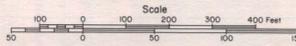


# COMMUNITY MAP ATKASOOK

70° 28' N - 157° 24' W



Prepared by the Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center, University of Alaska, under contract to the United States Geological Survey, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management for National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Task Force studies. July, 1978.

- Land Use\*
  - Residential
  - Public
- Generator\*\*
- Community phone
- Small earth station (shows presence, but not actual location)
- Survey line (surveyed by Bomhoff and Assoc.)
- Erosion\*\*\*

\* These data were collected from interviews with people who had recently visited the village and have not been field checked.  
 \*\* Electricity is available throughout the entire village and research station.  
 \*\*\* These data were determined by interpreting summer aerial photographs and have not been field checked.



The snowdrifts shown on the photo are formed by storm winds and do not necessarily indicate prevailing winds.

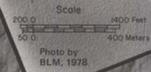
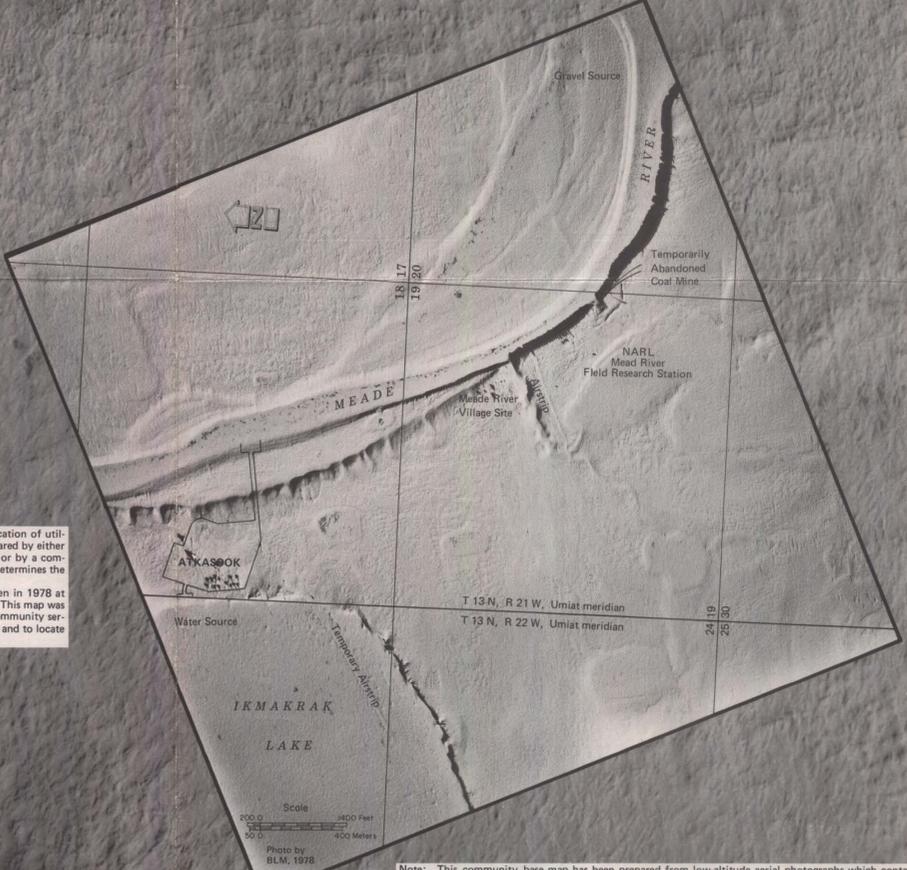
Meade River Field Research Station-NARL

MEADE RIVER  
 Water Source  
 The entire river channel floods every year during breakup.

Turf Area (approximately 1,200' x 50')

1. Temporary materials storage building
2. Mobile equipment storage
3. School
4. Health clinic
5. Teachers housing

**Community Base Map**—Maps are needed to show land use, ownership, location of utilities, and to plan for future village improvements. These maps can be prepared by either surveying the land on the ground or through enlargement of aerial photos or by a combination of both. Air photos can be taken at various heights. The height determines the extent of the area covered by the photograph.  
 The community base map was prepared from a BLM photograph taken in 1978 at a height of 8,400 feet and enlarged to a scale of 1:2,400 (1 in. = 200 ft.). This map was used to locate the present utilities, residential development, and various community services and can be used in the future to evaluate the area for village expansion and to locate new construction.



Note: This community base map has been prepared from low-altitude aerial photographs which contain unavoidable distortions in scale. Property and utility information has been generalized from many sources and may contain minor inconsistencies. This map should not be construed as a survey.

## Land Use and Community Facilities

**Housing**—The village consists of 13 houses. The Borough constructed all housing in Atkasook in 1977 except that associated with NARL's Meade River Field Research Station, constructed several years ago, and a private home located across the airstrip from the research station. Borough-built houses were prefabricated outside the region and flown to Atkasook by Hercules cargo aircraft. All are mounted on pilings driven into the permafrost and tend to be larger than older houses found in the other borough villages. Teachers are presently housed in the same fourplex as the school and health clinic. Other houses are planned for the community as the need develops.

**School**—Atkasook is in the North Slope Borough School District. The school is presently housed in one half of a fourplex, but as the community becomes more established, a school will be built. During the 1977-78 school year, 20 students attended grades K through six, and four students attended grades seven through 12.

**Other Structures**—Due to the recent establishment of Atkasook, such structures as stores, churches, and community centers have not yet been built. At present there are only a temporary materials storage building and a mobile equipment storage building.

**Power**—The electrical power system in Atkasook is owned and operated by the North Slope Borough and consists of a 90-kw and a 50-kw diesel generator and a distribution system. The Meade River Field Research Station has its own generator and distribution system. Fuel oil for individual cooking and heating is stored by and purchased from the Atkasook Corporation, which also sells fuel to the Borough for its electrical generators. Fuel cost between \$1.25 and \$1.40 per gallon in 1978. The Borough has not charged for electrical power since the village was reestablished several years ago but plans to start charging about \$0.50 per kilowatt hour during the summer of 1978. Atkasook has no streetlights.

**Water**—Atkasook has no central water supply in the village and no distribution system. Villagers report that Ikmakrak Lake, the Meade River (used when the lake is turbid), and a small stream flowing parallel to the airstrip are the present sources of supply. Chemical data are available only for the Meade River. In winter, residents cut ice from Ikmakrak Lake, haul it to the village, and thaw it in containers inside their homes.

Present per capita consumption is a low 1 to 2 gallons (4 to 8 l) per day. A preliminary engineering report for a central water facility was completed by Crews, MacInnes, and Hoffman in 1976, and the U. S. Public Health Service (PHS) plans construction for 1978. Initially, the facility will contain water storage and treatment, laundry, showers, and toilets. The North Slope Borough plans to build a gravel road to Ikmakrak Lake and may provide a water-haul vehicle.

**Waste Disposal**—A communal privy located about 100 feet (30 m) uphill from Ikmakrak Lake, the village's primary water source, and there is also concern about sediments entering the lake from road erosion. Solid waste used to be hauled to a dump about a half mile (0.8 km) south of the new village, far from any water sources except the stream by the airstrip. The new dump, located downstream from the townsite beyond the Kigakrak Lake to prevent contamination problems, has been proposed as the sewage lagoon

that PHS plans to develop. The Borough will provide a sewage-haul vehicle and, depending on the design of a solid waste disposal system, may construct a gravel road to the dump.

**Health Care**—The Borough's Health and Social Service Agency (HSSA) operates a health clinic in the village, staffed by a health aide and an alternate. The clinic is presently located in the same fourplex as the school, but a new clinic is planned for construction during 1979. PHS trains the health aides to provide preventative and primary health care to both Native and non-Native patients. Aides also screen patients and make referrals to the medical staff at the Indian Health Service (IHS) Barrow Service Unit Hospital for further treatment. PHS provides dental care at the IHS dental clinic at Barrow and plans to furnish itinerant medical and dental care personnel to the Atkasook clinic in the future. A state public health nurse will also visit the village to hold well-baby clinics and to screen for and treat communicable diseases. HSSA is attempting to upgrade mental health, dental, optometric, and alcoholic detoxification and rehabilitation care through more itinerant clinics in the village and expanded facilities for these services at Barrow.

**Public Safety**—The North Slope Borough provides police protection and, since the village is unincorporated, fire protection. No police personnel are stationed in the village, but the Borough plans to post an officer there in 1980. When necessary, borough police or state troopers are flown in. There are no fire-protection services available, but fire is not as great a threat as in the older villages since buildings are widely separated, and fire could not easily spread.

**Communication**—A small satellite earth station in the village provides direct telephone connection to RCA Alascom's long-distance center in Anchorage. Atkasook has a community Message Toll Service (MTS) phone (824-8001), manned by an attendant who collects payment from the caller and pays a monthly bill for all calls directly to RCA. A small television studio at the school provides its own videotapes and live programs for local use as well as transmits videotapes made in Barrow. The village receives broadcasts from the public radio station in Barrow. The school has an HF radio for communicating with the school district headquarters in Barrow, and the health aide communicates by radio with the IHS Barrow Hospital. The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation maintains a direct radio link with Atkasook.

**Transportation**—Air travel provides Atkasook's only year-round access, while land transportation provides seasonal access. A 2,000-foot (610-m) turf airstrip is located about a mile (1.6 km) southeast of the village at the Meade River Field Research Station site, but its use is limited by weather and ground conditions. In winter most heavy and bulky cargo must be flown in to an ice strip on Ikmakrak Lake. There is no scheduled air service into Atkasook, but Arctic Guide, Fel-Air, Inc., and Jen-Air, Inc. operate air taxis into Atkasook from Barrow. (See the climate section for information on flying weather.)

Land transport is limited since no roads link Atkasook to other communities in the region. Summer travel is mainly by three-wheeled motorcycle, while in winter, snow machines and all-terrain vehicles are extensively used. Land travel outside the local vicinity is mainly to hunting and fishing areas and, occasionally, to other communities. "Cat-trains" are sometimes used to transport freight overland from Barrow in winter.