

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Muncaster, Frances Noyes, 1874-1952

Frances Muncaster Photograph Collection, ca. 1860-1950s

PCA 202

120 photographs

Processed by: Staff

ACQUISITION: Following the death of his uncle, William Muncaster, Austin Simonds donated the Muncaster collection of personal papers and photographs to the Alaska Historical Library in 1968. Manuscripts form a separate collection, MS 90.

ACCESS: The collection is available for viewing, however, the photographs may not be photocopied.

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PROCESSING: The photographs are numbered, sleeved in Mylar and stored in archival folders and box.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Frances Noyes Muncaster was born Arabelle Frances Patchen in Saint Paul, MN in 1874. She married Samuel G. Allen in 1892, at 18 but left him in 1895 and went East, acquiring some success as a theatre actress. Thomas Clarke Noyes fell in love with her after seeing her on stage and they were married in 1897. Settling in Candle, Alaska, Tom established the T.C. Noyes Banking Co. and became associated with the mining industry. In about 1905, they adopted a five-year old half-Native girl, Bonnie. A financial disaster closed the banking operation in 1910, but not before Frances mushed a dog team across the Seward Peninsula with \$10,000 of her own money to try and save it. Soon after the bank closed they moved to Tongass Is., near Ketchikan.

Thomas Noyes died in 1916, and in 1919, Frances married Bill Muncaster. They owned a cabin near Haines but spent much of their time traveling, camping and hunting throughout Alaska. She staked her own mining claims in Squaw Creek, B.C., and for the next 10-12 years, she and Bill mined them in the summers and traveled winters. Frances prospected until her death, Oct. 28, 1952. Her husband, Bill, died Feb. 6, 1968.

William Muncaster wanted to see historically important material preserved. Much of the collection belonged to Frances Muncaster and was acquired during her marriage to Tom Noyes (1897-1916). [From: *Inventory of the Frances Noyes Muncaster Papers, 1850-1952*, Louetta Ward.]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Photographs include mining and life with Tom Noyes at Candle and Nome, also her life with Bill Muncaster, in McCarthy and Haines whom she married in 1919. Family members and various views of Frances including her early years in the theater are also included.

INVENTORY

1. Group portrait at a mining claim on Candle Creek. Tom and Frances Noyes are sitting in the middle of the view, ca. 1910.
2. Claim on Candle Creek. [9 unidentified people, two are probably Tom and Frances Noyes]
3. Frances Noyes Muncaster's boat, ARCTURUS.
4. [SS QUEEN. Pacific Coast SS Co.]

5. [SS QUEEN. Close up starboard view. Unidentified passengers.]
- 6-10. Miners with shovels working at a sluice box; probably at Candle Creek claim.]
11. [Store in a two-story building with snow piled high across the front; probably in Candle, Alaska.]
12. [Village on the waterfront, probably Candle.]
13. [Three large warehouse buildings partly submerged in what might be flood waters; logs floating in the water. Location unidentified.]
14. Candle Creek Society. [A group of three ladies and six gentlemen, Mr. Noyes is on extreme left and Mrs. Noyes probably on his left.]
15. Greek church at Unalaska, Alaska.
16. [A well-dressed lady (Mrs. Noyes ?) walking on the beach at Nome, Alaska.]
17. [A faraway view of Nome taken from a boat.]
18. A reindeer and sleds at Nome, Alaska.
- 19-20. A group of 21 Eskimos and 8 dogs shown in the winter at Point Hope, Alaska. Similar views.]
- 21-24. Cannery at Nakat Inlet.
25. C.W. Home Co. private wharf at Nakat Inlet Cannery.
26. [Six men in a skiff on the water with Dutch Harbor in the background.]
27. Gene Jacquot greeting Major S.H. Howe on arrival of first Greyhound bus at Jacquot's Post. Yukon, Canada. [A group of 14 black military men standby. Probably the first Greyhound over the new Alcan Hwy [Alaska Highway].
28. [A main street in Anchorage, c. 1910.]
29. Mrs. Noyes' daughter Bonnie in her playhouse at Candle, Alaska. [A second little girl is unidentified]

30. Mrs. T.C. Noyes and Bonnie in her "Hart Delight" [mother and daughter and an unidentified girl in a canoe].
31. Traveling from Nome to Candle one spring 1905(?). [Mr. and Mrs. Noyes? with Bonnie and four unidentified adults in an open sleigh pulled by two horses.]
32. [Freight dog team at Candle on trip to Icy Cape; probably Mrs. Noyes on the sled.]
33. Mrs. T.C. Noyes personal dog team at Candle, Alaska [dogs hitched to sled].
34. Mrs. Noyes with Bonnie's baby. Whitehorse, YT. 1929.
35. Bonnie and her baby. c. 1929.
36. Bill Muncaster at White River, YT. 1929. [faded image]
37. Bonnie's husband, Larry Crozier [full length portrait]
38. Frances (Noyes) Muncaster's boat ELMIRA. It was named after T.C. Noye's mother and name was later changed to RANGER NO. 4 [sold to the U.S.F.S.]
39. William Muncaster in Ketchikan 1918.
40. Mountain sheep Mrs. Noyes got on the White River and took to Tongass Island, AK.
41. [Dog with bird in its mouth.]
42. [Woman, wearing a large hat, seated in a skiff]
43. Frances's first home in Candle [ornate store, book shelf, lace curtains].
44. ½ length portrait of Arabelle Frances Allen, 1893.
45. ¾ length portrait of Arabelle Frances Allen, 1893.
46. Arabelle Frances Allen, 1896 [half-length portrait; dressed for the part of "Marco" in THE MARBLE HEART].
47. [Full length portrait of Frances Allen; standing.]
48. [Full length portrait of Frances Allen, seated]

49. My girl [head and shoulders portrait of Frances Allen]
50. Mrs. T.C. Noyes at Coeur D'Alene [Frances Allen Noyes seated in a tree in full bloom].
51. [Full length, right profile of Frances Allen in floor-length dress]
52. Mr. T.C. Noyes [head and shoulders portrait].
53. Frances and Tommie [Noyes] in Europe [in 1907; the two are standing beside an early automobile]
54. [Tom and Frances Noyes in front of small tent].
55. [Frances and Tom Noyes on deck of small boat.]
56. [Tom Noyes reading; chair propped up against a tree.]
57. [Tom Noyes seated in chair in hallway of his house in Candle.]
58. [Hallway in Noyes' Candle, AK home; open stairway, left.]
59. [Room in Noyes' home; curtained window, left.]
60. Our sitting room [bookcase and mirrored bureau of drawers.]
61. [Frances Noyes (?) seated on overturned skiff; river beyond; Candle, AK]
62. [Bonnie Noyes as a young girl standing in an open door.]
63. [Bonnie Noyes as a young girl and unidentified young boy seated on a porch.]
64. [Bonnie Noyes, seated, holding a small "Christmas" tree; snow on ground.]
65. Bonnie Noyes [full length view of Bonnie as a young woman].
66. [Bonnie Noyes seated on a log post over a rushing streams of water.]
67. Bonnie Noyes and unidentified young man standing at base of hill.]
68. [2 women and a man in front of a small tent.]

69. [Frances Muncaster (?) beside a log building.]
70. [Framed tintype portrait of a woman and young girl.]
71. [Room with dresser and chair, curtained windows.]
72. [Room with book shelves; lamps on table.]
73. [Exterior view, 2-story house; other buildings, left and beyond.]
74. [Man and woman in doorway of a small shack.]
75. [Dining table in foreground; sun streaming through windows.]
76. [Living room with 1890's decor; flowered rug and couch cover; glass bookcase, lace curtains].
77. [Man with small herd of reindeer.]
78. [Group portrait of Noyes family; front row, 1 to r: Frances Noyes, Ruth Noyes Heinze (Dollie), Mrs. John Noyes, Mrs. McWhite? and Mrs. Jack Noyes; back row, 1. to r.: Arthur P. Heinze, Tom Noyes, John Noyes (Tom's father), Jack Noyes(?), and Mr. McWhite(?).]
- 79-80. [Similar views of the Tom Noyes and Arthur Heinze families on steps of log building; other unidentified people.]
81. [5 people seated on porch of log building, including Tom Noyes and Arthur Heinze]
82. [3 men leaning on large rock formation; Tom Noyes, center and Arthur Heinze, right.]
83. [Head and shoulders portrait of Ruth Noyes Heinze wearing black dress, pearl necklace and large black hat.]
84. [Ruth Noyes Heinze in yard of brick house; wearing long white dress.]
85. [Ruth Noyes Heinze sitting on large boulder; hills beyond.]
86. [Ruth Noyes Heinze? and Frances Noyes? beside large boulder.]

87. [Two unidentified women standing on tree stump; probably members of Noyes family.]
88. [Woman in white blouse, black skirt, leaning on large boulder.]
89. [Two women seated on porch of log building.]
90. [Two men, one sighting with rifle, in front of log building.]
91. [Frances Muncaster and Earl Lammers standing on snowy ground; hills beyond] 1947.
92. George Capaul and Bill Muncaster [standing by porch steps]. Feb. 19, 1958.
93. Bill Ainge--claim on Squaw Creek -- John Dalton [or, Jack Pringle?] and Eric Oslund [standing in front of a car].
94. Garnet Martin [in grassy clearing, holding rifle].
95. [Home of William and Frances Muncaster, Haines; exterior view.]
96. [3/4 portrait of Frances Muncaster(?) dressed in fur coat, flowered hat holding a fur muff.]
97. [portrait of 3 women.] [tintype]
- 98-98a. Laurena C.P. Haskins [head and shoulder portrait; explanation of photograph written by Mrs. Haskins on Jan. 19, 1903].
99. [Group portrait of soldiers in the Union Army. U.S. Civil War.]
100. [Ema Haskins Patchen and unidentified young woman; ½ length studio portrait.]
101. [Full length studio portrait of young girl wearing hat, long coat and high buttoned shoes.]
102. [Head and shoulders full face studio portrait of unidentified young woman.]
103. [Head and shoulders, ½ left profile, of an unidentified young woman; studio portrait.]

104. Mrs. Harriet Newell Patchen, nee DeGolyer, 1891. Born 1817, died 1893 [head and shoulders full face studio portrait].
105. [Full length studio portrait of young boy standing next to a dog.]
106. [3/4 length studio portrait of two young boys; no identification.]
107. [Full length full face studio portrait of a young man.]
108. [1/3 length, slightly left profile, studio portrait of a young man.]
109. Emma Patchen [little girl on a stool; studio portrait].
110. Bradford DeGolyer [young boy on draped seat; studio portrait].
111. Elnor and Thomas Shreues [full length, full face, studio portrait].
112. [Damaged, 1/2 studio portrait, of a young man.]
113. Clement Patchen [3/4 length studio portrait].
114. Osbern? [full length studio portrait of a young man in uniform of Union Army; he was killed during the Battle of Gettysburg].
115. Charles Haskins [full length studio portrait; he served in the U.S. Civil War].
116. [Two men in uniform (Union Army, Civil War); standing and sitting in doorway of tent][tintype]
117. [Informal portrait of young girl -- no identification.]
118. [Man standing; woman seated; dog in center; Frances and Tom Noyes(?)]
119. [Bill Muncaster beside log house; snow on ground.]
120. [Group of two women and three young boys.]