

# Dredge No.4

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE OF CANADA





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Dredge No.4 National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

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## Foreword



Canada's national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas represent the soul of Canada. They are a central part of who we are and what we are. They are places of magic and wonder and heritage. Each tells its own story. Together, they connect Canadians to our roots, to our future and to each other.

What we cherish as part of our national identity, we also recognize as part of our national responsibility. All Canadians share the obligation to preserve and protect Canada's unique cultural and natural heritage. Together, we hold our national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas in trust for the benefit of this and future generations. To achieve this, practical action grounded in long-term thinking is needed.

These principles form the foundation of the new management plan for Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada. May I offer my deep appreciation to the vast range of thoughtful Canadians who helped forge this plan. I am especially grateful to our very dedicated team from Parks Canada and to all those local organizations and individuals who have demonstrated such good will, hard work, spirit of cooperation and extraordinary sense of stewardship.

In that same spirit of partnership and responsibility, I am pleased to approve the Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan.

David Anderson

Minister of the Environment

# Management Plan Recommendations

# Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada

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# Executive Summary

# Background

Dredges were brought to the Yukon in 1899 as a very efficient means of mining for Klondike gold. Dredge No. 4, the largest wooden hull, bucket-line dredge in North America, currently rests on Claim 17 Below Discovery on Bonanza Creek.

Dredge No. 4, originally built in 1912 for the Canadian Klondike Mining Company, is eight stories high and two-thirds the size of a football field. Its displacement weight is over 3,000 tonnes (2,722 t), with a 16-cubic-foot (.45 cubic m) bucket capacity. After sinking in 1924, it was refloated in 1927 to continue operating from the Klondike Valley to Hunker Creek, where it had an average operating season of about 200 days per year, working 24 hours a day. Dredge No. 4 produced as much as 800 ounces of gold in a single day on Claim 67 Below. It operated until 1940, then was rebuilt on Bonanza Creek by the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation (YCGC) to work the Bonanza Creek Valley from 1941 to 1959.

In 1967 the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) recommended: "That the Minister investigate the feasibility of preserving Dredge No. 11 intact. The board recommended that the operation of dredges in the Yukon be considered of national historic importance".

Parks Canada initiated a feasibility study on Dredge No. 11, but found that Dredge No. 4, by virtue of its large size, was a more dramatic example of dredging operations. It was acquired by Parks Canada in 1970, and following the recommendation from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (1987), it was moved to its current location in 1991-92. Dredge No. 4 was declared a national historic site in 1997.

#### **Current Situation**

Dredge No. 4 is located on the west bank of Bonanza Creek, 14 kilometres southeast of Dawson City. After YCGC donated the dredge to Parks Canada, the federal government acquired a surrounding land reserve of 77.5 acres with a 200-foot road allowance as a historic reserve.

By the end of the 1970s, the portion of Dredge No. 4 which was above grade had been cleaned up and public tours of the vessel were conducted. A gradual expansion of the interpretive program made the dredge one of the most popular visitor sites in the area, with approximately 20,000 people visiting annually by the late 1980s.

#### Commemorative Intent

Commemorative intent is a statement of that which is nationally significant about the Site. It refers specifically to the ministerially-approved recommendations of the 1987 HSMBC direction that "Dredge No. 4 symbolizes the importance of dredging operations in the Yukon (1899–1966), and aspects of the evolution of gold mining in the Klondike from early labour-intensive to later corporate industrial phases of gold extraction."

The physical features which define the national historic significance of the Site as an example of the wooden-hulled, bucket line/sluice gold dredges operating in the Klondike, include the following:

- the completeness of the vessel in its hull, superstructure, gold-processing facilities and ancillary equipment;
- the surviving unity of the original vessel and its fittings and equipment;
- the quality of the construction of the vessel and its components;
- its mass;

- its surface materials as expressed in texture and colour;
- those structural components, machinery and mechanical features developed specifically for use in northern dredging, including hardened bucket lips, heating systems (steam boilers and electric heaters) and double walls;
- shore deadmen and the related cable system; and
- the broad defining characteristics of systems associated with the vessel's structure and systems associated with the vessel as a piece of mining equipment.

## **Proposed Site Management**

In managing the Site, Parks Canada will:

- maintain the physical integrity of the designated place and associated resources that symbolize the national importance of Dredge No. 4, and assure they are not impaired or under threat;
- maintain its appearance, defined by the mass, surface materials and colour at the time it was acquired by Parks Canada;
- assure the structural framing system of the dredge is respected and revealed, along with its integrated gold-processing system and related technologies for northern dredging;
- maintain the dredge in its culturallymodified landscape setting;
- assure that all cultural resources of national historic significance contributing to the designated place, including moveable resources, are identified, and that strategies for protection and monitoring are put in place;

- respect and reveal documented changes to the Site;
- maintain important sightlines essential to communicating national historic significance, including an unimpeded view of the dredge from visitor access points, the presence and values of Bonanza Creek, and visual access to the surviving cable ways and deadmen;
- where appropriate, work with other partners to provide visitors with access and tailored visitor services, facilities and information on a seasonal basis in a safe and healthy manner;
- collaborate with other stakeholders to ensure that a strategy for understanding and communication of the values of the Site and its relationship to other National Historic Sites of Canada is in place;
- use current marketing information to create opportunities for visitors to experience the evolution of mining methods in the Klondike and promote Dredge No. 4 as a tourism destination area within the Yukon;
- ensure that visitors with special needs can have access to and participate in the Site; and
- manage the Site and related resources according to policies and guidelines outlined in the Cultural Resource Management and National Historic Sites of Canada Policy and within the broad Parks Canada program.

# 1: Introduction

You could hear the low rumble of the dredge miles down the creek. On board, it felt like being behind a waterfall — the noise from the rocks and gravel tumbling into the rotating trommel was deafening. The squeal of steel on steel and rock and the creaking of the cables as they winched the dredge forward was eerie. High-pressure jets of water, slamming against the rocks, filled the air with mist. Everything on the deck with the gold-saving tables was soaked. The crew wore raincoats inside the dredge. But could it get gold! On the largest, like Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation (YCGC) Dredge No. 4, roughly 600 tons of gravel were processed every hour. And every three to four days almost 50 pounds of gold was cleaned out of the sluices.

The Yukon is famous for the Klondike Stampede. Gold drew most of the newcomers and continues to hold many people today. The rush was exciting but the amount of gold mined during the heyday of the Klondike Kings was only a part of the yellow metal mined in the territory this century.

More than 30,000 stampeders highgraded the rich placers of Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks at the turn of the century. While a few garnered fabulous riches, for most the stampede to the Yukon was an expensive, and generally uncomfortable, camping trip. Nevertheless, even in the years of the rush mining promoters and investors thought about the long-term mining possibilities of the Yukon. Much of the gold was simply too difficult and expensive to reach using the spade and pan of the individual miner.

New, mechanized forms of mining dug deeper into the creek gravels. Miners brought in steam shovels, the Klondike self-dumper (a locally-designed cable car) and even dragline scrapers. However, business success was only possible with large land holdings mined with the most modern technology. Placer dredging, developed in

New Zealand in the 1860s and refined in California by the late 1890s, was the most effective method of mining low-grade placer gold deposits. Handling large volumes of gravel and sluicing out gold, a dredge could do the work of several hundred men. In September 1898 the first dredge in the Yukon began working the Yukon River. Successful promotion of the Klondike fields brought in two large companies. The Canadian Klondike Mining Company was first, in 1905. A few years later Yukon Gold, controlled by the Guggenheim family, started work. By World War I a dozen dredges, including some of the largest in the world, churned through the creeks. Dredging continued in the Klondike until 1966, when the last of the YCGC dredges shut down.YCGC Dredge No. 4 represents the many decades of corporate mining in the Canadian mid-north through the 20th century.

Gold dredging was first brought to the HSMBC's attention in 1963. In June, 1967, the HSMBC met in the Yukon and considered a wide range of northern proposals, including the operation of dredges. Their deliberations concluded with the recommendation: "That the Minister investigate the feasibility of preserving Dredge No. 11 intact. The board recommended that the operation of dredges in the Yukon be considered of national historic importance".

Parks Canada undertook a feasibility study on Dredge No. 11 but found the options prohibitively expensive. An alternative development plan was prepared for Dredge No. 4 NHSC, as its large size made it a more dramatic example of dredging operations. It was acquired by Parks Canada in 1970 as part of a fulfilment of the 1967 recommendations by the HSMBC.

By the end of the 1970s, the portion of Dredge No. 4 which was above grade had been cleaned up and public tours of the vessel were available. A gradual expansion

of the interpretative program made it one of the most popular visitor sites in the area, with approximately 20,000 people annually visiting by the late 1980s.

In 1987, the HSMBC reviewed Parks Canada's work in the Dawson area and offered the following direction on Dredge No. 4: "Dredge No. 4 should be stabilized and become the centre for the interpretation of the corporate period of gold extraction in the Klondike, at least for the time being;

While the Gold Room at Bear Creek should be maintained, a major commemoration of Bear Creek as the centre for corporate mining activity in the Klondike was thought to be premature. It was recommended that this facet of resource exploitation be interpreted in a modest fashion at Dredge No. 4 until such time as Bear Creek's relative significance can be evaluated through a comparative study placing it in context."

During the summers of 1991 and 1992 Parks Canada excavated, refloated and relocated Dredge No. 4 to higher ground to protect it from permafrost, which was accelerating hull warping. The Dredge was confirmed as a National Historic Site of Canada in 1997.

# Objectives for National Historic Site of Canada

These objectives are summarized in Parks Canada's Guiding Principles and Operational Policies:

- to foster knowledge and appreciation of Canada's past through a national program of historical commemoration;
- to ensure the commemorative integrity of National Historic Sites of Canada administered by Parks Canada by protecting and presenting them for the benefit, education and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant and irreplaceable legacy represented by these and their associated resources; and
- to encourage and support the protection and presentation by others of places of national historic significance that are not administered by Parks Canada.

Commemoration focuses on what is nationally significant about a site, and includes protection as well as presentation. The National Historic Sites Policy states that:"protection and presentation are fundamental to commemoration since without protection there can be no Historic Site to be enjoyed, and without presentation, there can be no understanding of why the Site is important to our history and, hence, to all Canadians".

## **Commemorative Integrity**

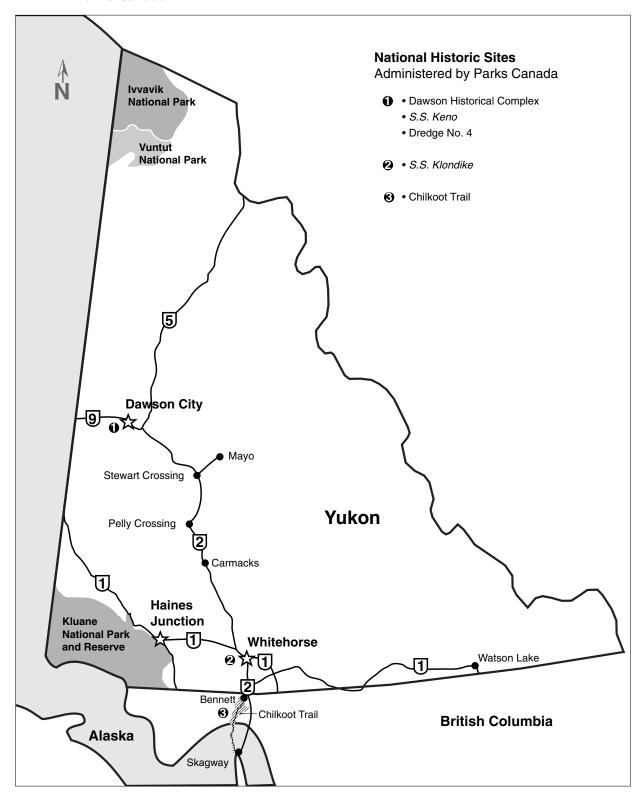
Commemorative integrity is a term used by Parks Canada to describe the health or wholeness of a National Historic Site. A National Historic Site possesses commemorative integrity when the following occur:

- resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat;
- reasons for the Site's national historic significance are effectively communicated to the public; and
- the Site's heritage values are respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

For every National Historic Site administered by Parks Canada (Figure 1), a statement of commemorative integrity is developed to focus the management of a site on what is most important; and to ensure that the whole (the "Site") is addressed, not just the parts (the "individual resources").

To effectively focus on commemorative integrity it is necessary to identify and evaluate those characteristics of a site that led to its recommendation by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) and designation by the minister. Level I cultural resources make a site important to all Canadians. A site is determined to have a historic value of regional or local importance if it has Level II cultural resources. All Level I and Level II cultural resources will be managed by Parks Canada under the principles of the Cultural Resource Management Policy.

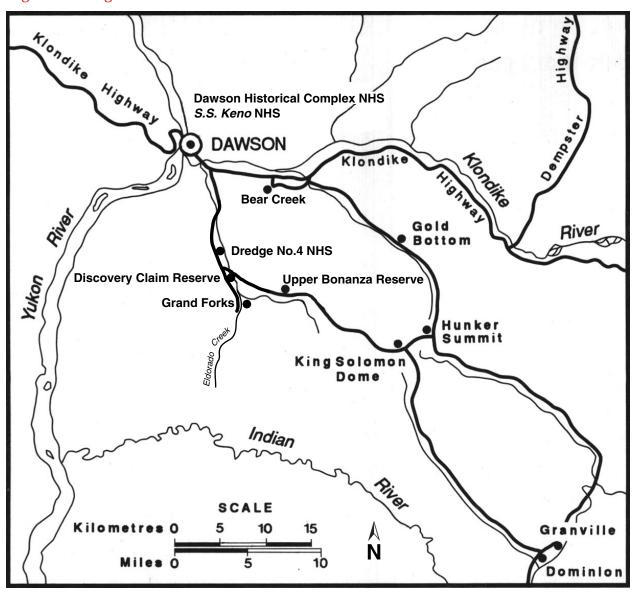
Figure 1. National Historic Sites of Canada in the Yukon Field Unit administered by Parks Canada



A sound grasp of historic value is essential to ensuring commemorative integrity. This includes a definition of what constitutes the nationally-designated place. The Parks Canada Cultural Resource Management Policy requires that resources be evaluated not only for their importance, but as to "what it is that constitutes their value"; that is to say, what particular qualities and features make up their historic character. Historic value can reflect both physical (tangible) as well as symbolic (intangible or associative) attributes. It can be derived from an association with many periods in history, a single episode, or from the interaction of nature and humans.

The final drafting of this document included the development and approval of a commemorative integrity statement (CIS) for the Site. This statement addresses the three elements of commemorative integrity as described above, establishes the management priorities for the Site, and is fully integrated in the respective sections of the plan as the goals and objectives for the commemorative integrity of the Site. Commemorative integrity is also the basis for reporting to Canadians on the state of their National Historic Sites.

Figure 2. Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada Location



# 1.1 Site Management Planning

The goal of management planning is to ensure the commemorative integrity of National Historic Sites of Canada, and to apply the principles and practises of cultural resource management.

Management goals, objectives and actions prescribed within this document reflect the formal commitment of Parks Canada to ensure the protection and presentation of the National Historic Sites under the direct stewardship of Parks Canada's Yukon field unit. This document also establishes a framework for subsequent management decisions, program implementation and detailed program planning for the Site.

Developing this plan required contributions from many different disciplines, legislation, public interest groups and government policy and programs. The actual planning process is summarized later in this document. The plans will be reviewed in five years from the date of its approval, as prescribed for management planning of National Parks, Historic Sites and Marine Conservation Areas in the 1998 legislation establishing Parks Canada as an agency.

Implementation focuses on maintaining commemorative integrity and providing appropriate and cost-effective services to the public. The plans establish an accountability framework which includes:

- goals that focus on what is most important in the management of a site, prescribed for key elements of each site as a Place of Historical Significance, a Place for People, and a Place for Stewardship;
- a set of objectives or measurable targets for each of the stated goals; and
- a set of key actions to be carried out for each set of objectives.

Parks Canada will continue to focus on maintaining the Site's Commemorative and natural resource integrity, and on providing appropriate and cost-effective visitor services. This Management Plan provides direction for the site's business and work plans for the next five to ten years. Parks Canada will use its business and work planning processes to consider the delivery and improvement of Site operations, describe management strategies for plan implementation, and prepare reports on the state of the Site. The business planning process will provide the mechanism to address the goals, objectives and management prescribed in the plans.

Following the HSMBC recommendations in 1987, Parks Canada undertook an extensive research and stabilization program for the dredge, including its dramatic raising in 1991–92. In the early 1990s Parks Canada implemented its new Cultural Resource Management Policy, introducing an enhanced accountability framework for the management of historic resources. Preparation of a Management Plan for what was known as the "Klondike National Historic Site of Canadas", which included Dredge No. 4, began in 1992. Between 1992 and 1994, three newsletters were prepared to solicit public input into the future management direction of the "Klondike National Historic Sites of Canada". These newsletters were part of a larger consultation forum to encourage public participation in determining the management direction for the Dawson Historical Complex, including Dredge No. 4.

In the newsletter of March 1994, Parks Canada identified three major development projects on the immediate horizon. These projects were completing the restoration and furnishing of the Commissioner's Residence and its land-scape, stabilizing the S.S. *Keno* and rehabilitating Dredge No. 4. All three projects are now completed or well underway. This Management Plan has been prepared specifically to provide direction for the management of Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada. The rehabilitation of Dredge No. 4 is ongoing and is expected to continue beyond this Management Plan.

The final draft of the Management Plan was delayed to address the new national guiding principles and operational policies for

National Historic Sites approved by the federal government in 1994. This resulted in the development of statements of commemorative integrity for the National Historic Sites of Canada managed by Parks Canada, including one prepared for Dredge No. 4 in 1999. The statement has been integrated into this Management Plan and identifies commemorative integrity of the Site as the priority for its management.

# 1.2 Regional Context

Dredge No. 4 is located on the west bank of Bonanza Creek, 14 kilometres southeast of Dawson City (Figure 2). Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation (YCGC) donated the dredge to Parks Canada in 1970. The federal government also acquired, by Order in Council, a surrounding land reserve of 77.5 acres with a 200-foot road allowance. The Dredge No. 4 property has been traditionally referred to as an "historic reserve" (Figure 3).

Dredge No. 4 represents mining as a major facet of the history of both Dawson City and the Yukon. The presentation of the Yukon's mining history is of interest to, and benefits, several local community and mining-related groups such as the Klondike Placer Miners Association, the Yukon Chamber of Mines, the Klondike Visitors Association and the Klondyke Centennial Society.



Dredge No. 4 buried in silt on Bonanza Creek; stacker in foreground

# 2: A Place of National Historic Significance

# Commemorative Integrity

The Historic Sites and Monuments Act (1953) allows for the creation of National Historic Sites, such as Dredge No. 4. Parks Canada is mandated to ensure the commemorative integrity of all the National Historic Sites it administers.

Dredge No. 4 was an important component of the corporate industrial mining complex in the Klondike. It worked the gravels of the Klondike River valley following its original construction in 1912-13 by the Canadian Klondike Mining Co. In 1940 the vessel reached the end of the productive ground on the Klondike and was dismantled. All major mechanical components were refurbished and installed in a new wooden hull and superstructure constructed on Bonanza Creek. In September, 1941, Dredge No. 4, (by then run by YCGC), continued mining up Bonanza Creek until finally being shut down in 1959. The Dredge is located on the Bonanza Creek mining claim near where it sank in 1960.

ACCOUNTABILITY: As a first priority ensure the commemorative integrity of the National Historic Site of Canada.

#### Commemorative Intent

Commemorative intent is a statement of that which is nationally significant about the Site. It refers specifically to the approved recommendations of the HSMBC. The Board's principal direction for Dredge No. 4 came in 1967, when it recommended the operation of mining dredges in the Yukon as a theme of national historic significance. At that time, the HSMBC made two additional recommendations relating to the protection and presentation of cultural resources associated with this nationally significant theme. First, it recommended that the feasibility of preserving Dredge No. 11 be investigated, and second,

that a display be established to exhibit the evolution of early to modern mining methods. The display was to be centred around the dredge if possible.

The recommendations were amplified in 1987, when the Board recommended that Dredge No. 4 be stabilized, and for the time being, become the centre for the interpretation of the corporate period of gold extraction in the Klondike. The HSMBC also recommended that this facet of resource exploitation be interpreted in a modest fashion at Dredge No. 4 until such time as Bear Creek's relative significance could be evaluated.

A decade later the Board confirmed the national historic significance of the dredge and approved the following statement of commemorative intent for Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada in 1999.

## Commemorative Intent:

Dredge No. 4 symbolizes the importance of dredging operations in the Yukon (1899–1966), and aspects of the evolution of gold mining in the Klondike from early labour-intensive to later corporate industrial phases of gold extraction.

The primary responsibilities of Parks Canada in managing a National Historic Site are protecting resources that symbolize the Site's importance, effectively communicating messages that describe the reasons for the Site's national significance, and respecting the Site's heritage values. The following sections of this plan address these responsibilities for Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada.

Pond
Pond

5
1
2
8
3

Figure 3. Site map, Dredge No. 4 NHSC

1. Dredge No.4

o Dawson City

- 2. Interpretation/ Visitor services trailer
- 3. Washrooms
- 4. HSMBC plaque

5. Bonanza Road

Gravel Road

- 6. Flotation area limit
- 7. Site identification sign
- 8. Audio-visual tent

To Discovery Claim &

Upper Bonanza Reserve

## 2.1 Resources

The first element of commemorative integrity focuses on resources that symbolize or represent Dredge No. 4's national significance. These resources have been instrumental in designating the Site as being nationally significant, and include Designated Place and Moveable Resources.

# Designated Place

Located on the Bonanza Creek mining claim where it sank in 1960, Dredge No. 4 was an important component of the corporate industrial mining complex in the Klondike. The entire Bonanza Creek valley contributes to the commemorative integrity of the dredge site managed by Parks Canada. Other groups with an interest in the character of the creek include departments of both the territorial and federal governments, mining companies and individual claim holders.

Dredge No. 4 gains its value as a designated place from being a representative example of the integrated and extensive nature of corporate industrial dredge mining in the Yukon during the 20th century. The period of commemoration dates from the arrival of the first dredge in the Yukon in 1899 to the final shutdown of YCGC dredge mining operations in 1966. The dredge and its connections to other aspects of the goldfields illustrate the major capital investment in technology and infrastructure necessary to support corporate industrial mining, the all-encompassing character of resource and activity management needed to maximize profits, and the extensive changes to both the natural and social environment of the central Yukon made during the period of corporate industrial mining. These combine to tell the story of the development of the Yukon Territory as a major mining region of Canada over the last century.

Those physical features which define the national historic significance of the Site as an example of the wooden-hulled, bucket line/sluice gold dredges operating in the Klondike include:

- the completeness of the vessel in its hull, superstructure, gold-processing facilities and ancillary equipment;
- the surviving unity of the original vessel and its fittings and equipment;
- the quality of the construction of the vessel and its components;
- its mass;
- its surface materials as expressed in texture and colour;
- those structural components, machinery and mechanical features developed specifically for use in northern dredging, including hardened bucket lips, heating systems (steam boilers and electric heaters) and double walls;
- shore deadmen and the related cable system; and
- the broad defining characteristics of systems associated with the vessel's structure and systems associated with the vessel as a piece of mining equipment.

The associative sense of place for Dredge No. 4 resides in its visual presence as a dramatic symbol of corporate industrial mining in its working environment, and its working links to other components of the regional mining complex. The following associative values relating to the dredge should be protected:

- the inter-relationships of operational components of the dredge at the Site; and
- the landmark value of the dredge within the creek valley.

These associations within the Klondike industrial mining complex should also be understood and protected:

 the dredge's physical proximity to Bonanza Creek, the field of dredging activity;

- its linkages to regional corporate infrastructure (Bear Creek camp, power plants, business office, dredge camps, the road network, power and telephone lines);
- its links to extra-regional infrastructure (S.S. *Klondike*/inland water transportation, the White Pass & Yukon Route railway, and heavy manufacturing support, Marion, Ohio, as well as government and financing).

## **O**BJECTIVES

- an unimpeded view of the dredge is to be established and maintained from visitor access points;
- the presence and values of Bonanza Creek are to be acknowledged by future developments; and
- preservation of visual access from the dredge and visitor access points to surviving cable ways and deadmen.
- The physical integrity of the designated place and associated resources that symbolize the national importance of Dredge No. 4, are not impaired or under threat. These include:
  - its appearance is retained (defined by its mass, surface materials and colour at the time it was acquired);
  - the structural framing system of the dredge is respected and revealed;
  - the dredge's integrated gold processing system and related technologies are respected and revealed;
  - structural, mechanical and technological features of the dredge developed for northern dredging are respected and revealed;

- all the cultural resources of national historic significance contributing to the designated place are identified, and strategies for protection and monitoring are put in place;
- documented changes to the Site are respected and revealed;
- the dredge is maintained in its culturally-modified landscape setting.
   Cultural and natural features important to the overall setting include the Bonanza Creek, valley setting, road, power line cuts, etc.;
- remaining physical evidence relating to the operation and maintenance of the dredge (i.e. bucket line, deadmen and cables, tailing piles) is respected by appropriate Site relationships and revealed to the public in a meaningful way;
- a strategy for the protection, maintenance and monitoring of the dredge is in place; and
- a strategy for the effective understanding and communication of the values of the National Historic Site is in place.

### **Current Situation**

The required heritage recording, background research and conservation treatments for Dredge No. 4 are well underway and will continue for many years. To maintain the integrity of and minimize threats to this designated place, greater emphasis needs to be placed on preparing development plans, disaster preparation strategies, and environmental assessments. Parks Canada continues to work with stakeholders to reduce potential threats to the Site's resources and setting.

The changes to the designated place, such as the story of the relocation of the dredge and the replacement of deteriorated original fabric with new material, are currently being conveyed to the public.

## **KEY ACTIONS**

- identify, document and conserve in a systematic fashion all cultural resources which contribute to designated place;
- maintain accurate and complete records concerning changes to the Site and reveal these changes to the public through interpretation;
- develop and implement a strategy to protect the Site from fires;
- preserve the dredge through treatment involving a general rehabilitation of the historic fabric with an emphasis upon the superstructure areas visited by the public;
- preserve and protect the bucket line from burial and flooding;
- maintain physical integrity through the application of Cultural Resource Management principles;
- rehabilitate and reveal the structural framing system and explain ongoing stabilization of the dredge to visitors;
- complete, inventory and maintain photo records, as-found plans, as-built plans, and other related documents;

- undertake comprehensive material culture research on dredge technology to ensure an understanding of dredge operations;
- assess and stabilize the physical condition of the gold-processing equipment;
- monitor, assess and take appropriate actions to mitigate impacts on the integrity of designated place; and
- assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:
  - present the commemorative values of designated place, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor understanding of these values;
  - offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs, developed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the values of designated place; and
  - distinguish new materials or reproductions from original fabric in both Level I and Level II resources.

### Moveable Resources

Level I moveable resources are important contributors to the values and messages of Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada. These resources gain their value by:

- being authentic artifacts and primary documents directly related to Dredge No. 4, the provenance of which has been established through research and documentation.
- being authentic artifacts identified as coming from that pool of YCGC equipment, tools, fittings, machinery and materials used to equip and/or repair company dredges in the period 1912–1959 (the operational life of Dredge No. 4), the provenance of which has been established through research and documentation.

## **O**BJECTIVES

- moveable resources have been identified, evaluated, protected and are maintained;
- strategies are in place for effective presentation of the reasons for national historic significance; and
- access is ensured for research and presentation.

## **Current Situation**

Parks Canada maintains and curates a large collection of historic objects related to Dredge No. 4. It consists totally of site-specific resources that are maintained under controlled inventory in several storage facilities and on display. Routine maintenance and inspection is ongoing and leads to intervention and conservation where appropriate. Long-term conservation requirements are extensive and need to be addressed. The collection is currently being evaluated in conjunction with Dawson Historical Complex to determine its relationship to commemorative intent. Parks Canada currently shares artifact information with other institutions for research, protection and presentation. There is no emergency preparedness plan for the collection.



Extant artifacts exposed inside the dredge during stabilization work, 1991

Parks Canada has also acquired a substantial collection of historic photographs depicting river transportation, historic Dawson City and the gold fields. It is maintained in a manual system that is being upgraded to an electronic database.

#### **KEY ACTIONS**

- identify, record, and protect moveable resources and their records according to Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- develop and implement a strategy for the long-term protection, maintenance and use (presentation and research) of moveable resources;
- develop and implement a strategy to define the scope of the collections required to support the commemorative integrity of the Site;
- collaborate with other authorities/owners in the exchange of information and the protection of records related to Level I resources of the Site;
- conduct material culture research to ensure authenticity and accuracy in the presentation of Level I messages utilizing artifacts, and make this data available to others;
- maintain a photographic reference collection to support the preservation and presentation activities at the Site, and make the collection accessible to others; and
- develop a Site contingency plan to preserve moveable resources in case of emergency.

# 2.2 Messages

# Strategic Goal:

Reasons for the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history are effectively communicated to the public.

The second element of commemorative integrity focuses on effectively communicating the Site's national historic significance. Each of the elements of commemorative intent forms an important component of the messages which must be delivered if the Site is to have commemorative integrity. This means that visitors to the Site must understand not only the operation of the dredges in the Yukon, but also the role this corporate industrial mining activity had in shaping aspects of Canadian history.

Effective delivery of these learning objectives also implies that the messages are based on research, knowledge, awareness and sensitivity to current historiography regarding the elements of commemoration. It also suggests that presentation is balanced, meaning that various perspectives on the events associated with the Site are communicated. Moreover, the individual components of the story should not be treated in isolation, but be integrated into the presentation of the history of the Site as a whole.

Identifying changes to the Site over time is important to communicating the full story of the place. In the case of Dredge No. 4, the commemorative intent places a particular emphasis on the specific period from 1899 to 1966. Presentation of the Site's evolution over time will be important in communicating a full understanding of the national significance of dredging activities.

# Learning Objective 1

To achieve and communicate commem orative integrity, the following learning objectives must be understood by the audience:

Dredge No. 4's operations in the Yukon represent a nationally significant example of corporate industrial mining in Canada.

Messages supporting this learning objective include:

# 1. Acquisition of large, secure land holdings for mining.

The huge amounts of money needed to build the integrated industrialized mining system of the corporate era required long-term security of land holdings to ensure an adequate return on investment. Placer mining legislation, the consolidation of claims and the creation of concessions that illustrate the relationship between the mining industry and the federal government are important elements of this message. This message covers the period from the granting of the first concession in 1898 through to the YCGC consideration of other properties in the early 1950s.

# 2. Administrative, transport and supply, banking, and labour infrastructure was needed.

Attracting and effectively investing large amounts of corporate capital requires basic infrastructure. In the Yukon this infrastructure included government regional administration, an efficient and reasonably priced transportation system (such as that provided by the WP&YR), the steamboats, the road and rail networks reaching into the Klondike, services and suppliers to meet mining needs, banking services to handle the large volumes of money associated with corporate development and operation, and a large labour force.

# 3. Appropriate water management was developed.

Placer mining is ultimately dependent upon two things: gold and water. In the Klondike the naturally present flows of water were insufficient to support the extensive requirements of industrialized mining. An important element of the evolution of the mining method in the Klondike is the various methods and organizations that attempted to manage water resources. This is tied to the technological, economic and political history of the territory.

# 4. Power was made available at a reasonable cost.

To sustain the year-round operation of the mining corporations and meet the huge demand for power to run the dredges, mining companies needed a reliable, consistent, and inexpensive source of power. The search for, and development of, this power system focuses on how the miners adapted elements of the environment to their growing demand for power. This message covers all aspects of power supply, but focuses on the development and operation of the electric power network after 1905.



Guided tour of Dredge No. 4 NHSC

# 5. A centralized and all-encompassing mining management system was established.

The Klondike gold fields spawned an amazing array of mining systems. Many collapsed quickly while others failed to adapt to changing conditions. Corporate mining superseded most forms for half a century. The evolution of mining management systems in the Klondike presents specific information on the factors shaping decision-making. This is a key element in understanding the choices made in this example of northern development. Messages at the dredge focus on the history of large Klondike companies and corporations and the way they built up their mining management systems.

# 6. Information was collected for long-range planning.

Another aspect of corporate operations is the minimizing of uncertainty. Mining operations are subject to a range of variables and miners seek to control or manage as many of these as possible. Vertically integrated corporations like YCGC had great power to reduce uncertainties through political, economic, and social actions as well as by maintaining firm control over field and office operations. Messages include the operation of prospect drilling programs, labour-management relations, policy collaboration with the Yukon Gold Commissioner, and the company's detailed accounting system.

# 7. Extensive field operations utilizing expensive, imported industrial equipment were undertaken.

The details of the industrialized mining system and its operation are important elements that help tie the visitor's personal experience to the larger issues of the corporate mining era. Details of typical mine operations in the 1930s and 40s should be presented (prospecting, ground preparation, and mining; support services such as dredge camps, Bear Creek, and Dawson City and the relationships between these sites).

8. A floating labour pool used by the corporation affected the social history of Dawson as a company town.

There were dramatic changes in the organization and character of Klondike society as the mining industry transformed from independent miners and gold field communities of the gold rush to the seasonal workers and barracks of industrialized corporate mining. Messages presented at the dredge should include the corporate workers' changes in lifestyle and working conditions.

# Learning Objective 2

The transformation of Klondike gold mining from early labour-intensive methods to corporate early labour-intensive mining, then to corporate industrial phases from 1896–1966.

Messages supporting the learning objective include:

 Capital was an important element in the successful exploitation of this isolated mining region.

By tracing the changing character, volume and focus of investment in Klondike mining operations, it is possible to trace the central importance of capital in the development of dredge operations in the Yukon. The role of business promoters, such as Joe Boyle, in attracting capital investment should also be noted.

2. Appropriate technologies for economic exploitation of Klondike mineral resources were developed and applied.

The history of technological change reveals the unique adaptations to northern conditions, such as permafrost, as well as the transformation from hand mining to large scale mechanized operations.

3. In the transformation to corporate industrial mining the region's social and economic character was changed.

The consequences of economic and technological change are reflected in the social environment of the Klondike region.

Changes in employment, ownership patterns, mining methods and operations all had an effect upon the Yukon.

4. Corporate industrial mining strengthened the integration of the Yukon's economy and society into the outside world.

The scale and character of corporate industrial mining developed in the Klondike created tighter connections between the Yukon and the larger economy of the outside world. Political and administrative connections between the territory and the national government, as driven by corporate mining interests, provide insights into the nature of government relations in Canada.

## **O**BJECTIVES

- the public is to understand the Site's Level I messages and its role in Canadian history;
- the public will have knowledge of the linkages between Level I messages and the Site's Level I resources and other related resources; and
- measures and measurement processes are to be in place to determine the effectiveness of message delivery.

#### **Current Situation**

Parks Canada currently uses a variety of delivery mechanisms to ensure that Canadians understand the Site's national significance and its role in Canadian history. There is some evidence of public understanding of the Site's national significance, including post-visit letters, questions during visits, and visits to related sites. Client satisfaction associated with tours is 90%.

In recent years the program shift from themes and objectives to messages of commemorative intent may have resulted in gaps in current presentation programming. These should be identified and addressed through an assessment of current interpretation.

Although a publication has been produced regarding the history of the dredge and its move in 1991-92, research regarding its role in the larger picture of corporate industrial mining in Canada has not been fully addressed. Given its location in the gold fields, Dredge No. 4 is not accessible to all visitors to Dawson City.

## **KEY ACTIONS**

- assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:
  - give priority to presenting the Site's Level
    I messages, establish broad public and
    client learning objectives for these
    messages, and monitor public understanding of these messages;
  - use visitor audience information to develop appropriate programs that meet market needs;
  - offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of Level I messages;
  - identify and present key commemorative linkages to other National Historic Sites of Canada;
- undertake further research on Yukon dredging operations to identify and present the dredge's role in corporate industrial mining in Canada: and
- utilize Parks Canada presentation programs at Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada to provide an effective outreach presentation of Dredge No. 4 Level I messages.

# 2.3 Other Heritage Values

# Strategic Goal:

The heritage values of the place are respected by all those whose decisions or actions affect the Site.

A third element of the commemorative integrity statement encompasses other heritage values associated with Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada, including its membership in the larger family of National Historic Sites, and its specific relationships to National Historic Sites of Canada and other heritage attractions in the Yukon and northern British Columbia. These values include the historical thematic relationships between Gold Rush sites and plaques (Chilkoot Trail NHSC, Discovery of Gold plaque); sites associated with the consolidation of gold mining operations (Bear Creek camp, Joe Boyle plaque); the association of gold mining consolidation sites with the development of urban infrastructure (Dawson Historical Complex NHSC); transportation linkages (S.S. Keno NHSC, S.S. Klondike NHSC, Ridge Road trail); and other related mining heritage sites, such as the Upper Bonanza Reserve, the Yukon Ditch and the various power plants in the region.

The cultural landscape surrounding Dredge No. 4 contributes to understanding the significance of dredging in the Yukon. Elements that enhance understanding include the Bonanza Creek valley (defined by the dredged valley bottom surmounted by the treed slopes and crowns of the surrounding hills); the deposits of dredge tailings, the scarred hillsides, and the evidence of surficial and buried dredge operations.

This understanding is also enhanced by the Parks Canada collection of Level II resources related to the theme of dredging in the Yukon. These include equipment, material and places representative of the full range of dredge operations (i.e. prospecting, removal of overburden, thawing, and power, water, labour and management infrastructure).

The Site's other heritage values also encompass Level II messages that are important to an understanding of the Site and its contexts. This includes the importance of the natural history and ecology to the development of the cultural landscape of Dredge No. 4. Another message of value is Parks Canada's role in the stewardship of this cultural resource, including such major conservation measures as refloating the dredge in 1991-92.

The Site's important place in the regional history of the Yukon should also be acknowledged and presented as a Level II message. The public should understand the importance of dredging operations in the Yukon as expressed through the social, economic and political development of the territory.



Interior of the Gold Room at Bear Creek

A further value is the importance of community involvement in the enhancement and delivery of commemorative integrity at Dredge No. 4. This includes the importance of community understanding of and support for the retention of the regional landscape of industrial gold mining features created during the period of commemoration (1899-1966).

#### **O**BJECTIVES

- work cooperatively with other stakeholders to protect and present the full history and heritage of dredge operations in the Yukon;
- manage Level II resources according to the Cultural Resource Management Policy;
- communicate to the public Level II messages pertaining to Dredge No. 4 and the Klondike Gold Fields;
- effectively communicate Dredge No. 4's relationship to other National Historic Sites of Canada in the Yukon; and
- communicate to the public Dredge No. 4's membership in the larger family of National Historic Sites of Canada.

#### **Current Situation**

More information is required about the significance of Upper Bonanza Reserve, Bear Creek and Dredge No. 12 to define their relationship to other Parks Canada holdings. Also, recording of Level II resources associated with this National Historic Site is incomplete.

Dredge No. 4 is located in an area of active mining, and mine development on adjacent claims is an imminent threat to the integrity of the Site.

Through the process of identifying and acquiring properties to commermorate the Klondike Gold Rush, Parks Canada has acquired a number of properties and resouces, some of which require further evaluation to determine their historic value. Those without designation include the properties known as Bear Creek, the Gold Room at Bear Creek, Upper Bonanza Reserve, and Dredge No. 12.

### **KEY ACTIONS**

- assess the Site's current presentation program to develop and implement a presentation strategy to:
  - present the Site's Level II messages, establish broad public and client learning objectives for these values, and monitor public understanding of these values;
  - offer a variety of on-site and outreach programs designed to gain a broad public and client understanding of the Site's Level II messages;
  - identify and present thematic linkages with other National Historic Sites;
  - present the evolution and disturbances to the continuing cultural landscape;
  - present thematic linkages with Bear Creek, Discovery Claim, Upper Bonanza Reserve, and other gold fields mining features in the region;
- develop and implement a strategy to ensure

- that Level II resources contributing to the integrity of the designated place are preserved and maintained;
- collaborate with adjacent land owners/ managers to ensure that the historic values of the Site are acknowledged and respected in the development and use of their respective properties;
- identify, record and develop a strategy to protect the continuing cultural landscape and viewscapes that support the presentation of the Site's Level I messages;
- link the continuing cultural landscape and viewscapes to the Site's Level I messages; and
- complete an evaluation of these properties and resources to determine their historical significance. If warranted, facilitate proposals to the HSMBC to consider them for designation as national historic sites. Pending this evaluation, continue to provide only those services essential to their interim protection. Should an evaluation of any of these properties determine they do not warrant commemoration, facilitate public consultation to determine their future.
- develop a strategy to determine the relative value of physical resources associated with dredging at Bear Creek with the intent preserving necessary components in the rapidly deteriorating complex.

# 3: A Place for People

ACCOUNTABILITY: Parks Canada will ensure that opportunities are provided to visitors that enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the cultural heritage and which are appropriate to the purpose of Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada.

To fulfil the mandate for National Historic Sites in Canada, it is important that people continue to experience Dredge No. 4 in ways that respect its cultural significance. Parks Canada will support and encourage opportunities to enhance public understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and protection of the national heritage that are appropriate to the purpose of the Site.

Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that Dredge No. 4 remains a place for people. To enable this, specific management objectives and actions for visitor use have been defined. These will be achieved within the context of the commemorative integrity management objectives and actions, as well as Parks Canada's stewardship of the Site.

Guided tour in Gold Room at Bear Creek

# 3.1 Heritage Tourism

# Strategic Goal:

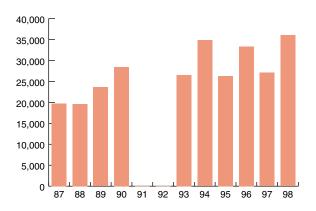
To provide opportunities for the public to enjoy high-quality, authentic leisure and travel experiences that are appropriate to the purpose of the National Historic Sites.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- use current marketing information to create opportunities for visitors to experience the evolution of mining in the Klondike from early, labourintensive methods to later corporate industrial phases;
- promote, in conjunction with other stakeholders and operators, Dredge No. 4 as a destination within the Yukon; and
- ensure that the Yukon family of National Parks and Historic Sites play a role in future tourism initiatives.

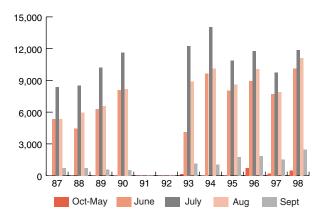
#### **Current Situation**

Figure 4. Annual Visitation, Dredge No. 4



Tourism continues to be a significant sector of the Yukon economy, and the community of Dawson City plays an important role in the regional tourism industry. In support of the Dawson regional economy, tourism opportunities provided for in the stewardship of Dredge No. 4 will focus on the cultural resources of the Site.

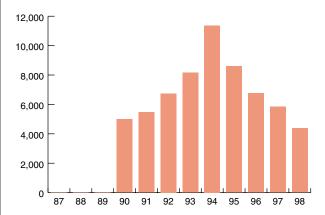
Figure 5. Monthly Visitation, Dredge No. 4



The Dawson area currently hosts about 60,000 non-Yukon visitors during the summer season (June to mid-September). Of these visitors, approximately 36,000 visited Dredge No. 4 in 1998, with July being the busiest month (Figures 4 and 5). Approximately 4,000 people visited Bear Creek Reserve in

1998; July was the busiest month here as well (Figures 6 and 7).

Figure 6. Annual Visitation, Bear Creek

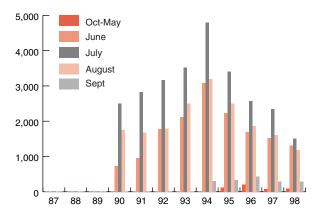


The vast majority of visitors are in the "high-way" traveller segments (recreation vehicles and motorcoaches). They stay an average of about three days in the Dawson region, and seven to eight days in the Yukon.

While the volume of Yukon visitors has increased only slightly since 1987, their make-up seems to be changing. Data available in *Planning for Tourism Development in the Dawson Region* indicates that:

- motorcoach (bus tour) traffic has steadily decreased since 1987, following a trend experienced throughout North America; and
- preliminary 1994 figures indicate that motorcoach traffic entering on the Top of the World Highway was down about 20% from 1993.

Figure 7. Annual Visitation by Month,
Bear Creek



Heritage tourism is one of the main economic bases for the Dawson area, with a considerable heritage tourism infrastructure already established. Parks Canada continues to work with the Klondike Visitors Association to promote heritage tourism within the region. All objectives to maintain the integrity of heritage tourism at the Site are currently being met.

#### **KEY ACTIONS**

- collaborate with local, regional and territorial authorities in collecting and analysing visitor research to identify and take appropriate actions to encourage and provide essential Site presentation and services to meet visitor needs;
- collaborate with various tourism businesses and authorities to encourage the development and promotion of tourism products and services associated with the Site that enhance visitor understanding of the Site's Level I messages;
- collaborate with local government, the tourism industry/associations and the territorial government in marketing tourism opportunities and services in the region and local community;
- collaborate with community businesses and organizations to support, where economically feasible, shoulder-season tourism opportunities;
- collaborate with other protected heritage sites/organizations/agencies in promoting heritage tourism opportunities at the regional and national level;
- collaborate with accredited education programs to develop and implement heritage interpretation accreditation and certification; and
- provide the tourism industry with timely information about fees, tourism opportunities, and visitor safety, as well as impacts to the commemorative integrity of the Site.

# 3.2 Visitor Services

# Strategic Goal:

To provide a wide range of appropriate quality tourism opportunities, facilities and services that enable visitors with varying interests and abilities to enjoy the Site; and to ensure a safe and healthy environment for the public and staff in all services, facilities and activities offered at the Site.

#### **Current Situation**

A visitor reception centre at Dredge No. 4 is used for orientation, panel exhibits and publications. Audio-visual presentations are shown in a tent beside the centre but there is not enough room in the centre for large groups. The industrial trailer that serves as a visitor reception centre is not suitable for current visitor levels and needs to be replaced. Certain appropriate products are sold in the centre, and guided tours through the dredge are offered daily from June through mid-September. Visitors can also view the exterior of the dredge from the surrounding berm, proceeding on their own or assisted by visitor information supplied by an on-site FM radio signal. As well, Parks Canada provides orientation and audio-visual presentations at the General Manager's Residence in the Bear Creek Reserve and offers guided tours daily from June to August.



Dredge No. 4 after relocation to new foundation

Considerable effort has been made to develop the Dawson Historical Complex and gold fields programs to dovetail with other organizations in order to complement rather than compete with other attractions available. Parks Canada has prepared and implemented an Access program for Dredge No. 4, Bear Creek and the goldfields. This plan is revised on an ongoing basis.

#### **O**BJECTIVES

- ensure that all visitors have access to comprehensive and tailored visitor services, facilities and information on a seasonal basis;
- where appropriate, work with other partners to enhance and complement visitor programs and services with tourism operators in the surrounding area (eg. Dawson City);
- ensure that visitors with special needs have access to the Site; and
- provide visitor programs, services, and facilities to meet public needs while promoting enjoyment, appreciation and understanding of the Site in a safe and healthy manner.

## **KEY ACTIONS**

- collaborate with other tourism operators/ authorities and local businesses to provide visitors with an orientation to events, programs and services available in the community and surrounding region;
- collaborate with local authorities, and disability support organizations to develop and provide alternate methods of presentation access (both physical and intellectual);
- design and deliver Site programs appropriate to various client groups and provide basic comfort and safety to them;
- monitor visitor statistics on a regular basis and use market trends to guide investment, operational and marketing decisions;

- as conditions warrant, replace signs and information to conform to the Parks Canada corporate identification strategy;
- give priority to protecting and presenting the Site's Level I resources and messages in providing visitor services and facilities;
- provide only essential visitor services at Bear Creek Reserve/Gold Room pending a decision on that site's historic value; and
- Construct a Visitor Centre with modest facilities for Dredge No. 4 and the gold fields should funding become available.

# 4: A Place for Stewardship

ACCOUNTABILITY: In achieving protection and presentation for Dredge No. 4, leadership is established by example, by demonstrating and advocating environ-mental and heritage ethics and practices, and by assisting and cooperating with others.

Stewardship involves both a leadership and a participatory role. Varying degrees of cooperative action are inherent in all of Parks Canada's heritage activities.

Parks Canada promotes the concept of an integrated family, or network, of heritage areas, and cooperates with provinces and territories in their protected area and heritage strategies.

# 4.1 Working With Others

# Strategic Goal:

To ensure key policy, land use, and planning decisions are made in a timely and fair manner, are consistent in their approach, and are arrived at in an open and participatory manner.

#### **Current Situation**

In addition to public consultations undertaken prior to the development of this Management Plan, Parks Canada meets with key stakeholders in the community, such as the Klondike Visitors Association, and the Chamber of Commerce, to advise them of the direction being taken in implementing the business plan.

Staff are being provided with training in the tourism industry through a program offered at Yukon College. There has been no specific initiative to work with local organizations with regard to Dredge No. 4, although the Klondyke Centennial Society has been actively working to promote tourism development at

the nearby Discovery Claim.

The Yukon government undertakes a number of programs in the area of Dredge No. 4 which have a direct impact on the Site. Tourism promotion, the installation of interpretive signage and the maintenance and development of the Bonanza Creek Road are a few examples. The Klondike Visitors Association sponsors a free panning claim for visitors at Grand Forks on Bonanza Creek.

#### **O**BJECTIVES

- to develop and welcome partnerships and relationships with other levels of government and organizations, and nurture existing alliances and relationships;
- to demonstrate respect for all interested parties through ensuring public involvement at key points and decisions in the Parks Canada program; and
- to provide opportunities for the public to contribute their knowledge, expertise and suggestions concerning any aspect of the Parks Canada program.



Dredge No. 4 operating on Bonanza Creek

#### **KEY ACTIONS**

- collaborate with the local community, appropriate agencies and other interests in the preparation of any major developments and the ongoing management of the Site;
- collaborate with the Yukon government, postsecondary educational institutions and other agencies to develop and implement education, outreach, interpretation and marketing opportunities associated with the Site;
- encourage volunteers, community groups, local associations and the general public to contribute to the development and operation of the Site; and
- collaborate with the Yukon government in the development of alternative approaches to, and scheduling of, improvements which are conducive to the commemorative integrity of Dredge No. 4.

# 4.2. Operations and Administration

# Strategic Goal:

To apply the fundamental accountabilities, as outlined in Parks Canada's Business Plan, to the administration and operation of the Site.

#### Plan Implementation

Parks Canada will continue to focus on maintaining the Site's commemorative integrity and providing appropriate and cost-effective visitor services. Parks Canada will use its business and work planning process to consider the delivery and improvement of Site operations, describe management strategies for implementing the plan, and prepare reports on the state of the Site. The business planning process will provide the mechanism to address the goals, objectives and management actions prescribed in this plan.

## **O**BJECTIVES

- adhere to policies and guidelines specific to National Historic Sites as outlined within Cultural Resource Management and National Historic Sites of Canada policy as well as the broader Parks Canada program;
- demonstrate and advocate environmental heritage ethics and practices by providing leadership through example, and by assisting and cooperating with others; and
- ensure commemorative integrity, service to clients, and use public funds in a wise and efficient manner.

#### **Current Situation**

Parks Canada develops business plans to deliver and improve Site operations, and to address the goals, objectives and management actions prescribed in this Management Plan. In addition, a long-term strategy is being developed which identifies priorities for the protection and presentation of heritage resources and the operations support infrastructure.

In the administration of Dredge No. 4, Parks Canada considers commemorative integrity on a regular basis through the application of instruments such as the Cultural Resource Management Policy and National Historic Sites of Canada Policy. Commemorative integrity is monitored through the State of the Parks report. Facilities, services and use proposals are reviewed by a variety of cultural resource experts at the Site, the local Parks Canada service centre and through the national office. Site staff oversee a range of duties including heritage building recording and restoration, cultural integrity monitoring, curatorial/collections management, conservation, heritage communications, asset and safety management, and other program services. Field Unit cultural resource protection staff provide services for the S.S. Klondike

and Chilkoot Trail National Historic Sites of Canada as well as Kluane National Park. Existing safety and security guidelines are incomplete, and the Site does not yet have an emergency preparedness plan.

Parks Canada achieves cost-effective service to clients and accommodates an increasing number of visitors by expanding the number of tours per day, staffing to capacity, booking bus tours in advance, and planning improvements to the visitor reception centre. Through consultation, Site user fees have been well-integrated into the program and are generally accepted by all parties. Winter staffing is insufficient to provide a modest outreach program in the off-season.



Relocation of Dredge No. 4 NHSC

#### **KEY ACTIONS**

- develop and implement a strategy for a phased approach to the appropriate stabilization of Level I and Level II resources, providing a series of costed projects for the Site;
- consult with affected interests in proposals to change Site user fees;
- develop and implement safety and security guidelines for the Site to meet local occupational health and safety standards;
- develop and implement an emergency preparedness strategy for the Site;
- commit appropriate resources to full operation of the Site from June to mid-September with a modest outreach program in the off-season;
- utilize State of the Parks reporting to Parliament to monitor the state of the Site's commemorative integrity;
- review the structural and functional condition of Site operations support infrastructure and develop and implement a strategy to meet the Site's operational and administrative needs;
- conduct strategic environmental assessments of the Site management and sub-activity plans subject to the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals; and
- utilize the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, or its likely replacement, the Yukon Development Assessment Process, to assess the environmental impacts of projects before they are undertaken.

# 4.3 Management Plan Environmental Assessment

An environmental assessment review of this Management Plan was conducted in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Process for Policy and Program Proposals Cabinet directive. The screening was carried out early in the Management Plan review to ensure that the environmental effects of plan initiatives were considered before irrevocable decisions were made. A companion document, Environmental Assessment of the Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan, provides a detailed account of the results summarised here.

A workshop was conducted to identify Management Plan proposals capable of producing adverse environmental effects. The plan proposes continued maintenance or restoration of the dredge and associated structures; plan implementation is therefore unlikely to generate significant environmental effects. Standard construction and restoration techniques will be employed. The impacts of these activities are insignificant or

can be successfully mitigated with known technology. The dredge is no longer operational and will be utilised solely as an educational and heritage facility featuring static exhibits and guided walking tours.

Several initiatives in the draft Management Plan may result in increased visitation. A strategy should be developed to monitor and manage visitor impacts to cultural and natural resources at the Site.

Portions of the Management Plan are conceptual and lack the detail necessary to assess environmental impacts. Further information is required before these initiatives and the projects they will generate can be adequately assessed. As specific projects are developed they will undergo environmental screening pursuant to the provisions of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). Appropriate mitigative measures will be included in the assessments. Projects will not be implemented prior to environmental assessment review and approval from a responsible authority under the CEAA.

# 5: Implementation Strategy

The management plan provides long term strategic direction for Site managers. It is a framework for more detailed planning and decision- making, and a strategic reference for capital expenditure forecasts and future management and operations. Implementation of the plan is the responsibility of the Superintendent and Field unit Staff.

While the management plan establishes a long range vision for the site, it focusses on actions within a five year time frame. This implementation strategy sets out a series of priority actions for the next five years, all of them affordable within the current resources of the Yukon Field Unit.

The priorities will be linked directly to the Site's business plan and to the three year business planning cycle. The focus will be on the first three year cycle, although some priorities will be identified for the second. They will be grouped according to some of Parks Canada's service lines as part of the new planning, reporting and accountability structure. The priorities will lead to results in the main areas of accountability:

- 1) Ensuring commemorative integrity
- 2) Improving service to clients
- 3) Making wise and efficient use of public funds.

Progress will be determined through annual reporting on business plan performance and through the State of the Parks reports which are issued regularly.

The priority actions to be achieved over the next five years that are linked to the management plan are:

Develop and implement a strategy to protect the Site from fires

- Develop and implement a strategy to define the scope of collections required to support the commemorative integrity of the Site
- Develop and implement an interpretive plan for Dredge No. 4 which addresses both Level I and Level II messages and accessibility
- Develop and maintain a photographic reference collection to support the presentation and preservation activities at the site and make the collection accessible to others.
- Offer programming to school groups to increase park/site awareness, understanding and support
- Monitor Heritage presentation effectiveness through the completion of annual surveys (including continuation of the national client survey)
- Maintain or enhance current level of personal programming by ensuring that park/site heritage presentation positions are staffed by qualified individuals in a timely manner.
- Annual review of training needs of heritage presentation managers and staff to ensure professional delivery of program
- Develop a marketing strategy for the site with emphasis on social marketing and understanding changing visitor behaviour.



# Heritage Property Descriptions

#### Bear Creek Reserve

Bear Creek Reserve is an industrial complex of some 60 buildings and related structures located 11 kilometres east of Dawson City in the Klondike River Valley. From 1905 to 1966 Bear Creek was the Klondike headquarters for corporate mining interests. The major functional and physical characteristics of Bear Creek Reserve emerged between 1905 and 1916 when it was first developed by Joe Boyle's Canadian Klondike Mining Company. The industrial complex's structures flanked a central roadway that provided access to all facilities. Buildings for related functions, such as administration, repairs and warehousing, were grouped together to allow for coordinated operations. Most Bear Creek Reserve buildings were wood-frame constructions sheathed in corrugated metal. Exceptions to this included the log and unclad frame residential structures with their yards and gardens.

Physical and functional developments at Bear Creek Reserve followed the financial fortunes of the corporate mining ventures. Following the collapse of Boyle's corporate empire in 1917, Bear Creek Reserve entered a 15-year decline characterized by neglect of basic structural maintenance, disregard for established operational routines and the reduction of its administrative role.

Rehabilitation of the Bear Creek Reserve facility began in the mid-1930s with the reorganization and refinancing of the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation (YCGC). When management expanded the Klondike dredging fleet significantly between 1935 and 1942, repair facilities were renovated and partially redefined, and the residential area at Bear Creek Reserve grew considerably to accommodate the increased work force. There was, however, no radical change in the depot's layout or in its function.

After World War II, the gradual depletion of known reserves corresponded with reduction in equipment and plant facilities. At Bear Creek Reserve, this meant a prolonged period when development remained static, and only absolutely necessary physical upkeep took place. When the company ceased its Klondike mining operations in 1966, the Bear Creek Reserve was a shadow of the 1930s depot.

When the federal government acquired the Bear Creek Reserve in 1975, it assumed control of a major assembly of buildings, equipment, and property with historic associations which span the entire history of the Klondike gold mining industry. In 1987, the Bear Creek Reserve site was officially opened for public tours under the auspices of the Heritage North Cooperating Association. These interpretive tours are now provided during the visitor season by Parks Canada staff. In June 1993, the Federal Heritage Building Review Office Committee evaluated 37 buildings at Bear Creek Reserve and designated 20 of them as "recognized" structures.

The Bear Creek Reserve's primary function to date has been as a storage centre for the major archeological and curatorial artifact collections under the control of the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada.

## The Gold Room

The Gold Room is a single structure within the Bear Creek Compound. Constructed in 1939, this concrete and frame structure was the site of the final stage in the process of converting raw gold into bullion. The structure is physically sound and retains considerable technological integrity, and therefore represents a valuable cultural resource within the Bear Creek complex.

## Upper Bonanza Reserve

The Upper Bonanza Reserve is approximately 3.2 km (2 miles) in length by 0.8 km (half a mile) along each side of the Upper Bonanza Creek base line. The lower or western end of the property is dominated by old dredge tailings (dredging stopped in 1918). The major cultural resource at the upper end of the property is the ruin of a large earth dam. This structure was built between 1906 and 1908 to supply water via a ditch to mining operations downstream. The reserve area was used most intensively from 1900 to 1918. When the Upper Bonanza property was set aside as a reserve in 1973, it was intended to provide an appropriate area to set up a mining exhibit, showing the change in mining technology from pick-and-shovel methods to mechanized operations.

# Dredge No. 12

Besides Dredge No. 4, the federal government owns Dredge No. 12, which is located on Dominion Creek at Claim 93 Below Discovery. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada has recommended that there should be no development at Dredge No. 12.

# Appendix 2

# People and Events: Approved HSMBC plaque text

# Joseph Whiteside Boyle 1867-1923

Born in Toronto and raised in Woodstock, Ontario, Boyle had a varied career before arriving in Dawson in 1897. Becoming involved in many businesses, "Klondike Joe" soon recognized the potential of large-scale mining. He left the Klondike in 1904 but returned five years later at the head of its largest mining operations. "The King of the Klondike" lived here until 1916, when he left for England to help in the allied war effort. For his wartime services, especially his heroic achievements in Russia and Romania, Boyle was decorated by several European nations. He died in London, England.



Commemorative Integrity A historic place may be said to possess commemorative integrity

when the resources that symbolize or represent its importance are not impaired or under threat, when the reasons for its significance are effectively communicated to the public, and when the heritage

value of the place is respected.

Cultural Resource A human work or a place which gives evidence of human activity

or has spiritual or cultural meaning, and which has been deter-

mined to have historic value.

Cultural Resource Management Generally accepted practices for the conservation and presentation of cultural resources, founded on principles and carried out in a practice that integrates professional, technical and administrative activities so that the historic value of cultural resources is taken into account in actions that might affect them. In Parks Canada, Cultural Resource Management encompasses the presentation and

use, as well as the conservation of cultural resources.

Federal Heritage Building Review Office An interdepartmental advisory body responsible for identifying which federal buildings merit designation as federal heritage buildings, and for monitoring the conservation and continued use

of these buildings.

Heritage Tourism An immersion in the natural history, human heritage, the arts and

philosophy, and the institutions of another region or country that creates understanding, awareness and support for the nation's

heritage.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) A board of appointed members representing all provinces and territories of Canada, which reports to the Minister (of the Environment). The Board receives and considers recommendations regarding the commemoration of historic places, the establishment of historic museums and the administration, preservation and maintenance of historic places and historic museums, and advises the Minister in the carrying out of his or her powers under the

Historic Sites and Monuments Act.

Historic Value Historic value is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby

it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physi-

cal and/or associative.

Level I Cultural Resource A cultural resource that is of national historic significance. It

directly relates to the reasons for a site's national significance.

Level II Cultural Resource A resource that is not of national historic significance may

have historic value and thus be considered a cultural

resource.

Management Plan A management is a strategic guide to future management

of a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area. It is required by legislation, guided by public consultation, approved by the minister responsible for Parks Canada, and tabled in parliament. It is the primary public accountability document for a national park, national

historic site or national marine conservation area.

National Historic Site of Canada Any place declared to be of national historic interest or

significance by the Minister responsible for Parks Canada.

State of the Parks Report Biennial report which assesses the ecological and commemo-

rative integrity of Canada's national parks and national historic sites, services offered to visitors, and progress in establishing new heritage places. It is approved by the

Minister and tabled in Parliament.

World Heritage Site A cultural or natural site that is designated as having out-

standing universal value by the World Heritage Committee, according to its criteria. The committee was established to oversee implementation of UNESCO's 1972 World Heritage

Convention.

Yukon Field Unit An administrative unit of Parks Canada, based in the Yukon,

responsible for the management of the following heritage places: Chilkoot Trail NHSC; S.S. *Klondike* NHSC; S.S. *Keno* NHSC; Dawson Historical Complex NHSC; Dredge No. 4 NHSC; Kluane National Park/Reserve and Vuntut

National Park.