

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Kirkeby, Hiram B., 1900-1991

Hiram B. Kirkeby Photograph Collection, ca. 1942

PCA 400

4 albums + loose photos (717 images)
1.25 linear ft.

Prepared by: Mary Claire Harris
November 1999

Provenance: The collection was donated by Lucille L. Kirkeby, daughter-in-law of Hiram Kirkeby, in 1999. (Accession no.1999-06).

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: Photographs are numbered. The albums are stored flat with acid-free tissue paper separating the pages. Photo corners were added where necessary. Single photos are sleeved in Mylar.

Biographical Note

Mr. Kirkeby grew up on a farm in Southern Minnesota. Due to a failed attempt at farming during the Depression he decided to take a course in Minneapolis at the Dunwoody Institute. There he studied cooking and baking. This led to a variety of jobs. He managed a cafeteria for Franklin Creamery in Minneapolis and worked a stint on the Alcan Highway in the early 1940's. He also worked at the atomic testing grounds in Nevada. Later he was a cook at Breezy Point Lodge, a well-known summer resort in Central Minnesota.

Scope and Contents Note

The photographs in the albums were taken and postcards collected by Hiram B. Kirkeby when he was employed as a cook during the construction of the Alcan Highway between Dawson Creek and Fort Nelson, B.C. (1942). While many of the items are labeled, some small snapshots are not. Kirkeby used the term *Alaskan Highway* for what is now known as the Alcan Highway. There are images of road construction, machinery, workers, the camps, eating halls, wildlife, and scenics of the towns and the highway.

Inventory

Album One:

1-333 Pictures of the Alaskan Highway Between Dawson Creek and Ft. Nelson in the Year 1942.

Album Two:

334-395 [Alcan Highway photos]

Album Three:

396-456 [Alcan Highway photos, includes African American U.S. Army workers #418, #428]

Album Four:

457-522 [Alcan Highway photos]

Folder Five:

523-534 [Commercial photos - scenic]

535-598 [Alcan Highway photos, includes scenes of Halfway Point celebration]

599-613 [Commercial photos - Haines]

- 614-653 [Commercial photos - Skagway & Vicinity]
654-661 [Postcards, 2 with personal messages]
- 662-692 [Alcan Highway photos]
- 693 [Postcard of] Yukon Huskie [husky]
- 694-709 [Alcan Highway photos, including Whitehorse and Lewes River]
- 710 [Commercial photo collage - Yukon Winter Carnival, Whitehorse - March 1945]
- 711 [Alcan Highway photo]
- 712-715 [Klondike Gold Rush (1898-1900) images by Eric Hegg, Larss & Duclos (P.E. Larss & J.E.N. Duclos)]
- 716-717 [Alcan Highway photos]

Folder Six:

Poem: "My First Trip on the Alcan Highway" by Eugene Wilkinson

Newspaper article: "Canol Project in Canada Manned Largely by Minnesotans," November 30, [1942]

Newspaper clipping: 3 annotated photos under headline, 'Alcan' Highway is a job for Paul Bunyan, September 30, 1942