

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Fisher, Mabel and Emil

Mabel and Emil Fisher Photograph Collection, ca. 1937-1952

PCA 368

90 photographs

Processed: 12/96

By: India Spartz

ACQUISITION: Carol Browning, niece of Emil and Mabel Fisher, loaned the photographs to the Library in 1995, for copying (Acc. No. 1996-001).

ACCESS: The photos may be viewed. However they may not be photocopied.

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

PROCESSING: The photographs are numbered. Some are captioned on the verso. A geographic-level inventory is available.

Biographical Note

The Fishers moved to Nome, Alaska in 1931 to teach at the Bureau of Indian Affairs school. During their careers with the BIA, the Fishers lived in Nome (1937-39), Unalakleet (1939-43), Hoonah (1943-46), Mt. Edgumbe (1946-49) and Nome (1949-52). In 1949, Mabel retired from the BIA and went to work at the Federal Jail in Nome while her husband worked for the BIA Reindeer Service. Emil Fisher was a colonel in the Alaska Territorial Guard ("Home Guard"). He died in a plane accident near Nome in 1952. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Fisher moved to California to live near relatives.

Scope and Contents

This collection of photographs depict the Eskimo families, and other residents and their traditional activities from Cape Prince of Wales, Hoonah (before the 1944 fire), Little Diomede, Unalakleet, where the Fishers lived and taught during their time in Alaska. Some of the photographs have captions on the verso, identified by Carol Browning and Vernon Everett Fisher. Some of the photographs were taken by Charles Menadelook.

Inventory

- 1-13 Cape Prince of Wales [Eskimo families and individuals and activities]
- 14-51 Hoonah, Alaska
- 52-55 Group portraits of people wearing fur parkas and mukluks
- 52 Fur clothing display at 5th annual N.W.A. Fair; photograph by Jacobs of Nome
- 53 Ivanoffs, from Unalakleet, are on far right
- 54 Unidentified
- 55 Ivanoffs, from Unalakleet, are on far right
- 56-64 Little Diomede [Walrus, walrus hunting, egg hunting. Charles Menadelook, photographer]
- 58 Traditional Gambell house with walrus hide roof; early to mid June, 1920
- 60 Men going whale hunting at Diomede, 1920s;

- 63 Egg hunting party on shores of Little Diomedede. The men will get eggs; the women will pick greens.
- 65-90 Unalakleet, Alaska [Unalakleet families, beluga whale kill, Traeger Trading Post, Alaska Territorial Guard]
- 65 [Oliver Anawrok, in the Covenant Church garden (Pastor, E. B. Larson)]
- 66 [Jessie Otten and children: _____, Tuk-far, holding Ruth; Jessie, holding baby Lois; Millie, Henry, Sam, and _____]
- 67 [Last chief, Nashalook, and his wife Du-thrak]
- 68 [Frank Ryan family: Stanley, Wilfred, _____, Mabel, and Sheldon]
- 74 [Frank Ryan's mother, Agnes, middle]
- 76 [Pete and Hannah Kotongan]
- 81 [Emil Fisher]
- 82 [Esther Agibinik]
- 84 [Selma Lockwood, her daughter Elaina, her son Clarence and husband Henry]
- 85 [Charlie Traeger]
- 86 [Charlie Traeger and Frank Ryan]
- 89 Lockwood family: George, Elaine, Selma, and Henry