

This research applies archaeological and remote sensing data to address a series of cultural and historical questions about Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) adaptations to conditions of the maritime fur trade era of southern Alaska, from the late Russian period into the early American period (1850-c1910). The study location is the Denton Site (49-XBS-014) on the outer coast of the Kenai Peninsula in Kenai Fjords National Park (Fig. 1.1), Alaska. Excavation data from the site are used to investigate concurring or dissonant relationships among oral and written historical accounts of its occupation, and to examine commercial influence on Sugpiat economy and material culture. High-resolution magnetometer survey is explored as an aid to developing excavation strategies and for ground-truthing oral information about site structure. The assemblage is analyzed for relative dating, and insight in to the activities pursued at the site. Occupation is estimated at 1850 to 1900, with a mean artifact production date of 1880. The amount of trade goods present indicates that this may be the site of a small trading post, previously determined to be in Nuka Bay.