Guide to Collection

Wilke, Richard W.

Richard W. Wilke Photograph Collection, 1964

PCA 241

2 folders
177 color slide transparencies, 35mm
16 b&w photographs, 8x10
1 map, 1 periodical

Processed by: Staff
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, Nov. 2012
Updated by: Sandy Johnston, March 2018
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, March 2018

ACQUISITION: The 35mm color slide transparencies were donated by Jennifer L. Wilke, 1984, accession # 1984-015. Items in Folder 2 were donated by Jennifer L. Wilke in March 2009, accession # 2012-041.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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

PROCESSING: The slides were numbered and placed in Mylar slide pages. The b&w 8x10 photographs were numbered and placed in Mylar. The collection was placed in archival folders and an archival box.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Richard Wilke was born in 1920. He received his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. During World War II Wilke served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army. From 1960-1971, Mr. Wilke served as the Regional Engineer for the U.S. Forest Service in Juneau, Alaska (Region X). At the time of his retirement in 1980, he was serving as the Regional Engineer for the U.S. Forest Service at Denver, Colorado. Mr. Wilke died in 1981.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The earthquake, which hit Alaska on March 27, 1964, caused extensive damage to Southcentral Alaska, including Anchorage, the state's largest urban area. Richard Wilke toured the Anchorage area immediately following the earthquake to inspect any damage done to federally maintained roads and bridges. These 35 mm color slide transparencies and black and white photographs, taken by Mr. Wilke, record some of the damage done by the earthquake.

SUBJECTS

Earthquake

INVENTORY

Folder 1: 35 mm color slide transparencies

1-11 [Aerial views showing earthquake damage.]

12-52 [Homes damaged by the earthquake.]

53-68 [Damaged businesses in downtown Anchorage including 4th Ave.]

69-100 [Close-up views of damaged homes and buildings.]

101-105 [Anchorage Hardware and Sports Goods Store, showing close-up and distance views of damage.]

106-112 [Damaged J.C. Penney Store.]

113 [Broken windows and loose bricks in First Federal Savings building.]

114-116 [Window signs - downtown Anchorage.]

117-120 [Aerial and long distance views of the Turnagain residential area.]
[Damage to Airport terminal building.]

[Two story unidentified building with some damage.]

**Folder 2: b&w 8x10 photographs, map, periodical**

123 McKinley Building – Anchorage. 14 story reinforced concrete apartment building across From Supervisor’s Office.

124 Removing marble slab facings – J. C. Penny bldg. 5th- and D Sts. Anchorage.

125 Damaged J. C. Penny Bldg. Along “D” St. – Anchorage.

126 Anchorage Hardware – 4th and D Street.

127 New Alaska Savings and Loan Building – Anchorage C & 5th Avenue.

128 Anchorage – Along 4th Avenue from “F” Street.

129 Front of severely damaged J. C. Penny Bldg. – 5th & E street – Anchorage.

130 Murphy’s Motel – Seward – Note hi-water mark along tree line in background and small freight boat high and dry.

131 Aerial view of Seward.

132 Aerial view Seward – Dock area swept clean.

133 Lagoon filled with debris from tidal wave – note loaded refrigerate (sic) refrigerator Car and hi-water mark. Lagoon to left of highway leaving Seward.

134 Turnagain Arm area from air – Note breakaway into Knik Arm. – Exclusive residential area in Anchorage.

135 Along 4th Avenue from “D” Street – Anchorage.

136 J. C. Penny Bldg. approaching 5th and E St.

137 Wave damage behind State Highway Maintenance warehouse.

138 Wave action – Seward – Note hi-water mark along tree line in background, also small freight boat high and dry.
139. Chugach National Forest, Alaska, Seward and Copper River Meridians, 1960 [Map with hand written notes in red pencil indicating what land fell or raised and how far during “Earthquake of March 27, 1964”]

140. “Sourdough Notes”, No. 153, U.S. Forest Service, Juneau, Alaska, April 3, 1964. [Contains firsthand reports from all parts of the state by members of the Forest Service family regarding their experience during the earthquake]