

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Pryor, W. N. and Mildred

Pryor Family Trip to Alaska, 1968

PCA 539

240 - 2 X 2 colored slides
Inventory of slides
Post card collection
Alaska related publications
Personal list of names

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ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Coreen P. Hallenbeck in August 2010. Acc. # 2010-050. The collection was initially assembled by her parents W. N. Pryor and Mildred Clark during their 1968 trip to Alaska and Canada.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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

PROCESSING: This collection has been described at the folder level. Original order has been maintained. Originally, the slides were inside slide carousels in three boxes. The slides were placed in Light Impressions Archival SlideGuard Polypropylene sleeves, and all items were placed into pH-neutral folders. Inventory of slides can be found inside Folder # 4.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

W.N. Pryor, or Bill, was born 14 March 1900 in Allegany County, NY. He spent his early years on a farm. He left the farm to become an electrician in Hornell, NY. Bill worked as an electrician, steam engineer for a woodworking plant, and for the Hornell Board of Education, where he maintained and installed gas heating; he was superintendent of buildings and grounds when he retired in 1962.

On 30 June 1923, Bill Pryor and Mildred Clark married. They enjoyed adventures of camping and travel together. After Bill retired he maintained a hobby and business of gem and rock polishing and cutting. He built machinery for preparing and creating jewelry, and he and Mildred traveled to "rock" shows. Alaska was the biggest trip of their life, and the farthest they had ever been from home. Bill died 14 March 1982.

Mildred Clark was born on 11 April 1902 in what was then called Hornesville. She was 16 before she ventured as far as 18 miles from home by automobile with a friend's family. Her working career started at 16 at the Erie Railroad office and then the office of the local feed and grain store, where she was employed until her marriage. She balanced raising a daughter, acting as caregiver to elderly family members and neighbors, and church and family activities, while employed as bookkeeper for various businesses, and later as a clerk with the local WW2 Draft Board.

Mildred's advice, upon returning from Alaska was "Everyone should go to see beautiful Alaska!"

Along with Bill, she encouraged, enjoyed and was proud of their six grandchildren and followed their careers. She lived to see eleven great-grandchildren. Mildred died 20 September 1997 in Albany, NY. -- [C.f. donor notes.]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Slides and cards from the Pryor family trip to Canada and Alaska in 1968. Brochures and other publications related to Alaska. Personal list of names.

SUBJECTS

British Columbia, Toronto, Vancouver, Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Ice field, Mendenhall, Glacier, Carcross, Lake Bennett, Wrangell, Auke Lake, Inside passage, Cruise ship, Ferry boat, Native dance

INVENTORY

Folder 1

Slides showing first part of tourism trip: Toronto, Vancouver, Prince Rupert, Ketchikan, Juneau, Auke Lake, Mendenhall Glacier, Skagway, Petersburg, Carcross, Lake Bennett, Wrangell, Alert Bay.

Folder 2

Slides showing second part of tourism trip: Vancouver, Grouse Mt., Lake Capalino, Lion Mts., Frazier River, Thompson River, Mt. Fidelity, Mt. Sir McDonald, Columbia River, Lake Louise, Moraine Lake, Temple Mt., Bow River, Columbia Ice Field, Jasper.

Folder 3

1. CN Alaska Cruises 1968 brochure.
2. White Pass and Yukon Train Trip Guide: Welcome to the Gold Rush Trail of '98 Alaska & Yukon.
3. National Geographic School Bulletin, February 6, 1967, # 19.
4. National Geographic School Bulletin, October 16, 1967, #6.
5. *Alaska the 49th State in pictures*. Visual Geography Series. (rev. ed. ©1966)
6. *It's the great, big, broad land 'way up yonder... Inside passage*, By Louis Chiesi. "Odyssey" volume 2, number 1, spring 1969.

Folder 4

7. Package tour itinerary.
8. Inventory of slides.
9. Postcard collection.
10. Hand written list of people who viewed the collection.