Guide to Collection

Paullin, Joran Birkeland

Joran B. Paullin Slide Collection, 1959-1964

PCA 59

143 color slides, 35mm. (+ dup. set)  
2 cassettes (+ 2 dup., 1 original recording)  
1 box; .025 linear feet

Processed by: Staff

ACQUISITION: The slides and recorded narrative, with transcript, were loaned for copying to the State Library by Joran B. and Leland C. Paullin of Whitefish, Montana, in October of 1976.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted; however, the images may not be photocopied.

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PROCESSING: The slides were removed from the carrousels, copied and sleeved in Mylar. A narrative accompanies the slides (2 cassettes and transcription). A duplicate slide set and narrative recording were made and are stored with the collection.
Biographical Note

Joran Birkeland Paullin of Whitefish, Montana served as the principal and school teacher at the Bureau of Indian Affairs elementary schools in Little Diomede (1959-1961) and Buckland (1961 until spring of 1964.). Leland Colvin Paullin, her husband, worked as the schools’ plant manager.

Scope and Content Note

The slides show the lives and culture of the Eskimos on Little Diomede and Buckland. Many of the families and individuals are identified. Traditional activities such as walrus hunting, skinning, burial customs, the schools and school children, sod homes, fishing are depicted and the narrative offers history and additional information. A recorded narrative and transcription accompany the slides. Slide No. 1-58 (Part 1) depict their time in Buckland and Nos. 3-77 (Part 2) were taken in Little Diomede. The numbering in the Little Diomede index reflects the omission of some slides.

Inventory

Folder 1

Part 1 Buckland, Alaska 1961 - 1964

Slide No.:

1 Village at present site is divided by the Buckland River
   1 a Boardwalk near Buckland River
   1 b Leland C. Paullin standing among treeless, rolling hills
   1 c Joran Paullin picking blueberries

2 Native store. Fred Armstrong, manager

3 Post office in Postmaster's dwelling

4 Village resting on tundra

5 Lesson in fishnet making; Lulu Geary and Principal-Teacher

6 Laying out smelt to dry during spring spawning run up Buckland River. Minnie Thomas.
   6 a. Beach lunch of boiled fish.

7 Marvin Thomas and new dogsled of seal skin rawhide and hardware purchased from Village Store at forty dollars per plank

8 Village Council meeting; Danny Kirk, David Thomas, Marvin Thomas (President), Alaska State Extension Agent and Principal-Teacher

9 Meat cache. Reindeer carcass
10 Seal or beluga whale blubber stored to liquefy into oil
11 Jessie Hadley. Dried smelt and Eskimo ice cream made of blubber and blueberries
12 Upper grades' nutrition chart of local plant foods
13 Sam Ballot family: Beulah, Percy, Steven, and grandchild
14 Glenna Thomas, First Grade
15 Emily Armstrong, First Grade
16 Savok home; Linda (Sixth Grade), and mother
17 Fred Armstrong, Jr., and Percy Ballot, Grade 3
18 Annie Kirk, Grade 2
19 Village Improvement Committee with Plant Manager, Leland C. Paullin
20 Marvin Thomas and wife, Nita, with youngest children in family of six
21 Clara Kirk
22 John Hadley, retired reindeer herder, and wife Lucy outside sod home
23 (?) Thomas after return from Denver in experimental BIA Relocation Program
24 Allen Geary, bachelor, in mother's home
25 Jessie Hadley and adopted son
26 Paul Hadley and adopted sons
27 Paul Hadley, reindeer herder, in BIA teachers' quarters
28 Jessie Ralph and long-invalided sister
29 Schoolroom circle dance led by Linda Savok
30 Marker on dogsled trail to neighboring village of Candle
31 Sod houses under snow
32 Christmas. Linda Armstrong and Mamie Kirk
33 John Cross, veteran "bush pilot"
34 Processing of shee-fish (dog salmon) on Kotzebue beach
35  Louis Hadley children with Dora Richards
36  Sam and Beulah Ballot with grandchild
37  Women’s Club riveting in schoolroom
38  Reindeer fawn feeding in schoolroom
38a  4H Club, older pupils.
39  David Thomas family
40  Women’s Club at work on sewing kit souvenir (Eskimo thimbles, sinew thread, bone
needle) for sale at World’s Fair, New York City
41  Same as 40
41a  Same as 40
41b  Same as 40
42  4-H Club organization meeting with State Extension Agent
43  Dorothy Thomas, Rudy Thomas, Percy Ballot, Mamie Kirk, Linda Armstrong
44  Samomik, Eskimo dog-pup, in BIA quarters.
44a  Rabid fox
45  Two-way radio transmitter for connection with U.S. Public Health Service Hospital for
daily "Agony Hour" and Nome headquarters
46  Frozen plumbing; Plant Manager installing heat tape on wastewater outlet
47  BIA quarters kitchen
48  BIA quarters living room
49  Buckland River winter freeze-up
50  Beulah Ballot, Jessie Hadley, Nita Thomas and Minnie Thomas
51  Lulu Geary, Jessie Ralph, Jessie Hadley
52  Beulah Ballot
53  Spring River break-up
54  Hauling ice to storage platform
55  Same as 54
56  Marvin and Nita Thomas, U.S. Public Health Service aides inventorying medicine
cupboard
56a Waiting for a call from the Doctor
56b Dr. Robert Lathrop, dentist and wife feeding fawn

57 Meat cache out of reach of dogs and foxes
57a Home of Danny Kirk's sister.
57b Minnie Thomas and Lulu Geary trying on used clothing

58 Eighth Grade Graduation, 1964; Rosie Thomas, Nora Thomas and Willie Thomas receiving diplomas from Mrs. Bullock of Kotzebue, guest speaker.

Part 2 Little Diomede Island, Alaska 1959 – 1961

Slide No.
[Slides 1 and 2 omitted]

3 Big Diomede Island, USSR, as it appears from shipboard upon entering Strait. Uninhabited as far as is known except for some military establishment and airfield.

4 Terrain of Little Diomede is entirely of large boulders except for tiny area near water on southwest edge where ancient village lies. No harbor except for skin boats because of rough water and crisscross currents against rocky shore

5 Bureau of Indian Affairs personnel for Diomede Day School. Beginners through Grade 8 are transported from Alaska mainland, with supplies for entire year, by U.S.S. NORTH STAR: Leland C. Paullin, Plant Manager, and Joran B. Paullin, Principal-Teacher, both of Montana arriving in October of 1959 for 2-year assignment

6 Dora Iyapana, 14, and Aunt, Annie Iyahuk, two of approximately 100 Eskimos inhabiting Little Diomede returning to island after summer with relatives and neighbors in coastal villages of mainland Alaska, Teller, Wales and Kotzebue

7 Gasoline supply for school light plant

8 Native Store owned and managed by Village Council, under tutelage of BIA, since Indian Reorganization Act of Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration

9 Lumber superstructure storehouse ancient dwelling dug out of rocks underneath

10 Entrance to dugout home of Okpealuk family constructed centuries before out of whalebones, driftwood, rocks and sod

12 Committee of Arrangements for Thanksgiving Dinner in BIA school building: Frank Elasanga, (President of Village Council) Thomas Menaluk, Catherine Ahkinga, Alvin Kayoutuk, and Michale Okpealuk

13 Otto Okpealuk, well-known dancer and drummer, wife "Queenie", and son, James Okpealuk
14 Spike Milligrock, Siberia-born, long-time resident of Little Diomede
15 Koonooka sisters, Isabel and Ivadel, originally of Savoonga Island
16 Catherine Ahkinga and Annie Iyahuk in "Village Square"
17 Albert Iyahuk, manager of Village Store, 1959, in BIA-quarters kitchen
18 Etta Elasanga, widow of early Eskimo teacher
19 Tillie Milligrock with infant son under her parka, and daughter
20 Okpealuk boy, early deceased with respiratory disease common to Eskimo children; with Emily Iyahuk
21 Drifted snow in "Village Square"
22 Eskimo dancing in schoolroom, Christmas Week, 1959
23 Same as #22.
25 Student body, 1959
26 L.C. Paullin, BIA Plant Manager, and Frank Okpealuk, in walrus skin windbreak
27 Sophie Okpealuk with daughter, Mary Ann, and son
28 "Senior Citizens"
29 Fuel oil supply for eight space heaters in BIA School and teachers quarters
30 School bell and Big Diomede with ski plane landing on Bering Strait ice after solid freeze-up about January until about May used by small one-engine commercial craft from Nome and Kotzebue
31 Beginners' reading class, Joran Paullin, teacher, instruction only in English. Diomede dialect common to homes
32 Upper Grades' study-hour; English language dictionary mail study tool
33 Arthur Ahkinga, Marjorie Ahkinga, and Dora Iyapana
34 Lenora Ozena, a Saturday morning Teacher's Helper
35 Removing past season's meat supply from storage hole in permafrost
36  Home from walrus hunting on offshore ice during early stage of Bering Sea Spring break-up when walrus travel on ice floes from Winter breeding rounds to northern waters for Summer

37  Haul of walrus intestines, edible organs, and semi-digested clams from stomachs as obtained from butchering on ice floes

38  Choice cut of white whale as presented to "Old Man Omiak," owner of boat from which only whale of year was shot

39  Omiak home: seal-oil "lamp" for heat and light, white whale flippers to be readied for "old men's feast"

40  Painted structure recently built by natives for the residing missionary nuns from the Roman Catholic order, "Sisters of Mercy," Paris

41  Walrus skins obtained from butchering on ice for boats, tarps, footgear and, hopefully, for sale: severed heads taken for ivory tusks and teeth to be used in carving art objects for cash sales

42  Hunters, Kayoutuk and Milligrok, returning from off-shore ice hunting by dog sled -- the only time of the year there is work for dogs

43  Spring on Bering Strait

44  Returning from skin boat trip to Wales with movie reel for Saturday night showing in schoolroom

45  Tommy Iyapan (see Mad Woman Of Diomede, published about 1957), "Old Man Omiak", U.S. Fish and Game biologist, and school girls

46  Walrus heads scraped and cleaned for ivory tusk removal

47  Walrus mouth with its nylon-like snout bristles

48  Same as #41.

49  Tillie Milligrock, mother-in-law, and son. Removing layer of blubber from walrus skin

50  Washable "calico" parka cover

51  Uloo [ulu], "woman's knife" of saw steel and bone or ivory handle

52  Alice Kayoutuk preparing seal and walrus meat for drying, mainly for dog food

53  50 hp Johnson motors used on umiaks (skin-boats)

54  "Old Man Kayoutuk," story-teller
Skin boats elevated for storage to prevent tearing and chewing by dogs which are left alone on the island during the summer; while people are on Alaskan mainland to sell winter's work of carvings and to procure supplies.

North end of Big Diomede, visible from aboard boat at north end of Strait.

BIA Easter breakfast preparations; Joran Paullin, Principal Teacher; Sophie Okpealuk and Mary Menaluk.

Sophie Okpealuk and Mary Menaluk.

Dried eggs, scrambled, and cornbread from BIA School kitchen.

Margaret Kaputuk (16-17) and Patrick Omiak.

Charlie Iyapana with just completed carving of sailing ship.

Same as #61.

Valuable scrap of spare parts and material.

Art class: George Milligrock, Tiny Kazinuk, Emily Iyapana, Edgar Iyapana.

Hand sewn footwear of walrus skin, sealskin and "imported" calfskin.

Auklet and puffin hunting; Milligrock half-brothers.

Cliff aviary; Auklets, puffins, mores, gulls.

Nesting rocks.

Other nesting rocks.

John Iyapana.

Cliff and sea.

New coffin; fresh grave to be covered over with boulder and rocks.

Grave marker of past Lutheran Missionary.

Ancient grave with tools and possessions of deceased.

Winter on Little Diomede.

In the school kitchen.

Folder 2
Recorded narrative: Jualin Paullin narrates the slides of Buckland and Little Diomede (2 cassettes).

Folder 3
Duplicate slide set.

Folder 4
Duplicate narrative cassettes (2); Original recording (1).