

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Simmons, Sheldon B.

Shell Simmons Photograph Collection, ca. 1929-1996

Alaska Airlines & Aviation

PCA 356

2,113 photographs, 1 box slides
slide viewing equipment
32 linear feet

Processed: 7/1998
By: Debbie Finley & India Spartz
Inventory: M.C. Harris, 11/1999

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by the Sheldon B. Simmons Trust, Nina L. Brown, trustee in February 1995. Manuscripts form a separate collection, MS 144. (Acc. No. 95-8)

ACCESS: The photos may be viewed. However the images may not be photocopied.

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

PROCESSING: The photos are numbered; a series of color slides have not been processed as of 8/98. Folder level inventory available.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Pioneer aviatory, Shell Simmons was born Oct. 8, 1908 in Clearwater County, Idaho. Simmons was one of Alaska's pioneer aviators, known as a "mercy pilot" who made daring rescues and contributed to commercial aviation. In 1935 he started Alaska Air Transport, a commercial air carrier business which merged with Marine Airways in 1939 to create Alaska Coastal Airlines. In 1962 the company joined with Bob Ellis' Ellis Airlines from Ketchikan to become Alaska Coastal-Ellis Airlines, the largest scheduled airline exclusively operating amphibians. Later they merged with Alaska Airlines and Simmons was made a board member until 1981 when he was named director emeritus. Shell Simmon died

[*Juneau Empire*, Nov. 16, 17, 1994]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS

Photographs cover the subjects of Alaska aeronautics , the history of Alaska Airlines and Alaska Air Transport, Inc., bush pilots of Alaska, accidents,.

INVENTORY

Box 1:

Folder 1:	(Photos 1-54)	Accidents - Airplane
Folder 2:	(Photos 55-69)	Accidents - Jan. 1943: Raising fatal wreck of Don Glass' Woodley Airways NC-14566
Folder 3:	(Photos 70-73)	Accidents - Lon Cope crash on Grand Island 8/1939
Folder 4:	(Photos 74-79)	Accidents - Saxman
Folder 5:	(Photos 80-81)	Accidents - SE -AS-KA
Folder 6:	(Photos 82-87)	Airlines - Alaska Air Transport, Inc.
Folder 7:	(Photos 88-94)	Airlines - Alaska Airlines
Folder 8:	(Photos 95-148)	Airlines - Alaska Coastal Airlines
Folder 9:	(Photos 149-150)	Airlines - Alaska Southern Airways

Folder 10:	(Photo 151)	Airlines - Alaska Washington Airways
Folder 11:	(Photo 152)	Airlines - Ketchikan Airways of Alaska
Folder 12:	(Photo 153)	Airlines - McGee Airways
Folder 13:	(Photos 154-155)	Airlines - Northern Airways - Carcross, Y.T.
Folder 14:	(Photos 156-163)	Airlines - Pacific Alaska Airways
Folder 15:	(Photo 164)	Airlines - Pacific Alaska Electra
Folder 16:	(Photos 165-166)	Airlines - Pan American Airways
Folder 17:	(Photo 167)	Airlines - Pollack Flying Service of Alaska (NC 16707)
Folder 18:	(Photos 168-200)	Airplanes - Aeromarine Klemm NC 199M 1933-34
Folder 19:	(Photos 201-206)	Airplanes - AERONCA Chief
Folder 20:	(Photos 207-209)	Airplanes - Aeronoca C-3 NC16250
Folder 21:	(Photos 210-213)	Airplanes - Bellanca
Folder 22:	(Photos 214-231)	Airplanes - Bellanca Skyrocket NCIIE, NC169N
Folder 23:	(Photos 232-237)	Airplanes - Color tinted views (originals in Box 4)
Folder 24:	(Photos 238-265)	Airplanes - Curtiss Jenny (JN4D) 1930-32
Folder 25:	(Photo 266)	Airplanes - Curtiss Kingbird
Folder 26:	(Photos 267-269)	Airplanes - Curtiss Robin
Folder 27:	(Photo 270)	Airplanes - Fairchild 22
Folder 28:	(Photos 271-290)	Airplanes - Fairchild 24, AK Air Transport
Folder 29:	(Photo 291)	Airplanes - Fokker Universal
Folder 30:	(Photos 292-321)	Airplanes - Grumman Goose & Grumman Widgeon
Folder 31:	(Photos 322-326)	Airplanes - Howard (N68189) Alaska Coastal - Ellis Airlines 1960's
Folder 32:	(Photo 327)	Airplanes - Junkens 34
Folder 33:	(Photos 327b-353)	Airplanes - Lockheed Vega - 47m & 49m, 1936-194(?)

Folder 34:	(Photos 354-358)	Airplanes - Loening (Keystone - Loening)
Folder 35:	(Photos 359-365)	Airplanes - Miscellaneous
Folder 36:	(Photos 366-370)	Airplanes - PBY
Folder 37:	(Photos 371-381)	Airplanes - Republic Seabee, 1950's
Folder 38:	(Photo 382)	Airplanes - Sikorsky S-42 [S-43]
Folder 39:	(Photos 383-389)	Airplanes - Steerman
Folder 40:	(Photos 390-393)	Airplanes - Stinson - Gullwing
Folder 41:	(Photos 394-423)	Airplanes - Stinson "PATCO" (NC-452H), Stinson (SM8A-SM2A?) - Panhandle Air Trans. Co.
Folder 42:	(Photos 424-426)	Airplanes - Travel Air 6000
Folder 43:	(Photos 427-445)	Airplanes - unidentified
Folder 44:	(Photos 446-457)	Atlin, B.C. (1969)
Folder 45:	(Photos 458-461)	Bergstrand, W. - composite photos, 1932
Folder 46:	(Photo 462)	Cordova, AK
Folder 47:	(Photos 463- 490)	Fishing trips - fly in
Folder 48	(Photos 491-493)	Gastineau Flying Club AERONCA C-3
Folder 49:	(Photos 494-521)	Glaciers (497-500 and 507-508 -two people, climbing on Mendenhall Glacier; 515 -color photo of Mendenhall Glacier)
Folder 50:	(Photos 522-537)	Hasselborg Lake, AK
Folder 51:	(Photos 538-633)	Individuals - not indentified
Folder 52:	(Photos 634-641)	Graham, Gordon
Folder 53:	(Photo 642)	Haines, AK
Folder 54:	(Photos 643-654)	Hunting & fishing scenes
Folder 55:	(Photos 655-659)	Individuals - identified

- Folder 56: (Photos 660-666) Joyce, Mary (with Shell Simmons)
- Folder 57: (Photos 667-687) Juneau, AK
- Folder 58: (Photos 688-700) Ketchikan, AK
- Folder 59: (Photos 701-714) King Salmon Lake (near Taku River)

Box 2

- Folder 1: (Photos 715-850) Kluane Lake, Y.T. – road trips, fishing trips, etc.
- Folder 2: Photos 851-854) Pelican, AK
- Folder 3: (Photos 855-894) Scenics
- Folder 4: (Photos 895-904) Ships/Boats
- Folder 5: (Photos 905-931) Simmons, Bee Riedle
- Folder 6: (Photos 932-987) Simmons, Shelby & family, home
- Folder 7: (Photos 988-999) Pilots/Aviators
- Folder 8: (Photos 1000-1012) Simmons, Shell – 1920-1930's
- Folder 9: (Photos 1013-1057) Simmons, Shell – 1930's-1940's – Aviation
- Folder 10: (Photos 1058-1099) Simmons, Shell – 1950's-1970's
- Folder 11: (Photos 1100-1104) Telegraph Creek, B.C.
- Folder 12: (Photos 1105-1115) Tulsequah

Box 3

- Folder 1: (Photos 1116-1198) Simmons, Shell – Yukon River Boat Trip, ca. 1929
- Folder 2: (Photos 1199-2068) Simmons, Bee Riedle Simmons' album
- Folder 3: (Photos 2069-2083) Misc. photos
- Folder 4: (Photos 2084-2085) Lockheed Vega 47m Petrich 1939 – oversize
- Folder 5: (Photos 2086-2103) Oversized photos

Films: (Items 2104-2106) 3, 8mm films
 In August of 2009, AMIPA cleaned and repaired all three 8mm films and then transferred them to BetaSP tape. The original silent, color film was rehoused. #2105 and #2106 are approximately 100 feet in length; #2104 is approximately 400 feet in length.

VHS videocassette (#2107) Alaska Airlines 60th Anniversary promo featuring Alaska Bush pilot Shell Simmons, 2min.

Box 4

Folder 1: (Photos 232-237) Airplanes - Color tinted views -
 Original images (copies in box 1, folder 23)

Items: (#1-6) Picture frames for tinted photos, includes framing hardware

Box 5

Color Stereo Slides 2 drawers of Alaska-related slides including scenes from Juneau, Barrow, Fairbanks, Mitchell Bay, Lituya Bay

2 drawers of non Alaska-related slides including scenes from Bangkok, HongKong, Hawaii, Manila, Bermuda, New Zealand

Box 6

Items 2 plug-in stereo viewers
 1 battery operated stereo viewer
 1 stereo slide changer
 box of plastic frames for stereo slides