Brewster, Lyman, 1900-1983

Lyman Brewster Photograph Collection, 1932-1934

PCA 206

241 photographs

Processed by: Staff

ACQUISITION: The collection was purchased from Lyman Brewster May 12, 1981. Manuscripts form a separate collection, MS 53.

ACCESS: The photographs 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 (with notes) are numbered and sleeved in Mylar. A subject-level inventory is available, and includes an index of people. A published guide is also available in the Historical Collections, “An Inventory of the Lyman Brewster Papers and Photographs Concerning the Reindeer Industry and Life in Nome, Alaska, 1932-1934.”
Biographical Note

In 1932, Lyman Brewster, a young attorney and Montana cattleman, was appointed General Reindeer Supervisor by the U.S. Department of Interior. His work station was in Nome, Alaska, with travel to Point Barrow, Nunivak Island and other locations. The government was interested in resolving the problems and controversy regarding the Lomen Reindeer Corporation and Eskimo owned reindeer herds. Brewster's knowledge of the business of cattle raising and recommendation from a congressional investigation committee to reorganize the reindeer industry led to his appointment in 1932 and a meeting with Governor Parks enroute to Nome.

Mr. Brewster returned to Montana in March 1933 to marry Anne Burke in Helena and following several weeks work at the U.S. Department of Interior in Washington, D.C. and meeting with Governor in Juneau, the Brewsters arrived in Nome in May 1833, and soon established an active social life in the community. [From: “An Inventory of the Lyman Brewster Papers and Photographs Concerning the Reindeer Industry and Life in Nome, Alaska, 1932-1934.”]

Scope and Contents

The photograph collection includes an index of people, which is also a useful reference to the Brewster letters, MS 53. The photographs show life around Nome, various Arctic communities, Eskimos, mining, whaling, airplanes and transportation, including views of Will Rogers and Wiley Post and the plane crash in which they were killed.

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