

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

DeArmond, R.N., collector

Miscellaneous Alaskan views, ca. 1913-1950
Bear Creek Mining Co., Anchorage pioneer Nellie E. Brown, St. Michael and Ft. St. Michael

PCA 200

These photographs were received from R.N. DeArmond in 1981 and are divided into three parts.

Inventory

Part 1: Views of the mining operations of the Bear Creek Mining Co. in the Upper Kobuk Valley, taken by Mac's Foto, Anchorage.

Part 2: Selected views from Nellie Brown's collection of Knik, Ship Creek and Anchorage areas, 1915-1917.

Part 3: Views of buildings and people at St. Michael and Fort St. Michael collected by a Mr. Grenfel when he was stationed there as an engineer in the military service, 1913-1914. (Acc# 1980-003)

INVENTORY

Part 1: Mining operations of the Bear Creek Mining Co. in the Upper Kobuk Valley. The photographs, taken by Mac's Foto, Anchorage, show the mine operators collecting ore samples for analyzing Copper content.

- 1 Kobuk Village on the Upper Kobuk [River; aerial view of village buildings.] #13020, Mac's Foto.
- 2 Hole 181-A drilling [men operating drilling rig using tripod wooden frame to attach hoist.] #13005, Mac's Foto.
- 3 [Hoist operator, at top of tripod, recoupling power drilling head of core drilling unit.] #13003, Mac's Foto.
- 4 [Driller Allen looks up the tripod before "going back in the hole." Allen operates the engine that drives the bit into the ground.] #13004, Mac's Foto.
- 5 [Hoist operator using spruce poles to feed cable onto drum at Copper Prospect site.] #13043, Mac's Foto.
- 6 [Two men guiding drill rod into ground to obtain core sample -- 1/2 mile from Bear Creek Mining Co. camp.] #13009, Mac's Foto.
- 7 [Two men attaching a section of drilling rod to machine used for drilling.] #13008, Mac's Foto.
- 8 [Man on right operating hoist to pull up hollow diamond "bit" containing core sample; man on left recording depth.] #13044, Mac's Foto.
- 9 [Two men using huge wrench to break joint on head of diamond core drill so core sample can be released.] #13010, Mac's Foto.
- 10 [Drill operator takes core from diamond bit and his helper puts it in wooden trough; depth of sample later recorded.] #13042, Mac's Foto.
- 11 [Pile of discarded core samples from hole 181; hole not used further because drill bit stuck.] #13006, Mac's Foto.
- 12 [Section of core sample in shear machine prior to assaying sample for metal content.] #13047, Mac's Foto.

- 13 [Rows of drill core samples with each analyzed to show depth and area of deposit as well as richness of copper content and other valuable metals.] #13045, Mac's Foto.

Part 2: Selected views from Nellie E. Brown's collection. Jack and Nellie Brown homesteaded near Anchorage in 1915. Jack Brown built boats and ferried passengers and supplies across the Knik Arm.

- 14 Nellie E. Brown, 1917. [Mrs. Brown standing in front of tent, holding rifle, 2 dogs on right.]
- 15 Jack and Nellie's homestead, 5 miles out of Anchorage [two story house with smaller log building, right; area is now part of Elmendorf Air Force Base.]
- 16 [Fenced-in yard filled with ducks being raised by the Brown's.]
- 17 First boat built in Anchorage [Jack Brown worked on hull of boat.]
- 18 [Jack Brown beside partly built boat.]
- 19 [Jack Brown's boat PROGRESS being launched at Knik Arm; 5 men and 2 horses near boat.]
- 20 [Horse drawn wagon in shallow water near a barge and a boat used for hauling supplies; six men working.]
- 21 Nellie's clothes line -- Sheep (sic) Creek [four men on beach with clothes on line above them.]
- 22 P.O. and Federal buildings, Anchorage [Post Office, center, Federal Building, right; with Marshall's, far right; people on snowy path.] Hegg and Lawrence photo.
- 22a Nellie Brown. Knik. 1911. [Waterfront view with dories & dock.]

Part 3: Photographs of buildings and people at St. Michael and Ft. St. Michael, 1913-1914. A Mr. Grenfel was stationed at Fort St. Michael as an engineer and collected these views, very few of which have identification. All are postcard size.

- 23 Russian gun boat, at St. Michael, Alaska [close up of deck; three men on right. 1913(?).

- 24 Russian sailors landing at St. Michael, Alaska, Sept. 1913 [sailors in launch, center; dock buildings beyond.]
- 25 Tidal wave, St. Michael, Alaska, 1913 [view from water of flooded buildings.] #C-10.
- 26 Old Russian Church, St. Michael, Alaska [exterior view; picket fence, foreground.]
- 27 [Group of men gathered around a Loyal Order of Moose banner.]
- 28 This is the FM bunch. 1913. [six men standing in grassy area. Man second from right is Grenfel.]
- 29 [Unidentified group of men in uniform beside passenger train cars.] #10.
- 30 [Printed Christmas dinner menu for Company "B", 30th Infantry at Ft. St. Michael, Alaska. 1913.]
- 31 [Unidentified man holding a long stick.]
- 32 [Unidentified man seated in front of a fence; building at right.]
- 33 [Unidentified man in uniform pushing a lawn mower.]
- 34 [Unidentified man holding a pair of skis.]
- 35 [Man, seated on building steps; sled in foreground.]
- 36 [Dog team and driver.]
- 37 [Right profile of young man in dress suit and hat.]
- 38 [Unidentified man seated in front of a wall.]
- 39 [Three men seated on a bed; man on left holding a guitar.]
- 40 [Group of men, with skis and snowshoes, standing on a snowy slope; dog team on snowbank above.]
- 41 [Two men on snowy street; other people behind them.]

- 42 [Woman holding a kitten and sitting among flowers; building beyond.]
- 43 [Two women seated at a table; man on right; standing, beside a phonograph player.]
- 44 [Two couples; man on right pouring liquid into a glass,]

- 45 [Four women and a baby seated beside a stream; man, kneeling, on left.]
- 46 [Group of Eskimos in winter dress; log building beyond.]
- 47 Cracker eating contest [group of people watching 9 boys eating crackers. July 4th, 1914.]
- 48 [Loaded sleigh beside log cabin.]
- 49 [Snow covered ground; cabin in trees.]

g/hist/PCA's/PCA200
rev. 9/6/02