

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

United States Coast Guard, 17th District, Juneau

Light Stations in Alaska Photograph Collection, 1955-1963

PCA 94

ACCESSION: David L. Cipra, Chief Photojournalist for the United States Coast Guard 17th District at Juneau, donated 530 color slides to the Alaska Historical Library in January, 1979. Some photographs have been added.

ACCESS: The collection is open to research.

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

PROCESSING: The slides and photographs are sleeved in Mylar and housed in archival containers.

Historical Note

When the U.S. Treasury Department was created in the 1790's, responsibility for aids to navigation shifted from colonial and state governments to the national level. In 1852, the Light-House Board was created within the U.S. Treasury Department and 12 lighthouse districts were formed. Alaska was added later, in a 13th district including Oregon and Washington. In January 1869, the government began to reserve lands for navigational aids. George Davidson of the U.S. Coast Survey prepared a detailed report for Alaska recommending specific locations for lighthouses, buoys and unlighted beacons. However the report was ignored by Congress which had set aside no land in Alaska for that purpose. In 1900 Congress finally established light stations in Alaska; twelve stations were located along the coasts. All but 2 of the light stations remained functional until the 1960's and 1970's. [From "Aids to Navigation in Alaska History," Alaska Div. of Parks, Office of Statewide Cultural Programs, Nov. 1974, pp. 4-18.]

Scope and Contents Note

The collection contains the U.S. Coast Guard's publication, "Aids to Navigation in Alaska History," 35mm slides and a few photographs of Alaska lighthouses, lighthouse construction, and surrounding facilities. *NOTE: Numbering system: PCA94-Adak-1, PCA94-Five Finger-1, etc.*

Inventory

Station (number of images)

Folder 1

Adak (14)
Annette Island (28)
Attu (35)
Barwell (13)
Base Ketchikan (29)

Folder 2

Biorka (37)
Cape Hinchinbrook (11)
Cape St. Elias (38)
Cape Sarichef (44)
Cape Spencer (22)
Eldred Rock (6)

Folder 3

Five Finger (93*)
Guard Island (4)
Mary Island (13)
Ocean Cape (10)
Point Higgins (4)

Folder 4

Point Retreat (25)
Port Clarence (2)
Saint Paul (4)
Scotch Cap (20)
Sentinel Island (30)
Spruce Cape (9)
Sitkinak Island (10)
Tree Point (31)

* Selected sites numbered August 1999

Folder 5

Aids to Navigation in Alaska History, History and Archaeology Series No. 7, Office of Statewide Cultural Programs, Alaska Division of Parks, November 1974. (57 p.)