

NATIVE CORPORATIONS & TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS

Sitnasuak Native Corporation (SNC) 214 Front Street

Sitnasuak Native Corporation is the village for-profit corporation for Nome and was established as a result of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).



Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) 110 West Front Street

BSNC is the regional for-profit corporation, and was established as a result of the ANCSA.



scan for historic Front Street photo

Federally Recognized Tribes Nome Eskimo Community

Nome Eskimo Community is one of 20 federally recognized tribes operating in the Nome area that provide scholarships, services, and assistance to its members.

Kawerak Incorporated 500 Seppala Drive

Kawerak is the non-profit regional services provider of an umbrella organization in order to pool resources and funding. Often referred to as the "Regional Native Non-Profit" consortium for the Bering Strait region.

Arctic Native Brotherhood (ANB) Club 605 West 4th Avenue

Established to serve Alaskan Natives, ANB provides scholarships and assistance to community members.



scan for informational video on ANCSA

FIRST PEOPLE'S POINTS OF INTEREST

Alaska Territorial Guard Statue 110 West Front Street

Alaska Territorial Guard (ATG) members, known as "Eskimo Scouts" were led by Major Marvin "Muktuk" Marston and tasked with protecting the coast of Alaska.



scan for video on ATG

Original work of Athabaskan artist James Grant.

Umiq Frame

Anvil City Square | 308 Bering Street

An umiq is a traditional boat, made of a wooden frame covered with split walrus hides. These boats were used for hunting, travel, and temporary shelter.



scan for a historic video of umiq

Dream Theater

Formerly located on Front Street, Nome's Dream Theater enforced segregated seating until the 1945 Alaska Territorial Anti-Discrimination Law prompted by Alberta Schenck of Nome and Elizabeth Peratrovich of Juneau. It was destroyed by fire in February 1953.

Inupiat Settlement at Cape Nome Nome Council Highway Mile 13

Approximately 60-100 Inupiat resided at Ayasayuk in the 1800s, split between two sites (East & West). SNC reminds all visitors to please respect this land.

Constantine Uparazuck & Gabriel Adams Statue Anvil City Square | 308 Bering Street

Gabriel Adams and Constantine Uparazuck statue. This statue commemorates two Alaska Native young men who guided the Three Lucky Swedes. The Nome Native Youth Leadership Organization initiated the project in 2001, and it was funded by Sitnasuak Native Corporation and other individual and organizational donors.



Original work of Peter M. Fillerup.

Eskimo Catholic Chapel and Workshop

Old St. Joe's Hall | Anvil City Square | 308 Bering Street

The Eskimo Chapel and Workshop was used between 1905 and 1934 by Inupiat men to carve ivory, construct boats and sleds, and build and repair hunting equipment. Originally located on Steadman Street, it was given to the city, relocated to Anvil City Square, and now used for community events.



scan for a historic photo of Steadman Street

Eskimo Church (United Methodist)

In 1913, the Methodist and Congregationalist churches formed two separate churches, one for Natives and one for Whites. The Eskimo Church was also referred to as the "Federated Church". The term "Eskimo" was not one that Inupiat used to self-identify.



scan for a historic photo

Fort Davis

Nome-Council Highway Mile 2

Fort Davis was originally the headquarters for the military. The west side of the river is currently a popular fishing spot; while the east side is populated with subsistence fish camps for many local families. Recently eroded by storms, beware of possible hazardous conditions when accessing this area. Please respect SNC signs and do not trespass on Shareholder sites.

King Island Community

Formerly located at 1000 E. Front Street, the residents of King Island established this community when they resettled in Nome during the 1950s; they lived in surplus housing including quonset huts. USAF Champlain Mooney established the Little Mary's Shrine in 1959 at the King Island Community.



scan for a historic video of their arrival

Mazonna's Store

Formerly located on 1st Avenue behind the Nome Nugget Newspaper. Alfred Mazonna, Sr. owned and operated this store, selling dried fish, seal oil, blubber, coffee, flour, sugar, candy, and other goods.

Richard Foster Building

Katirvik Cultural Center | 100 West 7th Avenue

Through presentations and dialogue, the Cultural Center celebrates Indigenous knowledge and cultures of the Bering Strait region. The building is named after Richard Foster, who was from Nome and served in the Alaska State Legislature from 1989 to 2009.

Middle Beach House Pits

River Street

During the construction of Nome Port and Small Boat Harbor, ancient artifacts were found during excavation. An ancient settlement area was discovered, later occupied by Lomen Brother's Warehouses.

Native Children's Orphanage at Cape Nome

Now owned by a local family and used for summer activities, the roadhouse was purchased by the Methodist Church and used after the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic as an orphanage for Native children.

Native School (Segregated)

Formerly located on West D Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue. The first Native School was a small building at Sandspit; it was moved to the old Courthouse on Steadman and 3rd Avenue. The new Native School was built in 1932 and closed in 1947.

Nome Skin Sewers Cooperative

Formerly located on West E Street and founded in 1933 and, the Nome Skin Sewers Co-Op provided fur clothing in large quantities for the U.S. Army and the 1939 Antarctica Byrd Expedition.



scan for a historic photo of Nome Skin Sewers

Nome-Beltz Middle High School Nome-Teller Highway Mile 3.5

Originally the William E. Beltz Adult Vocational School, the school was named after Beltz, an Inupiaq legislator. It later transitioned into a regional boarding school and merged with Nome High School to become Nome-Beltz Middle High School.

Nuuk

Nome-Council Highway Mile 14

Nuuk was excavated and identified as an ancient settlement of the First People. Many families utilize this area for their summer subsistence camps.

Villages of Solomon and Council

These villages are connected to Nome by the 73-mile gravel Nome-Council Highway, located past mile 34. (Please note: traveling past marker 16 during rough or storming conditions is not advised.) Historically used as subsistence camps by the Fish River tribe, also known as the Igaluimuit, both villages saw populations increase and decline during the gold rush period. The depletion of gold, the flu epidemic, and WWII caused most to relocate to Nome in the 1950s. Both villages are still used as subsistence camps.

HISTORY OF OUR PEOPLE

In 2011, an archaeological site was excavated at the mouth of the Snake River, revealing the remains of a child. This finding suggests that Alaska Natives inhabited northern North America at least 11,500 years ago, potentially during a time when the Bering Land Bridge still connected Asia and Alaska. Before the arrival of pioneers to the Bering Strait Region approximately 150 years ago, the Inupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik, and Central Yup'ik people were interconnected in a world encompassing the tundra, rivers, and ocean. Their customs and beliefs, which were carried through thousands of years, defined their behavior and enabled their survival and success.

Repatriated Graves

Nome-Council Highway Mile 11

These crosses are part of a repatriation project to return the remains of Alaska Native people to their original region. Nome Eskimo Community initiated this project.



Photo by Cassandra Odden

Sitnasuaqmiut Qunuwit Sandspit

Formerly known as the Eskimo Cemetery, this is the site of a mass grave trench for Alaska Native people who died from the Spanish flu pandemic in the early 1900s. The site was memorialized and dedicated in 2018 by SNC.



Sitnasuaqmiut Qunuwit dedication

REINDEER CORRALS

Reindeer were originally transplanted from Siberia prior to the Gold Rush and then also from Finland. The Reindeer Act of 1937 was passed by the U.S. Congress, which prohibited non-Natives from owning reindeer herds in Alaska.



scan for historic photo of reindeer corral

Old Reindeer Corral

Nome-Teller Highway Mile 11

The Bureau of Indian Affairs built this corral in the 1970s to train reindeer herders from the Bering Strait Region. SNC managed the corral for several years and then distributed the reindeer to other herders.

Davis Midnite Sun Reindeer Ranch/Corral

Nome-Taylor Highway Mile 14

This is a modern-style corral owned by the family of Lawrence Davis. The family partners with The Northwest Campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks' High Latitude Range Management Program and Ungulate Graduate Studies.

Quyana (thank you) for visiting and respecting the history of our land and its people.

SOURCES:

- Sitnasuaq Native Corporation Elders Committee
- Renner, S.J., Louis L. Pioneer Missionary to the Bering Strait Eskimos: Bellarmine Lafortune, S.J.
- Mendenhall, Nancy
- Norbert, Eileen
- Kawerak, Inc.
- City of Nome Historical Walking Tour-Nome, Alaska
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- Mazonna Jr., Alfred
- Mazonna, Angus
- Ahmasuk Jr., Harold
- Napoleon, Harold
- Poling, John
- Ray, Dorothy Jean
- Alaska State Library, Butter/Dale Collection P306-0562 | P306-0717
- Shepard, Bea and Kelsey, Claudia
- www.wikipedia.org
- www.alaskanroadhouses.wordpress.com

OUR VALUES

Our corporate values encompass the guidance from our Elders and honor our Alaska Native heritage. Our core values weave together generations (Elders to youth), employees, and business units. We seek to live and work according to the Inupiaq values as follows:

Spirituality – Ukpaisrun

Humility – Qinuinnaq

Reverence Toward Nature – Kammaktui Nunamiituat

Pride in Culture – Puyaunau Inupiaqtun Ittusiq

Speaking Our Traditional Language – Inupiuraqluta

Honesty – Nagguatun Kulliaqlutin

Cooperation – Kattiitutiḡ Sahuagat

Patience – Uttakiragagin

Responsibility – Aḡalataasrann

Hard Work – Saḡiknatuak Sauaḡ

Obedience – Kammakḡui

Open Communication – Kanniglusi

Avoidance of Conflict – Aziusrat Sugunnai

Commitment to the Family – Munnaktui Kiqunnaisi

Love of Children – Nagguagiktut Ilagit

Respecting Others – Innugilaqluit Ilagit

Respect of Elders – Utuqannat Kammagiralui

Sharing – Pikkaagupsi Aitturalui

Humor – Quyniurḡniq

NOME HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 905
214 Front Street, 2nd Floor
Nome, Alaska 99762
907-387-1200
Toll Free 1-877-443-2632

ANCHORAGE OFFICE

2700 Gambell Street, Suite 300
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
907-929-7000
Toll Free 1-877-443-2632

website: www.snc.org
email: land@snc.org



SITNASUAQ CULTURAL GUIDE

SITNASUAQ
THE LAND OF THE FIRST PEOPLE.

**Welcome to the land of the First People,
Sitnasuaqmiut.
We hope that your visit is enjoyable
and that you respect the land
and what it provides our People.**