

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

United States. Alaska Road Commission

Alaska Road Commission Photograph Collection, ca. 1909-1959

PCA 61

17,029 photographs
100, 35mm color slides
100 glass lantern slides, b&w, color
(15.2 linear ft.)

Processed by: Staff

ACQUISITION: The U.S. Bureau of Public Roads donated the collection April 4, 1969. The images record the construction of roads, trails and bridges in Alaska from approximately 1909-1959. (Acc. No. 1969-13.) In May 2008 volume 144 Album was acquired with no provenance from a donor in Wyoming who had purchased it at an estate sale. (Acc. No. 2008-018)

ACCESS: The photographs may be viewed, however, they may not be photocopied.

COPYRIGHT: Requests for permission to reproduce or publish from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: A subject index was prepared by Bill Cameron of the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads. 2 boxes and 1 folder (1 linear ft.), unprocessed.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Alaska Road Commission was established in 1905 as a board of the U.S. War Department. Named the Board of Road Commissioners for Alaska it was soon called the Alaska Road Commission. It remained under the War Department until 1932 and many of Alaska's oldest highways are named for officers of the early Road Commission. The Valdez-Chitina-Fairbanks military road was named the Richardson Highway for Brig. Gen. Wilds P. Richardson, the Steese Highway for Col. James G. Steese, the Elliot Highway for Maj. Malcolm Elliott, and the Edgerton Highway for Capt. Glen E. Edgerton. In 1932 the Alaska Road Commission was transferred to the Department of the Interior where it remained until 1956 when it was absorbed by the Bureau of Public Roads, a division of the Commerce Department. (Taken from: Naske, Claus M., "Alaska Road Commission Historical Narrative," June, 1983, and Gibson, Daniel D., "The Alaska Road Commission, " Aug. 1992.)

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The inventory lists locations and general subject areas contained in each volume but individual photographs are only described for Vol. 139. The lantern slides (Vol. 107B) depict the construction of the Alaska Highway. 100, 35mm color slides (Vol. 40) were taken during the opening of Haines Highway and also include miscellaneous highway scenes from Circle to Homer. A list of individual slides is located in the container. A selection of fifteen albums has been placed on microfiche: Albums 1-14 and Album 104. Some photographs were taken by the Lomen Brothers. Information may be found in some negative sleeves and backs of glued photographs which is not in the albums or finding aid.

INVENTORY

Item level indexes for Albums 1-14, 16 are with albums.

<i>Vol.:</i>	<i>Description:</i>
1.	Kuskokwim and Southeastern Alaska, 1924-1939. 590 photographs #382-391 Route 1 Prince of Wales Island, Cholmondeley Sound #522-590 Construction of Juneau-Douglas Bridge, 1934
2.	McKinley Park, 1924-1932. 412 photographs
3.	Chitina 1915-1939. 378 photographs
4.	Chitina District (Kotsina bridge and trail, Katalla, Nizina, McCarthy, Gulkana, etc.) 1914-1935. 388 photographs
5.	Valdez - 1914-1939. 495 photographs.

6. Nome - 1912-1941. 486 photographs
7. Nome- 1915-1941. 430 photographs
8. Nome and Miscellaneous - 1918-1941. 326 photographs
9. Anchorage - 1913-1938. 539 photographs
10. Anchorage - 1921-1940. 531 photographs
11. Anchorage - 1921-1941. 333 photographs
12. Fairbanks, Richardson Highway, Steese Highway. 1905-1940. 511 photographs
13. Fairbanks and Miscellaneous - 1917-1939. 437 photographs
14. Miscellaneous - 1909-1932. 296 photographs
15. Alaska Highway, Richardson, Big Delta to Fairbanks. FAP. 1941-1956. 190 photographs
16. Camps and depots - 1943-1956. 183 photographs
17. Nome and Seward Peninsula. 62 photographs
18. Denali Highway and McKinley Park. 211 photographs
19. Denali Highway and McKinley Park. 14 photographs
20. Richardson Highway, 1930-1932. 188 photographs
21. Richardson Highway, 1933-1947. 209 photographs
22. Glenn Highway, Southwest District, 1940-1947. 207 photographs
23. Glenn Highway - 1955-1959, and Tok Cutoff, 1943-1951. 113 photographs
24. Southeast Alaska. 42 photographs
25. Copper River Highway, Edgerton Cutoff and Cordova. 114 photographs
26. Haines Highway. 202 photographs
27. Richardson Highway - 1950. 146 photographs

28. Willow-Talkeetna, and Summit Route. 36 photographs
29. Sterling Highway, Seward, Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula. 207 photographs.
30. Isolated areas, including Kodiak, Ruby, McGrath, Nulato, Dillingham, Naknek, Takotna, Bethel, Iliamna. 95 photographs
31. FAP 42 Glenn Highway, FAP 46, Tok Cutoff. 14 photographs
32. FAP 71 Richardson Highway. 55 photographs
33. FAP 62 Alaska Highway and Fairbanks Division. 51 photographs
34. FAP 95 and Juneau Div. 7 photographs
35. FAP 52 Denali Highway, Inc. McKinley Park. 33 photographs
36. FAP 21 Sterling Highway FAP 31. Seward, Anchorage Highway. 26 photographs
37. Hydaburg Highway 20-IS Hydaburg Village Road 20-A. 24 photographs
38. Douglas Highway. 119 photographs
39. Petersburg - Scow Bay reconstruction #481 - *Scow* Bay - cannery section. #3406. 89 photographs
40. Mitkof Highway. 174 photographs
41. White Pass Highway. 190 photographs
42. Kake Highway #3472 Kake Cannery Section. 79 photographs
43. Bridge surveys, D-11 (George M. Williams.) 37 photographs
44. Texas Creek Highway. 72 photographs
45. Endicott River. 23 photographs
46. Portage Road. 5 photographs
47. Ferragut River. 28 photographs
48. Tongass Highway, S miles 1-4. 157 photographs

49. Tongass Highway, S miles 5-9. 93 photographs
50. Tongass Highway, N. miles 1-9. 142 photographs
51. Tongass Highway, N. miles 10-16. 86 photographs
52. Patterson Bay - Sister Lake. 11 photographs
53. Mill Creek Highway. 17 photographs
54. Eyak Lake Highway. 189 photographs
55. North Aron-Lisianski In. 24 photographs
56. Blind River Trail. 20 photographs
57. Gartina Highway. 40 photographs
58. Tracadero Road. 3 photographs
59. Wrangell Highway. 205 photographs
60. El Nido Road. 7 photographs
61. Tenakee Inlet - Idaho In. 13 photographs
62. Seldovia. 26 photographs
63. Palmer Creek Highway. 56 photographs
64. Crow Creek Highway. 112 photographs
65. Seward Highway. miles 1-5. 200 photographs
66. Seward Highway. miles 6-12. 114 photographs
67. Seward Highway. miles 13-20. 214 photographs
68. Seward Highway. miles 21-30. 164 photographs
69. Seward Highway. miles 31-50. 175 photographs
70. Seward Highway. miles 51-60. 171 photographs
71. Seward Highway. miles 61-75. 138 photographs

72. Seward Highway Spurs. 217 photographs
73. Cooper River Highway. 17 photographs
74. Copper River Highway. 34 photographs
75. Katalla Highway. 43 photographs
76. Sitka Highway. 192 photographs
77. McKinley Park. 14 photographs
78. Johnson Pass Highway. 6 photographs
79. Chickamin River. 104 photographs
80. Afognak Lake. 58 photographs
81. Report of survey and proposed construction sec, C, D & E Turnagain Arm Road. 7 photographs and 4 maps.
82. Glacier Highway, Miles 19-28+. 140 photographs
83. Glacier Highway, Loop Road. 1926-1943. 125 photographs
84. Glacier Highway, Thane Road. 106 photographs
85. Glacier Highway, Spurs. 170 photographs
86. Point Agassiz Highway. 39 photographs
87. [Along Alaska Railroad, September, 1942.] 37 photographs
88. Petersburg Creek Highway. 29 photographs
89. Stedman Street Bridge DA-NR-2. 40 photographs
90. Stedman Street Survey DA-NR-3. 6 photographs
91. Kelsall Canyon Route, Present Haines Highway, Copper River Highway, Seward-Anchorage A2, B3 Richardson Highway. Section H Alaska Freightlines Terminal 1. 40 photographs
92. II. C. 45 photographs

93. III. 40 photographs
94. Monthly reports. 199 photographs
95. General, Juneau, Sitka, Haines, and Cordova. 93 photographs
[Haines-25, 27, 29, 30 include the State ferry *Chilkoot* per Jim Geraghty, Feb. 2014]
96. Pictures taken 9/52 on an inspection trip with Mr. Archibald. 33 photographs
97. Kodiak. 22 photographs
98. Construction Juneau area routes 2 and 31. 50 photographs
99. Glacier Highway. 48 photographs
100. Views of Alaska construction and miscellaneous scenes. All Interior Alaska-Tok-40 mile. (Alaska Road Commission.) 26 photographs
101. Interior. 28 photographs
102. Turnagain Arm. 239 photographs
103. Report of survey and proposed construction on sections F-1 and F-2 of the Turnagain Arm Road (Seward-Anchorage) By: R.V. Killewich, Highway Engineer. 13 photographs and 3 maps
104. Nome, Alaska views showing gold dredges, mining operation of Paul Mathis? Also shows storm of 1913 and damages to Nome with photos by Lomen Bros. and Arctic Studio. 68 photographs
105. Photographs of various Alaska scenics and highways, 1949-1951. 294 photographs
Contents include:
- Part I Alaska Highway
 - Part II Glenn Highway
 - Part III Haines Cutoff
 - Part IV Richardson Highway
 - Part V 40-mile Dawson Road
 - Part VI Copper River Highway
 - Part VII Wards Cove Pulp Mill
 - Part VIII Route 2 Glacier
 - Part IX Route 3 Seward-Anchorage
 - Part X Route 4 Cordova
 - Part XI Route 5 Kenai River

Part XII	Mitkof
Part XIII	Salmon River Highway
Part XIV	Route 11 Sitka
Part X V	Crow Creek Highway
Part XVI	Palmer Creek Highway
Part XVII	Hope Highway
Part XVIII	Wrangell
Part XIX	Texas Creek
Part XX	Afognak lake
Part XXI	Douglas
Part XXII	Cordova
Part XXIII	Resurrection Bay
Part XXIV	Nash Road
Part XX V	Route 34 Seward
Part XXVI	Miscellaneous

106. Fairbanks Division Highways. FAP 37, FAP 61, FAS 670, FAS 680, FAS 671, FAS 750. 159 photographs.
107. Series A: 22 lantern slides: maps of Alaska, road and bridge construction, bridges, telegraph stations, dogs, reindeer.
- Series B: 78 lantern slides, contents: "Scenic Attractions of the Alaska Highway"; a selection of pictures taken in 1942-1943 by Gail Pinkstaff, photographer, Public Works Administration.
108. South Central and Southeast Alaska, 946 photographs.
- 147 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. See in picture: Nancy Ubbellodhe (now Mrs. Geroge Tousley), Hugh Stoddart, Harry Stonehouse. Also William A. Wood.
- 148 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. Left to right: Bill Wood, Vance Blackwell, Keith Boyd, Warren King, Bob Rabe, Chr. Wyller, Erv Hagerup (not an employee), and Bob Garrison, with Diana.
- 149 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. Bill Wood (with cones), Keith Boyd, Olive Boyd (bent over)
- 150 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. Left to right: Ellen Kiely, Mildred Wyller, Olive Boyd, Florence Holmquist
- 151 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. See in picture: Mr. & Mrs. John Gibbs, Lyman Ellsworth (in checkered shirt), author of "Guys on Ice", Patricia Carroll, Donna Wood (daughter of Wm. A. Wood) Betty Liddle.
- 152 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. Presentation of gold wrist watch to retiring Harry Stonehouse. Mr. Hugh Stoddart made presentation.
- 153 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. General view of area.
- 154 BPR picnic – Auke Bay – July 1951. See in picture: Left to right – E. H. Cowan, S. R. Duke, Eldora Duke, Clarence Bumgarner, Martha Doyle, Betty Liddle, and Mile Tormey.
- 155 The B. M. French family. Baird, Mildred and daughter Evelyn.
- 156 February – 1952. On occasion resignation of Vance Blackwell. Presentation by Mr. Chr Wyller to Mr. Blackwell. In background: Bill Clark, Jerry Miller, Bob Killewich, Paul Doyle.

109. Juneau--Maintenance Area: Routes 2 & 31. 11 Photographs.
110. Juneau--Glacier Highway--Report of Survey and Proposed Construction on Sections B and L Glacier Highway Alaska Forest Highway in Tongass National Forest. 25 Photographs.
111. Juneau-Thane Section--Routes 2 & 31. 28 Photographs.
112. Juneau-Douglas Bridge Re-wiring. Project 31--Maintenance. 3 Photographs.
113. Juneau Equipment Depot, Seward Highway, Cordova Highway, Wrangell, Sitka Highway, Hyder, Moose Pass Highway, Equipment and buildings. 234 Photographs.
114. Juneau--Glacier Highway Miles 12-18. 169 Photographs.
115. Haines Cut-off Highway Mile 38-55. 10 Photographs.
116. Hyder Dock; Salmon River Highway. 166 Photographs.
117. Hyder Area--Maintenance Routes 9 & 18. 28 Photographs.
118. Ketchikan Construction Area Route 1. 90 Photographs.
119. Tongass Highway Project I-D6, E4. 47 Photographs.
120. Tongass Highway Project 1-B7, G3. 65 Photographs.
121. Ketchikan Beaver Creek Falls (Southern terminus) and Loring (Northern terminus) North Tongass Highway. U.S. Dept. of Commerce Bureau of Public Roads Division 10. Report of survey and proposed construction of Sections G, I, J, Alaska Forest Highway. 6 Photographs.
122. Ketchikan--Route 1 Surveys Sections E & H. 13 Photographs.
123. Petersburg--Construction Area Routes 7 & 26. 4 Photographs.
124. Sitka--Survey Route 11--Indian Creek Foundation Tests. 7 Photographs.
125. Wrangell--Route 16--Point Agassiz. 8 Photographs.
126. Wrangell--Route 16; Project 16-A3, B2, C3, D2. 18 Photographs.
127. Yakutat Highway; including Yakutat Cannery. 33 Photographs.

128. Copper River Highway, Thane--Glacier Highway. 43 Photographs.
129. Cordova--Routes 4 & 32; Airport Snow Removal Feb. and March 1951; Copper River Flood, 1954. 103 Photographs.
130. Cordova--Routes 4--&32. 22 Photographs.
131. Snow Plows--Equipment Maintenance. 15 Photographs.
132. Alaska Highway--Section B. 35 Photographs.
133. Whittier--Portage. 6 Photographs.
134. Anchorage-Seward Area, Route 3. 5 Photographs.
135. Seward-Anchorage Area, Route 3. 5 Photographs.
136. Point Agassiz Highway, Route 26. Inspection Report. 6 Photographs.
137. Kenai River Highway. 10 Photographs.
138. Alaska Road Commission personal, individual and group portraits. ca. 1950-1959. 35 photographs.
139. ***The numbers marked with an X are oversize Photographs and are located in PCA Oversize.***
- 139-1 Glen E. Edgerton, Engineer officer, Alaska Road Commission, 1911-1915 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
- 139-2 Major Layson E. Atkins. Engineer officer, Alaska Road Commission, 1930-1932 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
- 139-3X Ike P. Taylor, Chief Engineer, Alaska Road Commission, 1932-1950 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
- 139-4X Wilds P. Richardson, President, Alaska Road Commission, 1905-1917 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
- 139-5X James G. Steese, President, Alaska Road Commission, 1920-1927 [left profile, 112 length portrait].
- 139-6X Malcolm Elliott, President, Alaska Road Commission, 1927-1932 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].

- 139-7X John R. Noyes. Commissioner of Roads for Alaska, 1948-1951 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
- 139-8X Angelo F. Ghiglione, Commissioner of Roads for Alaska, 1951-Sept. 26, 1956 [full face, head and shoulders portrait].
140. Haines Highway and miscellaneous highway scenes. Includes: Steese Highway, Glenn Highway, Taylor Highway, Haines Cutoff, Tok Cutoff, Anchor River Bridge, ice-fencing, others. 100, 35mm slides, inventory in container. Includes aerial photographs of Turnagain Arm --Rainbow Station, Falls Creek, Indian, Seward Highway, and the Alaska Railroad.
141. &142. Unprocessed
143. Unprocessed and unidentified negatives
144. Alaska Highway. 270 photos. Album was acquired with no provenance from a donor in Wyoming. Many of the photos were processed by Kay Studio, Laramie, Wyo. The album type is consistent with the other albums in this collection.
- Signs in photos read: HQ 1st Bn 340th Engrs., Capt. T.M. Maxwell, Lt. E.C. Robertson.; Beaver Creek Company B Relay Station; Co. B. 340th Engineers, Capt, J.C. Blackwood, 1st Lt. L.A. Ormsby, 2nd Lt. C.M. Wimberly, 2nd LT. A.A. Marston, 1st. Sgt. A.C. Tweedy.
- Four photos pasted into the last page appear to be a military camp in a tropical area during the same era.
145. Division File No.7597 to No. 7913
Route: Taku River and Proposed Taku River Highway
July 25, 1951 – July 3, 1952; 130 photographs by H.A. Stoddart, E.H. Cowan

INVENTORY OF ORIGINAL NEGATIVES

Negatives stored in freezer in Vault

1 Envelope

6 negatives (3 ½ x 6): 14-286, 14- 288, 14-290, 14-291, 14-293, 14-294

*g:hist/PCA's/Pca61
updated. 8/10/08*