

A Brief Chronology of Anvik History

Compiled by D. MacAlpine for the Anvik Historical Society

According to local tradition there has been a village at the mouth of the Anvik River "from the time of story beginning". It was originally called "Gitringithchagg" (at the mouth of the long, skinny river) in the Deg Xinag language, and later named Anvigmiut or Anvik. Only with the arrival of Europeans have we kept track of events by dates.

- 1834 - Andre Glazunov reached Anvik over land from St. Michael's, then continued on to Bonasila and Holy Cross
- 1843-44 Lte. Zagoskin visited Anvik on his way from Nulato to Ikogmiut
- 1869 First steamer, the Yukon, ascended Yukon R. under Capt. Raymond Alaska Commercial Co. post established at Anvik
- 1880 E. W. Nelson & Trader Fredericks of Anvik came overland from St. Michael's
- 1882 Capt. Jacobsen visited Anvik in Aug. & again in Sept. (Alaskan Voyage 1881-1883 Julian Adrian Jacobsen)
- 1883 Schwatka visited Fredericks in Anvik
- 1887 Episcopal Missionaries Parker & Chapman arrived in Anvik, to establish a mission, having bought building from Fredericks
- 1887-88 Father Robaut & companion came from Nulato, wintered in Anvik
- 1888 Robaut continued to Holy Cross to establish Roman Catholic mission
- 1888-89 Anvik Mission moved from "Old Station" to present site
- 1892-93 Christ Church built at new mission site at mouth of Anvik R.
- 1894 Mrs. Chapman, Deaconess Sabine and Dr. Glanton arrived at Mission
- 1896 Bishop Rowe visited Anvik
- 1898 Anvik Post Office established; Postmaster Dr. J. W. Chapman
- 1899/1901 Revenue cutter "Nunivak" made 2 visits to Anvik
- 1900 Influenza epidemic

- 1902 Max Simel moved into N.C. Co. post
Chase & Stanley came from downriver
- 1904 Diphtheria & whooping cough epidemic
- 1912 Clergy gathered in Anvik to celebrate Chapman's 25 years
1922/23? School building and rectory burned down
- 1922 Anvik Mission had electric lights
- 1923 Chapman initiated radio broadcasting/ reception in Anvik
- 1926 Original church building moved to present site and enlarged
- 1927 Second influenza epidemic; "Lower Village" established
- 1929 First airplane arrived in Feb. bringing smallpox vaccine
- 1931 Last mission building/dormitory built
- 1935 Anvik R. broke through to Yukon at "Old Station"