and City Hall, was built in 1899 of

young coho salmon; later, you may find pink and chum salmon in the creek. is home to many varieties of fish. In early summer, look for Dolly Varden trout and Hall, turn left and travel up the dirt pathway. Pullen Creek, which you will cross, Note: The chimney sits on private property. Please do not trespass. To reach City hotel operated for another decade before being abandoned. other buildings onto the property. She operated them until her death in 1947. The residence as a rooming house. She soon bought the building, and brought several tent restaurant on the beach. Later, she rented out the majority of her three-story that time. She arrived in Skagway in September 1897. She first baked pies in a

residents and tourists for more than 50 years. Harriet "Ma" Pullen ran it most of

Once Alaska's most famous hotel, it was a popular stopping place for interior

plaque in downtown Seattle in honor of Mrs. Newman.

and his wife. To calm down Hannah's understandable jealousy, he also installed a Skagway. The bust, as you may notice, was donated in the name of both Newman the "Angel of the White Pass," and in 1930, he had this bust built and installed in Newman read about the slaying and was heartbroken. He revered the memory of in Seattle in October 1902, an argument erupted which resulted in Mollie's murder. Megumulie' rue rallerez. mallade mas inlantent ar best' aug muite rued mele inlud soon married Hannah Barry instead, but he never stopped thinking about Mollie. but alas, she soon married Mike Bartlett and left the area. Crestfallen, Newman Newman. He professed his love for her and even killed a rival to earn her affections, of many packers along the trail. One who was particularly fond of her was Jack a tent town located along the White Pass Trail. She soon received the attentions in Skagway for a few months, then headed north to open a restaurant in Log Cabin, day, she was young, unmarried and at least somewhat respectable. She remained Mollie Walsh came to Skagway, unaccompanied, in the fall of 1897. A rarity in her

13 MOLLIE WALSH PARK

is Aerie No. 25. The wing on the south side dates from the 1960s; it once housed a fraternity first met here in 1899. Of the thousands of Eagles Aeries (chapters), this was moved here in 1916 and the Pacific Hotel was added to the rear in 1920. The gambling room. The hall is composed of two gold rush hotels: the Mondamin Hotel history of the show can view photographs of early scenes and characters in the hall's running theater production. The show dates back to 1923, Those interested in the Each summer, the curtain rises on the popular Days of '98 Show, Alaska's longest

Municipality of Skagway is now undertaking the building's rehabilitation. first courthouse & the first US Marshalls office. Left vacant since the early 1990's, the Built in 1897, this 1 % story log structure served as Skagway's first City Hall & jail, the

# SKAGWAY'S FIRST CITY HALL Skagway's Medium priced house. Baths and all conveniences." ALGSKAN TYOM UCTOBER 24, 1908 AAVERTISES "FIRST CLASS YOOMS AT THE PORTIGNA HOUSE. of Moore's Alaska & Northwest Trading Company Business. An ad in the Daily of the oldest surviving structures in Skagway. It first served as the center for all Built in 1897 by town founder, Captain William Moore, the Portland House is one

it out rather than using it as a brothel or crib. D. Goldberg operated his shop from the

Built sometime during the hurried days of the Klondike stampede. Annie Leonard, a

fall of 1897 through the fall of 1898 and possibly into the spring of 1899.

that lot and probably had the building constructed shortly thereafter and then rented Skagway madam and the first woman to stake lots in Skagway in August 1897, staked

11 GOLDBERG CIGAR STORE

apont oue juch each year.

geological process of "glacial rebound" has caused Skagway to rise from the ocean mile from the bay today, but 100 years ago, occasional high tides reached here. The Trail, the famous "Dead Horse Trail" used by so many stampeders. This spot is half a the Moore Cabin and the Goldberg Cigar Store was the beginning of the White Pass National Park Service archaeologists have discovered that the large lawn between Captain Moore's son, Ben, built the main house to the right of the old cabin. roud euondy to zee yiz yowezteaq prozow iuto a walok bort aug karkvaa terminar because he owned a dock, a warehouse and a sawmill. He stayed here until 1906, the big rush came, his land was overrun by a flood of gold seekers. But he prospered rushes all his life, and settled here to pursue one more chance at a fortune. When his son in 1887-88. Moore was 65 years old when he arrived. He had followed gold This is the oldest structure in Skagway. It was built by Captain William Moore and

toward the mountain until you reach a foot bridge across Pullen Creek. The trail itself begins Lake is half a mile away. To reach the trailhead from the corner of 4th and Spring, just go Trails also lead to Upper Reid Falls, Sturgill's Landing and Upper Dewey Lake. Lower Dewey Attention Hikers! A network of trails begin just ahead. A short hike leads to Lower Dewey Lake.

Union Local 1787 meeting hall, and later as a retail store. It was moved to its present a time after the customs staff left, the building was used as the United Transportation opened in the fall of 1978, the offices were moved to a location on the highway. For was moved across the street to the north side 2nd Ave. After the Klondike highway south side of 2nd Ave. In 1969, with the construction of the new depot, the building Built by the WP&YR railroad and leased to the government, it originally sat on the

9 SKAGWAY CUSTOMS BUILDING

location on October 1, 2004.

capital of Canada's Yukon.

The other advertisements are more recent. pocket watch, which advertised Kirmse's Jewelry store, dates from the 20th century. inscriptions on the cliff face are either historical resources, or they are graffiti. The Look up on the mountain before you! Depending on your point of view, the

two months and two days later, the line was completed to Whitehorse, the present nupeatapre compination. Construction of the line began in late May 1898. Iwo years, as dawn broke. Tancrede's money and Heney's construction knowledge proved an two met in the early evening, talked all night long, and wound up their discussion just was convinced that a route over the pass was entirely teasible. Legend has it that the was a railroad contractor who had also looked over the canyon north of town, but he evening, however, he stumbled across Mike Heney, here in the hotel's saloon. Heney Pass. After traveling up the rugged White Pass Canyon, he was skeptical at first. That well-heeled investment firm, he wanted to see if a railroad could be built over White Tancrede, who sailed from London to Skagway in the spring of 1898. Representing a were long on speculation and short on money, Into this atmosphere came Sir Thomas several tramways and railroads crossing White Pass were proposed, but the plans the required "ton of goods" from Skagway to the Canadian lakes. To ease the strain, During the winter of 1897-98, it took tremendous effort for the stampeders to haul 8 ST. JAMES HOTEL

and see how the barracks look from the back side.

7 PACK TRAIN BUILDING

STATE

back and note the intricate woodwork facing Broadway. Then turn down 4th Avenue south of the saloon. To appreciate how much a facade can improve a building, step from this period.) Soon afterwards, the Lynch and Kennedy clothing store opened just the building, there is a large sign, proclaiming "U-AU-TO-NO-THE-TRAIL," which dates the mayor and his partner, was a saloon called the Irail. (On the 4th Avenue side of area in 1904, and four years later, they were moved here. The corner business, run by Broadway on 6th Ave. The military abandoned them when it moved to the Haines barracks that once comprised part of Camp Skagway, located two blocks up The three buildings that make up this block date from 1900. These were originally

with several others in Skagway, is now owned by the National Park Service. Each It opened in 1937, shortly after Prohibition was lifted. The entire building, along tor steamship lines. The narrow building at the south end was Hern's Liquor Store. after the gold rush, and many buildings in this block once served as ticket offices sits the old Pacific Clipper Line office. Skagway was an active port both during and 1916, when Prohibition closed it down; it later served as a drug store. Next door described as "the roughest place in the world." The saloon operated until August Dateing back to 1898, It was one of more than 80 saloons in a town once

> 6 THE MASCOT SALOON lays, the building's location.

uas peen repainted in its original colors.

Montana. The tower helped show visitors, some of whom were illiterate in early appears to be of Russian or Stavic origin, was constructed by a carpenter from dome were added and the building began operating as a hotel. The dome, which Rush. It was moved to its present location in 1908. At this time the third story and George Dedman and a business partner purchased the building following the Gold by the Klondike Trading Company in 1898 it was originally a two story building. Now home to several retail stores, started operating during the Gold Rush. Built

> 2 THE GOLDEN NORTH HOTEL aple to be preserved over one hundred years later.

percent (3,533) had rotted and were replaced, while sixty percent (5,300) were still of the 8,883 pieces of driftwood on the front of the building were removed. Forty The outside tagade underwent a restoration during the winter of 2004-2005. All Information Center operated by the Skagway Convention & Visitors Bureau. President Warren G. Harding. The building is currently the home of the Visitor wall. The Brotherhood, which remained active into the 1920s, once entertained  $8,800\ driftwood\ sticks$  on the shores of Skagway Bay and nailed them to the front Rustic Architecture. Charley Walker and his fellow lodge members collected over facade, which dates from 1900, has been called a prime example of Victorian The organization's symbol, a gold pan and nuggets, is up near the roof line). The and the "1899" above the door, and "Camp Skagway No. 1" on the overhang. here in August 1899. (Step across the street, and you'll notice the letters "A.B." In times past, it was a fraternal hall; the local chapter of the Brotherhood first met

> 4 THE ARCTIC BROTHERHOOD HALL breserve the old era.

"working girls." The mannequins leering down from the second story windows help changed little since the time when it was frequented by turn-of-the century backwards, putting the rear of the structure on Broadway. The upstairs has bordello. When it was moved here in 1914, the movers somehow installed it It was built in 1898 at the corner of 6th and State, as a saloon, dance hall and

> 3 THE RED ONION SALOON constructed between 1897 and 1900.

rush "stampeders." For the next two blocks, almost every building you see was The pioneer scene before you has not changed much since the time of the gold His saloon was originally located on 6th Avenue; it was moved here in 1964. instantly. A nundred wild stories have been attributed to Smith, most of them true. surveyor Frank Reid shot it out on one of the town's docks. "Soapy" was killed His power seemed almost limitless until July 8, 1898. On that fateful day, he and soon controlled an underworld of more than 200 gamblers, swindlers and thugs. here with only a few confederates, but through a combination of skill and guile he was a con man who took over Skagway during the winter of 1897-98. He landed as it did during gold rush days. Smith, the last of the big-time western bad men, Randolph "Soapy" Smith. Here is his saloon, Jeff Smith's Parlor, still looking much One of Skagway's best-known characters, for better or worse, was Jefferson

> 2 JEFF SMITH'S PARLOR Building. Built in 1900, today it houses the NPS Gold Rush Museum.

the railroad dispatcher. Also note the much fancier yellow-colored Administration the north. Note the second story bay window overlooking Broadway, once used by used to chug down Broadway on their way into town from Whitehorse, 112 miles to Although the tracks are now on the south side of the building, passenger trains visitors can enjoy movies, walking tours and other activities during the summer. doors east. The old depot is now the National Park Service Visitor Center, where Life until 1969, when railroad operations moved to the WP&YR's new building two This massive, colorful structure, built in 1898, was a dominant part of Skagway 1 THE FORMER WHITE PASS AND YUKON RAILROAD DEPOT.

> HIGHLIGHTS SKAGWAY WALKING TOUR



**GATEWAY TO THE KLONDIKE** 



Skagway Convention & Visitors Bureau skagway.com • skagwayinfo@skagway.org 1-888-762-1898 or (907) 983-2854 P.O. Box 1029 Skagway, Alaska 99840

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#### SKAGWAY: **GARDEN CITY OF ALASKA** A WORD ABOUT OUR NAME Visitors have long remarked about the enormous vegetables

produced on Alaska's farms. Although most farms are now located near Palmer or Delta Junction, Alaska's agriculture really took root here in Skagway.

The height of the gold rush had barely passed when local residents began exercising their green thumbs. One family grew potatoes in 1898, and the following year a visitor gushed that "all sorts of vegetables are grown in the gardens" here. Local farms were prominently mentioned in several early Agricultural Department publications, and the town was seriously considered as a site for an agricultural experiment station.

It was flower gardens, however, that soon overshadowed vegetable production. By 1905, a White Pass railroad brochure proclaimed the beauty of Skagway's "flowers, trim lawns and prolific gardens." Local jeweler Herman Kirmse sponsored a local garden contest, which became so successful that many people from outside Alaska were attracted to it. The local Order of the Eastern Star chapter continues this tradition every August in conjunction with Skagway's Gold Rush Garden Club contest.

In 1910, the Skagway Commercial Club declared the town "Garden City of Alaska." The name has been used for many years, but the title was not official until Governor Steve Cowper signed the garden city proclamation in 1988.

The Garden Club is responsible for the row of mountain ash trees on the road to the ferry terminal and many of the flower boxes you see in the Historic District. We hope you enjoy our gardens... they are part of a great Skagway heritage.

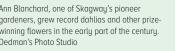
kagway's original City Hall was located in an 1897 cabin off Broadway on Fifth. H.C. Barley - Skagway Trail Of '98 Museu



good story when he heard it. He described how the Skagway River got its name in this way: "The Natives call this stream Skugua. This name has been in use since the crow made the earth and the Tlingits. A woman was drowned in this river and her name was Skugua. On the banks of the river lived a man named Ken-noo-goo, or North Wind. Skugua came to him and became his wife. No doubt those who remain there this winter will find out how close their relationship is to the Maybe the best definition came out of a 1927 magazine article. The writer, perhaps after reading so many stories behind the name, could only conclude that Skagway was a "word of uncertain meaning."







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**2TH AVE BTH AVE** 

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