

CANNERY CEMETERY

Kenai, Alaska

The Cannery Cemetery in Kenai, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska is located at the end of Cannery Road. The four graves are in a grove of trees between the cannery and the Kenai River. It is unknown when these Japanese men were buried. Libby, McNeil and Libby cannery was built in 1912. It became Columbia Wards in the 1950s and Wards Cove Packing in 1988. It is now called Kenai Landing.

In 1983 four graves were noted. In 2003, only two of the grave markers remain. The inscriptions are old style Japanese characters. The first part tells that the person has died. The surname is given next and finally the first name. The upright inscription poles are the size of railroad ties. The graves with the remaining markers are fenced with wooden pickets. Kotome Miyata, age 16, of Nagoya, Japan identified which poles remain. Read March 14, 2003.

From: CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS AND AREA MEMORIALS IN ALASKA'S KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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Grave#;Name;Note

1;Kichitarow Sikiguchi;(This pole is missing in 2003)

2;Shunzaburow Matusshita;(This pole is missing in 2003)

3;Igirow Sukuda

4;Asagirow Katayama