



# On The Wings of Eagles



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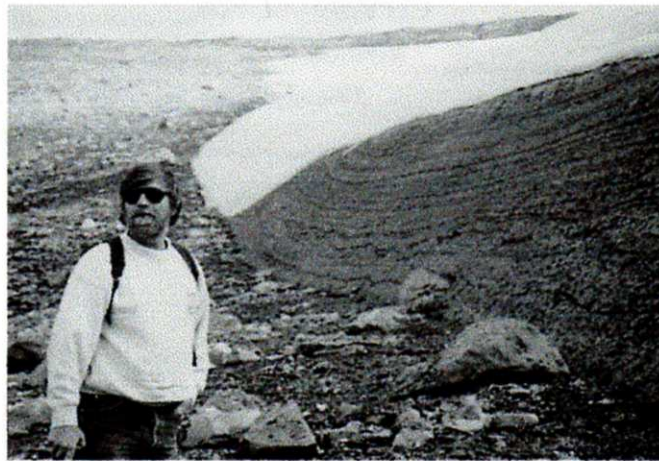
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## What is Under the Ancient Ice Fields?

By *Cherri Hanes*



*Rick Farnell on Yukon Ice Field*

FOUNDATIONS in Haines, Alaska. 12,000 years ago was the end of the Ice Age. 8,000 years ago, not far from the border of Haines, in the wilderness of southern Yukon, human beings cohabitated with caribou and bison in warmth. 8,000 years ago, ancient people, plants and animals thrived. Even 5,000 years ago, according to Rick's research, there was a climatic warm period, as indicated by an intermission zone in ice core studies. Today the area is once again under an ice field. The 8,000 year old sites are experiencing melt back, exposing and yielding a multitude of ancient artifacts. A haunting photograph was shown of a 6' atlatl shaft (ancient weapon) found laying on a recently thawed mountain slope in an expansive pile of ancient caribou dung. 133 different artifacts have been retrieved to date, most of them weaponry. Nowhere else in North America have artifacts like these been discovered. Serrated antler tools used for butchering, barbed antler darts, and beveled joint shafts were among the unique weaponry used to hunt caribou. Photos of ancient hunting blinds were shown, walls of upturned rocks strategically placed throughout the hunting grounds, preserved and still standing in place after 8,000 years. Also found preserved in the ice through the millennia were a 4,700 year old lemming, a 7,000 year old ground squirrel, birds, insects, small mummified mammals, and 4,700 year old giardia (protozoa). These

A March 23<sup>rd</sup> standing room only crowd coveted information about current discoveries found under ancient ice fields, as did Oxford University in England and the University of Alaska. Research biologist Rick Farnell of Yukon Renewable Resources, chose to first disclose his findings regarding a complicated 4 year ice field meltback study, at the AMERICAN BALD EAGLE

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