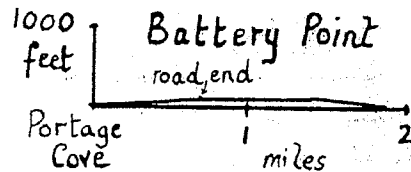


BATTERY POINT TRAIL

A fairly level, pleasant shoreline walk of 1.9 miles (3.2 kilometers) takes one to an open beach and headland, great for picnics. A primitive campsite is found within the east-facing spruce fringe closest to Kelgaya Point. 14 days camping are the limit in the State Park.

Follow Beach Road east around Portage Cove, and turn right up a hill to the end of the road (0.7 mile from the cove, 1.5 miles from the City Dock). Parking is limited. Here, the Battery Point trail takes off and stays above the beach in tall spruce for approximately one mile. Shortly before it emerges into open meadow and beaches, a fork is reached. Keep straight on. The trail on the right gives access to Mount Riley.

Stout shoes or hiking boots should be worn, although this walk can be enjoyed by families, young, old and inexperienced hikers. Allow 2 hours round trip.



General Information:

- **Parking:** is limited at most trailheads, especially Mt. Ripinsky and Battery Point.
- **Key to maps:** "V.C." marked on the maps indicates the location of the Haines Visitor Center.
- **Chilkat State Park:** The following trails are located within the park: *Battery Point*, *Mount Riley* and *Seduction Point*.
- **General interest:** Visitors interested in local birds should pick up the Chilkat Valley bird checklist obtainable at the Haines Visitor Center. Recommended guides to the local fauna and flora for the casual visitor are: *"Wild Edible and Medicinal Plants of Alaska, Canada and the Pacific Northwest Rainforests"* by Carol Biggs in two pocket-sized volumes, and *"Nature of Alaska: Introduction to Familiar Plants, Animals and Natural Attractions,"* a Waterford Field Guide, edited by James Kavanaugh. For more information on trails, read *"Discover Southeast Alaska with Pack and Paddle"* by Margaret H. Piggott.

IMPORTANT!

The City and Borough of Haines, the State of Alaska, and author, are not responsible for mishaps to persons using this pamphlet. Hikers are expected to assess weather conditions, carry essential supplies, and use their own judgment before venturing into back country.

HAINES is for HIKERS

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL TRAIL SYSTEM

Dedicated to the memory of
Pat Jones, a remarkable woman,
avid outdoorsman, and the
creative spark behind this guide.

INTRODUCTION

The Ten Essentials:

Food	Flashlight
Extra Warm Clothing/Raingear	Knife
Matches	Map
Firestarter	Compass
First Aid Kit	Sunglasses

These should be taken on all hikes in forest and alpine, and on long beach walks. Also, remember binoculars and camera.

Be Prepared:

- Be sure someone knows your plan before leaving, especially if you are considering doing the ridge walk between Mt. Ripinsky and the 7-Mile Saddle. It is always best to hike with a buddy.

- If you see bad weather coming, do not stray off the trail, especially above the tree line. *Do not take short cuts off the face of Mt. Ripinsky and ridge tops onto the highway below.*

- Beware! It is easy to lose the trail when spring snow lingers on the ground. Check on your position constantly; keep looking back!

- Return if you are unsure of the trail, weather, or your abilities. You do not have to get to the top to have an enjoyable hike.

- Hikers are advised to carry a local topographic map. 1:63,360 series. USGS. Approximate mean declination for this area is 30 degrees east of north. The pictographic maps in this pamphlet are not drawn to scale.

- Hikers are advised to carry their own water.

- Hikers are requested to sign the registers and list the numbers in their party at the beginning of the trail.

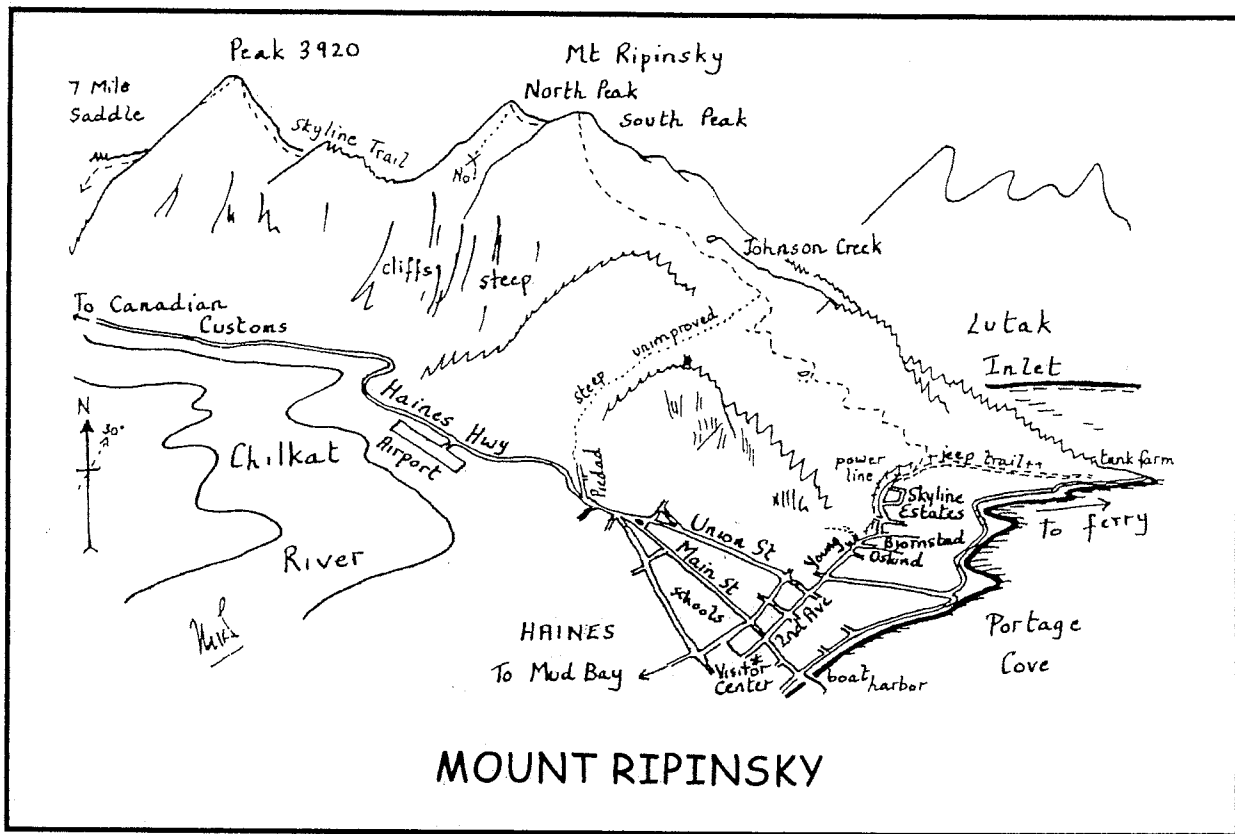
- Encounters with large animals, such as bears, are unlikely on the trail. However, if this happens, stay calm, give the animal the right of way, and *do not run!* In most circumstances the bear will keep its distance if it knows you are there, so make noise. Bells on the pack, rocks shaken in a can, or conversation will give them plenty of warning of your presence. Keep your distance from cubs, since the mother *will not be far away and will attack* if she feels her cub is threatened. A female moose with young can also be dangerous, so do not approach. *Keep dogs under control.*

- Fires: Fires are forbidden above the mean high tide in Chilkat State Park. Please be sure fires are completely out before leaving a campsite. There are times when the forests are tinder dry and hikers are advised not to light fires at all. Please contact the Haines Volunteer Fire Department at 766-2115 for any current burning bans. A light-weight stove should be carried to campsites.

Tread Lightly:

- **Camping:** Camp out of sight of the trail. Leave no fire and leave no trace.

- **Garbage:** Please pack out all that is packed in. Do not bury cans, since the odor attracts bears, and they will enter the camping area to dig them up, endangering others.

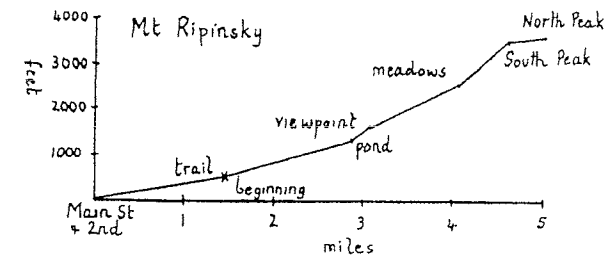


MOUNT RIPINSKY

Mount Ripinsky, north peak, is 3,650 feet high, and is an all day hike requiring good boots, lunch and **The Ten Essentials**. Until late July (variable), water or snow melt is found below the summit. Otherwise the last water is found at the head of Johnson Creek. **Even if the weather deteriorates, do not attempt to descend the south face of Mt. Ripinsky to the highway because of steep cliffs.**

Take Second Avenue north, take Young Road and when the road forks, *keep to the left along the hillside*. You will pass a wooden water tank on your left and enter Skyline Estates. *Follow the power lines*. Young Road will become a rough one lane road. The trailhead is on the left in front of a gate from which the tank farm and Lutak Inlet are visible. It is approximately 1.7 miles from Main Street. (The map is not drawn to scale to attempt to clarify details of town.) The trail ascends gradually through

hemlock and spruce forests, past a viewpoint at 1,600 feet, to alpine meadows above Johnson Creek (at approximately 2,500 feet). From here, there are spectacular views of Lynn Canal, and on the ridge, a bird's eye view of Haines. From on top, there are panoramic views of icefields, snowcapped peaks, Lynn Canal to Douglas Island and Taiya Inlet. A register is found on the north peak. Allow 3-5 hours to the summit.



MOUNT RILEY TRAILS

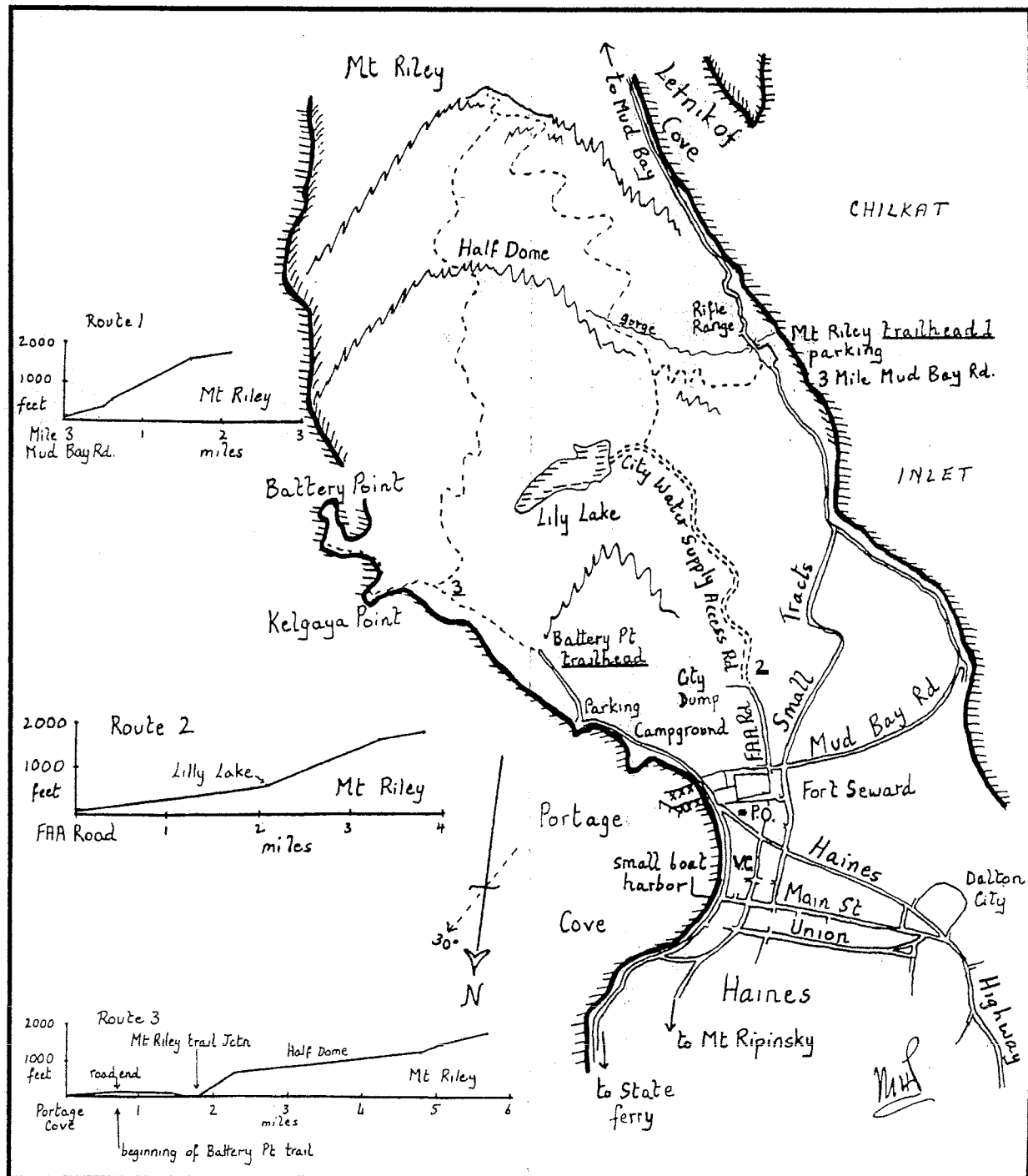
A pleasant hike for the family, with moderate climbing and spectacular views in all directions from the summit, only 1760 feet high. A day pack should be taken with an extra sweater, food, compass and first aid kit.

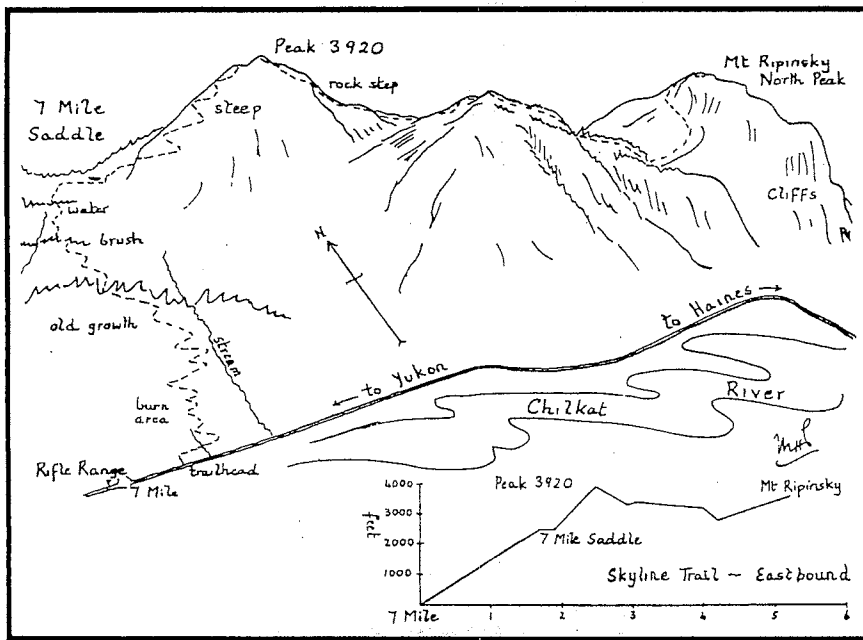
There are three choices of routes to the summit of Mount Riley:

1. Mud Bay Road is the steepest and most direct route. The distance to the summit is 2.8 miles (4.5 kilometers). Allow 3.5 hours round trip. Turn south along 3rd Avenue, behind Fort Seward, then follow Mud Bay Road for almost three miles. Parking and the trailhead are prominently marked, although there is limited parking on the right (west side of the road). The path starts on top of a bank across from the parking area. It runs in a southeasterly direction to the ridge. At the top of the first steep climb, turn right when this trail intersects the one coming from Lily Lake. The trail follows a ravine, then crosses a small stream, before climbing up in large zigzags through old growth trees. When finally emerging into open muskeg, continue on for a quarter of a mile for superb views of Lynn Canal, Taiya Inlet and the Chilkat River.

2. Via Lily Lake 2.8 miles one way. Allow 4.5 hours round trip. Take the FAA Road behind "Officers Row" in Fort Seward, and follow it to its end, about 1 mile. Turn right shortly before the city dump is reached and walk along the City water supply access route, about 50 minutes walking time. A short 5-minute spur trail branching off to the right, a few yards before reaching Lily Lake, connects with the direct route from Mud Bay Road.

3. From Portage Cove the route is 4 miles one way (6.5 kilometers), and is recommended for snowshoe travel in the winter for those conversant with compass and map. Allow 5 hours round trip. To access, follow the directions for Battery Point until a junction is reached, a little over a mile from the road end, and 200 yards before the main trail emerges onto the beach. Take the right fork which climbs steeply through thick undergrowth and tall spruce forests, then less steeply through muskeg meadows. It joins the trail from Mud Bay Road in an open muskeg meadow 500 yards below the summit.

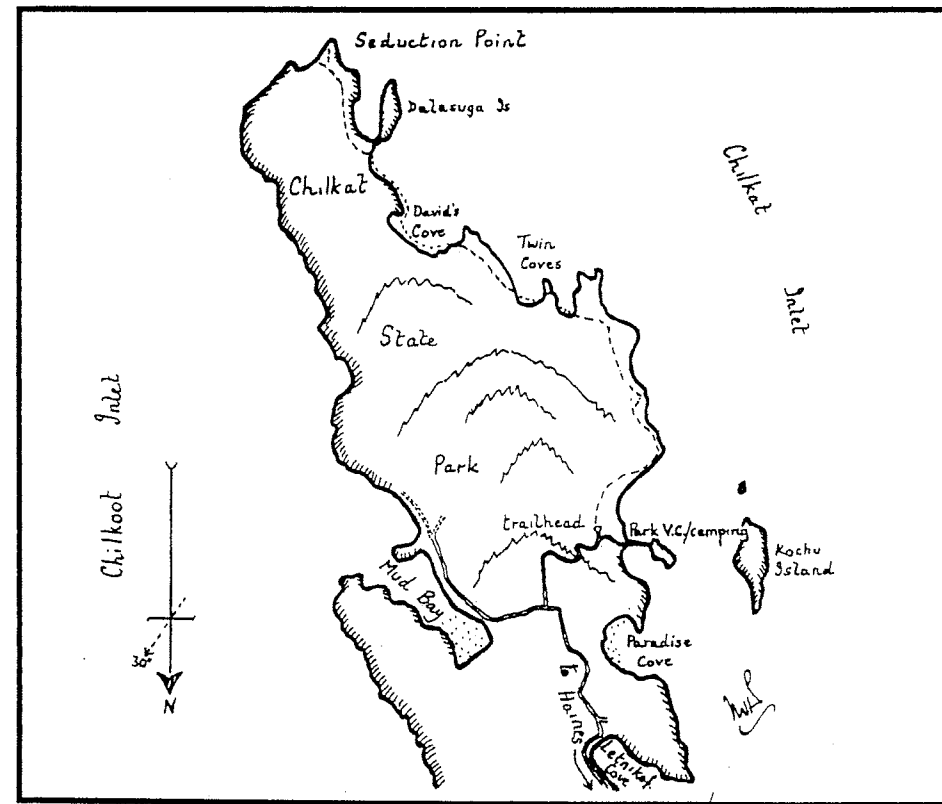




SKYLINE TRAILS

If one proceeds west along the ridge from Mt. Ripinsky to Peak 3920 and the 7-Mile Saddle, access is gained to the Haines Highway at 7 Mile. The road trailhead is found on the Haines Highway about 0.2 miles east of the 7 Mile marker, or rifle range. This walk takes in a traverse of Peak 3920 and Mt. Ripinsky, and is about 10 miles long from the 7 Mile marker to Main Street in town. It can be hiked either way, although the views are best going west to east. **Allow 8-10 hours for the full traverse. The Ten Essentials are a must! Do not attempt to take a short cut to the highway from the ridge over the cliffs even if the weather deteriorates.**

Heading east, the trail starts up a short boardwalk, then climbs by a series of switchbacks through a burn area and lodgepole pine forests. The climb becomes more gentle when spruce and hemlock forests are reached, and slopes open up into brush and mountain hemlock at about 2,000 feet. There is good water in the forest, and a tiny seasonal spring just before one reaches the 7-Mile Saddle at 2,400 feet. The Saddle is a great place to camp. From here, the climb is steep to the summit of Peak 3920 where the views are stunning. Allow 4-5 hours to get to this point. The ridge running east connects with Mt. Ripinsky and drops to about 2,800 feet. In early summer, snowmelt water may still be found along the ridge. In bad weather and spring snows, following the trail onto the north peak of Mt. Ripinsky can be tricky. It winds onto the northwest side of the summit, and can also be hard to locate from the peak, going west. This is where a map and compass comes in handy. *Overall climbing is 5,100 feet.*



SEDUCTION POINT

This is a long, but very beautiful, beach and forest walk with outstanding views of the Davidson Glacier. There is prolific bird and sea life along the way, and during mid- and late-summer, the beach is carpeted with flowers. The trail is 6.8 miles one way (11.3 kilometers). Either camp along the way or expect a long day of 9 to 10 hours if you wish to reach the Point. *Fires must be located on the beach below the mean high tide, and not in the trees.* Check the tides before leaving, and plan (if possible) to do the last long beach stretch after David's Cove at low or mid-tide because of cliffs encroaching onto the beach. David's Cove is private property, so please stay on the beach. The cabin is not for public use.

Drive Mud Bay Road to Chilkat State Park. The road descends through steep "S" turns. Take the first left fork and park in the cul de sac at the trailhead (see map). The trail from here goes through trees until it reaches the beach two miles further along. For those who prefer to walk the beach, drive to the picnic grounds at the end of the road. The beach is rough walking, although pleasant and open. The trail then alternates between the beach and pleasant forest groves. One can ignore the trail, but it takes longer to walk the entire beach. Look carefully for markers and interpretive signs. Seasonal water may be found in Twin and David's Coves and it is possible to camp in the cove east of Seduction Point.