

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Alaska State Library

Historical Records of the Alaska State Library, ca. 1920-[ongoing] (bulk 1954-1982)

MS 186

2 boxes
26 folders

Processed By: Gladi Kulp
June 2000

Acquisition: The original collection was transferred from the Alaska State Library's administrative office in 1999 by George V. Smith, Deputy Director (Folders 1-14). In Feb. 2005, administrative files from the Historical Collections were added, beginning with Folder 15. Folder 26 was transferred from Alaska State Library administrative files on July 22, 2008.

Access: The collection is unrestricted.

Copyright: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the librarian.

Processing: Collection was re-foldered. Original order and folder titles were retained. In 2005, active administrative and historical files from Historical Collections were added to the end and the collection was made ongoing. Photographs were added to PCA 304. A folder-level inventory is available.

Organizational History

The Department of Library Service was established in 1955 to provide library service in the Territory of Alaska, to serve as a reference library for Territorial offices and libraries,

to coordinate and assist library activities throughout the territory, and to administer the annual grant-in-aid to incorporated library associations. In 1959 the Department was placed within the Department of Education for administrative purposes; it assumed the title Alaska State Library.

From: Report to the Governor, "Introduction," ca. 1966-1967, Ms 186, Folder 1.

Scope and Contents Note

The collection includes correspondence, speeches, papers, minutes, reports, and other records documenting the conception and early days of the Alaska State Library. The collection also includes some records of the Alaska Historical Association. Although the documents include the 1920-1998 time-period, the bulk of the collection is from 1954-1982. Photographs were added to PCA 304, Libraries in Alaska.

In February, 2005, administrative and historical files from the Historical Collections were added, beginning with Folder 15. Original folder titles were retained.

Inventory

Box 1

- Folder 1: History: General
- Folder 2: History: Pre Library Service, The Act - First Draft, 1954
- Folder 3: History: Pre Library Service, Governor's Office, 1953-1955
- Folder 4: History: Pre Library Service, W[illetta B.] Matsen Report, 1954 & 1958
- Folder 5: History: Library Service History, General
- Folder 6: History: Territorial Board Minutes
- Folder 7: History: Dept. of Library Services, to LS(C)A Files
- Folder 8: Alaska Historical Association
- Folder 9: Public Service Announcement
- Folder 10: Library of Congress - Alaskan
- Folder 11: Historical Collections

Folder 12: House of Wickersham, SCR 15 & HCR 8, 1981

Folder 13: House of Wickersham, 1982

Folder 14: George Rapuzzi House

The following files were transferred from the Historical Collections' active administrative files in 2005 (Folders 15-22).

Box 2

Folder 15: Alaska State Library 1958-1960

Folder 16: Advisory Committee, 1969

Folder 17: Correspondence re: State Archives legislation, 1970

Folder 18: Alaska Historical Library history, annual reports, report of progress (photocopies) 1923-1958

Folder 19: Alaska Historical Library history, background materials (laws, "Alaska Historical Library and Museum," by Rev. A. P. Kashevaroff; "The Historical Russian Library of Alaska," by C. L. Andrews, *Pacific Northwest Quarterly*, April, 1938

Folder 20: Alaska Historical Library E. L. Keithahn, Helen A. Shenitz, Helen Dirladian 1960-1963

Folder 21: Alaska Historical Library Phyllis (Nottingham) DeMuth travel reports, 1964-1984

Folder 22: Alaska Historical Library memoranda 1965-

Folder 23: Alaska Historical Library Bob DeArmond notes

Folder 24: Alaska Historical Library. Kathryn Shelton, Head Librarian, 1989-2005, Director/State Librarian, 2005- : Notes, speeches, etc.

Folder 25: Alaska State Library, 2005- : George V. Smith, Deputy Director / Director retirement party, flood, press, etc.

"Alaska State Library Invites you to our re-opening" [Poster announcing the re-opening of the AK State Library's circulating collections after Feb.

10, 2005 flood due to pipe breaks] *Located in MS X-Oversize Map Case in Vault*

Folder 26: Executive Proclamations relating to library services in Alaska.