

sound and elsewhere, and began their eastward progress by one of two routes—along the coast by Point Hope or overland north-east by the Colville route. There were also winter journeys of less commercial importance from the Bering coast in the vicinity of Kotzebue sound, to the Arctic coast west of Point Barrow.

The main eastward exports of the Bering communities were Siberian goods, beads of native stone, stone and ivory ornaments, and (to the inland tribes) blubber and oil. They received in exchange caribou skins, wolverine and wolf skins (for trimming their clothing), stone lamps, and stone pots.

At Nirlik in the Colville delta, the Barrow people sold Siberian wares, Bering coast ornaments, articles of ivory (mammoth and walrus—the mammoth chiefly found along their own rivers, the walrus purchased from the west), whale oil, whale skin, umiaks of bearded seal, walrus or white whale skin, kayaks of sealskin, sealskin waterboots, unworked seal-skins and the skin of the bearded seal for boot sole material. What they chiefly received for all this was caribou skins, with a few wolf and wolverine skins and, in later times, commercial furs—fox, lynx, etc. Proceeding east to Barter island or its vicinity, they traded all the same kinds of articles except oil, whale skin, boats, and sealskin articles. What they chiefly received were stone lamps and stone pots from the Mackenzie people, wolf and wolverine skins and (latterly) other furs from the Mackenzie people and the Indians from south of the mountains towards the Yukon. Both the Barrow people and those of Mackenzie river brought white whale skins to sell, though the Barrow traders probably never had as many of these as the easterners. The purchasers must have been the Athabaskan Indians from the south and those Colville people who had come to Barter island with Siberian and Bering Straits wares.

It may be inferred that the farther east the trading place was located the fewer Siberian and other far western wares were brought to it. Dr. Richardson, if memory serves, states that, in 1846, Siberian wares were not seen by him east of Point Atkinson—they had not reached Cape Bathurst. Richardson had, however, but limited opportunities for observation. Probably