CAPE WISLOW AWS STATION
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
POST SITE VISIT
PRESENTATION

Forrest Kranda
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USACE Alaska District
Environmental and Special Programs
02 August 2023
PROJECT TEAM AND STAKEHOLDERS

USACE Site Visit Team
- Project Manager/Archaeologist- Forrest Kranda
- Project Chemist- Jake Sweet
- Project Engineer- Will Mangano
- Field Support- Kaitlyn East
- Archaeologist- Kelly Eldridge

Maritime Helicopters
- Pilot- Mike King

Land Managers
- Ounalashka Corporation

Consulting Stakeholders
- Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska
- Unalaska Historical Society

Regulators
- ADEC
- SHPO
BACKGROUND CAPE WISLOW AWS STATION

World War II 1942-1945
- Occupation dates 1942-1945
- Constructed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Signal Corps
- Supplied by barge from Fort Mears- 55-gallon drums used to transport fuel
- Consisted of a Radar Facility, Search Lights, and Harbor Defense Observation Post

1984-1986 FUDS Investigations
- Finding of “no evidence of hazardous, toxic-waste, ordnance, or unsafe debris.”
- 1986 inventory identified potential concerns at the tram, a section of old barge, steel drums, pumphouse, generator building, and 1,000-gallon aboveground storage tank (AST).

1974- Allan McCartney – Aleutian Islands Coastline surveys

1982-1988- Doug Veltre- Archaeological Survey of Amaknak and Unalaska Islands and excavation at Reese Bay Site (UNL-00063)

2005- Mike Yarborough- Selendang Ayu Spill Survey
Facilities were split into a lower camp and upper camp:  
Access Support (lower camp)  
- Tramway  
- Hoist House  
- Dock  
Living Quarters/Operations (upper camp)  
- Aircraft Warning Service (AWS) SCR-271- Fixed Radar- Tower and Detector Building  
- Harbor Defense Observation Post (HDOP) No. 4 (Part of Fort Mears) – Concrete Bunker  
- Two Searchlights in “Elephant Steel” aka. Armco Huts (Searchlights Nos. 13 and 14, also part of Fort Mears)  
- Two Searchlight Power Plants  
- Two Searchlight Control Structures- Distant Electronic Control (DEC)  
- Main Powerhouse  
- Three “Theater of Operations” T/O wood frame structures (2 barracks and 1 headquarters structure)  
- Pumphouse  
- Concrete or Wood Dam  
- Three Quonset Hut storage units  

Wislow Detector Site (Bush 1944:223)
LAND STATUS

- Land Managers are U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ounalashka Corporation
SITE VISIT - JUNE 18-23, 2023

- Evaluate features of potential concern through visual observation, field screening, and analytical soil sampling.
- Collect photographs, GPS data, field notes, etc.
- Determine weather additional remedial actions may be warranted.
- Archaeological Survey and NRHP eligibility assessment

USACE 1986 Inventory

Barge sections on beach - Cape Wislow

Generator in power plant - Cape Wislow

1000 gallon tank - Cape Wislow
TRAMWAY-HOIST HOUSE
TRAMWAY- HOIST HOUSE INTERIOR

Batteries
POWERHOUSE

- Two-Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)
- Surrounded by chain-link fence
- No generators present
SAMPLING AT THE POWERHOUSE
RADAR SITE

Wiring for Power
KVA GENERATOR UTILITY STRUCTURE

- Power generator structure collapsed
- HDOP Bunker not present
PATH FORWARD 2023-2024

June 2023 Site Visit

Trip Report and Archaeological Survey Report and Evaluation 2024

Preliminary Assessment Report 2024

Inventory Project Report 2024
Questions?