

2014-06 PT. 2

Chena town site presentation with Joshua Reuther

March 2014

Fairbanks, Alaska

Presentation during the Alaska Anthropological Meetings. 12 minutes

Joshua Reuther said they are looking at past communities as well as looking at the present community with archaeology. They used ground penetrating radar (GPR). The present community is used quite a bit at this time. They aren't sure exactly what is left there at the site and that is their goal. They have gathered interviews with people who are familiar with the area. He talked about the previous archeological survey. At first they were looking at the locations of the roads. They figured out what remained there. They did a little bit of current mapping. They liked to do this surveying in the winter because they got better results then. They have spent three years at the site working with the GPR in the summer and the winter. He showed a photo of the crew working in the field. There are still remains that haven't been looted. They cored First Street to see how old it was. There has been metal prospecting and other looting at the site. A lot of materials were left after the area was dug up. They aren't sure how much of the area has been disturbed. He showed another photo of materials left at the site such as stove parts. Their current work will be assessing that. He showed another photo with anomalies picked up by the GPR. They related to some of the depressions that Dan Thompson found. There are some features that aren't visible on the surface but were picked up by the GPS. Their goal is to test these areas and open up some earth to see what they are – what do these foundations relate to. The looting pits were on some of these features. Some of the Sandborn map didn't cover some of their surveyed area. He talked about the Vashon warehouse and its location. They hope to do some coring this year to see what has been remodeled by the river. They hope to use some of the information pulled from the archives and connect it with the archeology information. He talked about historical archeology and community involvement. He thanked people who have been working with him.