



June 2023

Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé Conrad Historic Site



Conrad Historic Site Tram Terminal. Sugarloaf Hill in background. 2014.

Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad was a traditional fishing, hunting, and camping site used by the Tagish Kwan and Tlingit people.

It also became a short-lived mining town in the early 1900s, and remnants of its mining history, such as buildings and equipment, can still be seen in the area today.

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation's Final Agreement states that Conrad be established as a historic site and be co-owned and co-managed by the First Nation and the Yukon government. A Conrad Historic Site Steering Committee was formed in December 2014 to prepare the Conrad Heritage Management Plan.

In July 2022, the Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Management Plan was approved and signed by Carcross/Tagish First Nation and Government of Yukon.

Following the approval of the Management Plan, the role of the Conrad Historic Site Steering Committee concluded. The historic site is now managed by the Conrad Historic Site Working Group with heritage staff representatives from both governments. Learn more about the Working Group's role and its members on the next page.

Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site Management Plan. Page 40.

Tsei Zhete

Sinwaa Éex'i Yé

A place for sharing, protecting, and reconnecting with our heritage and culture

Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Working Group

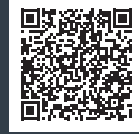
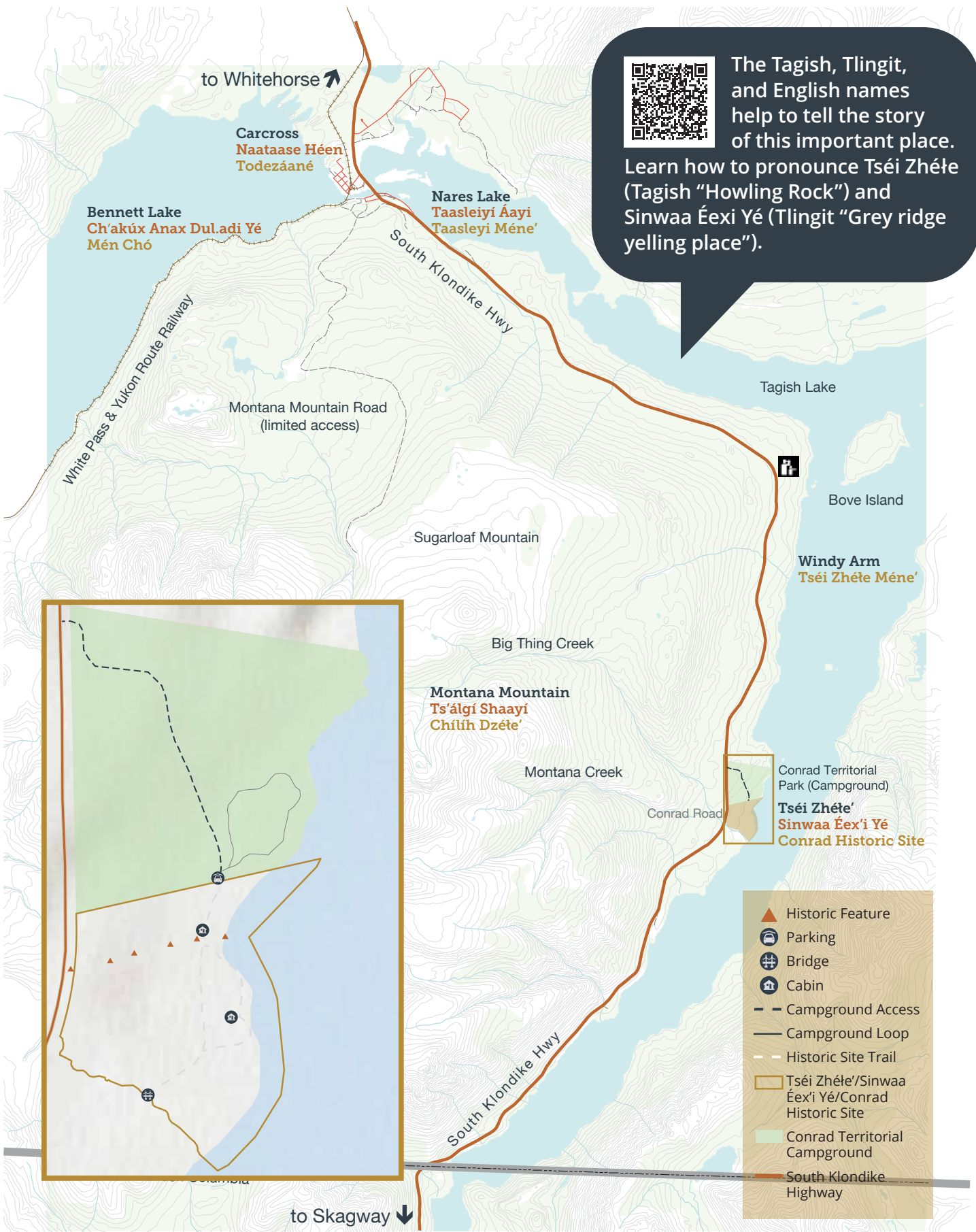
The Conrad Historic Site Working Group will guide the implementation of the Vision and Goals outlined in the Management Plan and the Interpretation Plan to ensure that they are carried out in a manner that is fair and equal to both governments to preserve the traditional, cultural, natural and historic values of the historic site.

- ▶ Colleen James, C/TFN
- ▶ Sean McDougall, C/TFN
- ▶ Sheena Johns, C/TFN
- ▶ Patrick James, C/TFN
- ▶ Rebecca Jansen, YG
- ▶ Ty Heffner, YG
- ▶ Lee Whalen, YG

Tséi Zhéte / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Day

On Friday, **August 11, 2023, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm**, the Conrad Working Group will be hosting an information day at the Conrad Historic Site. Join us, for this free event, to see the wonderful views and to learn more about this special place.

Located ~14 km southeast of Carcross, follow the sign that indicates the Conrad Campground, follow the dirt road to the bottom of the hill, the campground is on the left, the historic site on the right. A yellow gate is closed, you can park near the gate, and walk into the historic site.



The Tagish, Tlingit, and English names help to tell the story of this important place. Learn how to pronounce Tséi Zhéte (Tagish "Howling Rock") and Sinwaa Éexi Yé (Tlingit "Grey ridge yelling place").

Colleen James Receives Yukon Historical and Museums Association (YHMA) 2022 Annual Heritage Award

heritageyukon.ca/programs/heritage-awards



Colleen James speaking at the Tséi Zhéle/ Sinwaa Éex'i Yé/ Conrad Historic Site signing ceremony. Dan Carr photography. July 20, 2022.

Each year, the Yukon Historical and Museums Association presents heritage awards to recognize the individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to conserving and celebrating the Yukon's heritage.

The Annual Heritage Award is presented to an individual, organization, First Nation or business for an outstanding contribution to Yukon heritage. The recipient must qualify in one of the following categories:

- ▶ Outstanding service to the protection, conservation, promotion or development of Yukon's heritage;
- ▶ Project, exhibit or initiative that demonstrates outstanding innovation, creativity or impact in the research, documentation, promotion and interpretation of Yukon heritage;
- ▶ Meritorious service to YHMA; or
- ▶ Performance of a single action, deed or service that ranks far above the normal in the cause of Yukon heritage.

This year's award went to Colleen James in honour of her outstanding service to the protection, conservation, promotion, and development of the Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site. Her research, diplomacy, traditional knowledge and enthusiasm to conserve the site were a catalyst to finalizing the management plan that was signed last summer. Colleen is dedicated to revitalizing the Tagish and Tlingit languages by remembering and using traditional place names.

A profile of her life and work is presented on page 5 & 6. Congratulations, Colleen!

Colleen James

Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN)

The Carcross/Tagish Traditional Territory is home to Colleen James, or Wolf Mother, Ghoóch Tlâ in Tlingit.

Colleen spends her time caring for her family, volunteering in the Carcross community, and working for her First Nation. Among other roles, she works as a representative on the Steering Committee for Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site.

Colleen's traditional knowledge and enthusiasm for conserving the historic site was a catalyst in finalizing the Management Plan. Colleen will continue with the Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé /

Conrad Working Group to ensure the historic site continues as a living cultural landscape.

"Through involvement on the committee I've learned a lot more about the Conrad Historic Site, both its pre-contact history and its mining history," she says. "We want to see the co-management be successful and celebrate the history of both cultures that have used the site and will continue to use it into the future."

Colleen is also involved in a C/TFN project to revitalize the Tlingit and Tagish languages by remembering and using Tlingit and Tagish place names. "When we revitalize our language,



Colleen James on the shores of Tséi Zhéle Méne' (Howling Rock Lake) Windy Arm, within the Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site. Dan Carr photography. July 20, 2022.

we discover knowledge that's been there for a long time," she says.

Colleen has shown outstanding service to the protection, conservation, promotion, and development of Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site, from 2014 to the present. Colleen has researched the historic site to assist in its management strategy by identifying traditional use areas and traditional practices of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation people at the Conrad Historic Site and area. Colleen has also brought guidance and traditional knowledge to the Conrad Steering Committee that contributed to building a solid and trusting partnership between C/TFN and YG.

Colleen researched the traditional names for Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site and named the new walking trail, Lèitú Déi (Butterfly Trail), that was developed in summer of 2022 at the Conrad Campground (adjacent to the Historic Site) for Yukon Parks.

Colleen's involvement and contributions towards the Conrad Historic Site was featured in a recent article written by Leighann Chalykoff "*Heritage Conversations: Stories of Yukoners connecting to their heritage*". The full article can be read at emrlibrary.gov.yk.ca/Tourism/heritage-converstions-2022.pdf.

You can see Colleen and others receive their awards on Yukon Historical and Museums Association Facebook page.



Colleen speaking to the crowd when receiving her award. Feb 20, 2023. Photo by Bruce Barrett.



Recipients at the 2022 Annual Yukon Heritage Awards ceremony, with Commissioner Bernard and Minister Streicker. Feb 20, 2023. Photo by Bruce Barrett

Summer 2023 work plan: Cabin 1



February, 2023, ISL Engineering reviewed drawings for Cabin 1 and provided structural input and recommendations.

Two staff from the Historic Sites Unit – Stephan Biedermann and Gisli Balzer – will be on site a couple of times over the summer to work on Cabin 1. They aim to lift the cabin, replace the bottom logs, and then resettle it. They may also be able to secure the corners and start on a roof if time allows. This work will be done over two, 2-week stretches.

Did you know?

Artifacts may not be removed from the land. Wherever you are in the Yukon, you are on a First Nation's traditional territory.

Yukon and First Nation governments are working to protect the ongoing story of our living heritage.

Share your find.

Learn more at yukonlivingheritage.ca



Fun Fact continued from December 2022 newsletter...

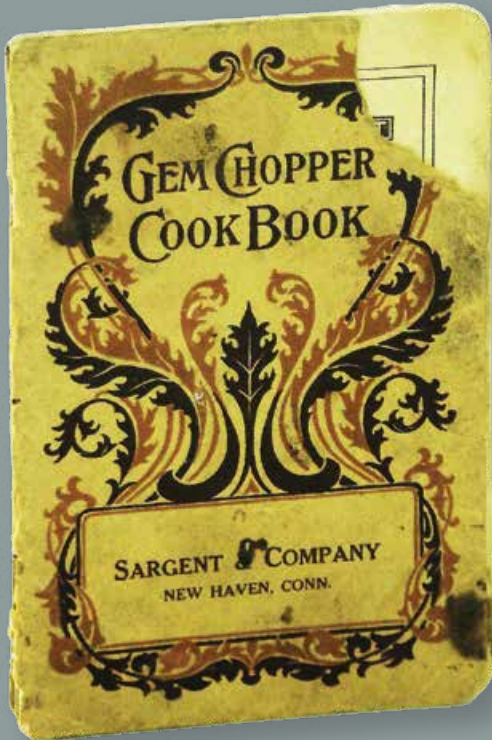
The food chopper found under Cabin 1 at the Conrad Historic Site says "PATENT APD FOR." Later versions of the same chopper say "PATENTED OCT 16 1906," strongly indicating that this one was manufactured before 1906.

The food chopper was and still is a common household item found in many homes and businesses throughout the territory. The presence of this artifact at Cabin 1 indicates that the cabin may have functioned as a residence, or possibly as a kitchen/mess hall, if it was a company building.

Some details and archival memorabilia related to this historic kitchen item are pictured below.

*Food chopper
pulled from under
Cabin 1*





Gem Chopper Cook Book - Valuable Recipes for Substantial Dishes and Dainty Desserts Sargent & Company; et al Published by Sargent & Company, New Haven, Conn., 1902. (AbeBooks.com)



1904 advertisement for the Gem Food Chopper



A complete Food Chopper identical to the one found at Conrad.

Historic Places Days 2023: *Every Place, a Story*

Robinson Roadhouse

Saturday, July 8, 2023, 11 am to 2 pm

Canada Historic Places Days is an annual campaign promoting the importance of historic sites. From July 8th to the 31st, hundreds of sites across the country host special events and activities.

Join us in celebrating Canada's Historic Places Days at the Robinson Roadhouse historic site. There will be live music, site tours, a barbecue and games for the whole family to enjoy.

The Historic Sites Unit (HSU) and the Yukon Heritage Resources Board (YHRB) are pleased to welcome you to this free event.

All are welcome.

Learn more at historicplacesdays.ca or by calling the Historic Sites Unit at 867-667-3458.

The site will stay open during all activities and events, but certain areas may be closed to ensure the safety of the public.







YA. Muirhead. Conrad Mines. "Ore Dump". 1906

**This newsletter is provided by the Conrad Historic Site Working Group.
You can view this newsletter online at yukonheritage.com or please contact:**

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