Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Merrill, John, Photographer

John Merrill Slide Collection, ca. 1967-1973

PCA 409

149, 35mm slides, col.           Processed: May 2000
                                By: Gladi Kulp
                                M.C. Harris

ACQUISITION: John Merrill donated the slides to the Alaska State Library in March and May 2000, Acc. nos. 00-19 and 00-28.

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: The slides were organized according to place. A second set of slides received later, were added to the end of the collection. Slides were numbered and housed in mylar.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

From the mid-1960’s to the mid-1970’s John Merrill was Assistant Regional Administrator for the Office of Community Planning and Management, Seattle Region 10, Office of U.S. Housing and Urban Development. Region 10 included the Pacific Northwest States and Alaska. His job was to work with the states and communities to help them plan for housing, water, and sewer facilities. He traveled extensively throughout Alaska and worked with many state and community leaders. According to Merrill, he “learned a lot about the communities and the people of Alaska. [He] always enjoyed the people and their energy to help their communities. [He] took pictures to help show the state to other[s] that were not fortunate enough to get there.”

SCOPES AND CONTENTS NOTE

Slides were taken by John Merrill in the course of his work with HUD in the 1960’s-1970’s. Places photographed include Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, King Island Village in Nome, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nenana, Palmer, Sitka, St. Paul Island, and others.

INVENTORY

Slides 1-123 were arranged and described in March 2000. A second set of slides, 124-149 was received in May 2000 and added to the end of the collection.

Anchorage

1 Portage Glacier near Anchorage, July 1967
2 Snow and fog at airport, Nov. 1970
3 Float plane base, Feb. 1967
4 Downtown Anchorage, Feb. 1967
5 Downtown and earthquake area, Feb. 1967

Barrow

6 Arctic Ocean – 2 natives fishing in far left of picture, Oct. 17, 1969
8 Residential area – gas line to houses on empty oil drums – ducks hanging by house frozen for meat, Oct. 17, 1969
9 Presbyterian minister house, Oct. 17, 1969
10 Cemetery, Oct. 17, 1969
11 Umiak (skin boat), Oct. 17, 1969

Bethel

12 Downtown Bethel, Oct 15, 1969
13 Liquor store downtown, Oct. 15, 1969
14 Oldest commercial building in Bethel, Oct. 15, 1969
15 Moravian Church, Oct. 15, 1969

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA409.pdf
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<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>City Hall and jail, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Bethel, Oct. 1969</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Bethel, Oct. 1969</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Training &amp; care for pre-natal [building] (OEO &amp; city sponsored, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Eskimo housing, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Pre-fab housing on site, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Pre-fab housing construction, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Pre-fab housing on site – white thing in picture is a sewage pump station. It has been sprayed with insulation and will be unlined except for the top part, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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<td>Pre-fab housing construction, Oct. 15, 1969</td>
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**Fairbanks**

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<td>University of Alaska, May 1967</td>
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<td>Juneau Million dollar golf course – top of gold mine tailings, May 1967</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Juneau-Douglas Gastineau Channel, May 1967</td>
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<td>Russian Church, May 1967</td>
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<td>Air View [commercial]</td>
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<td>Creek Street, May 1967</td>
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<td>Residential Street, May 1967</td>
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<td>Sea plane landing at port, May 1967</td>
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<td>Ingersoll Hotel [commercial]</td>
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91 Eskimo gathering a weed for tea, May 1971
92 King Island Fishing Camp, Sept. 12, 1972
93 King Island Village, Sept. 12, 1972
94 King Island Village, statue in rear, Virgin Mary, Sept. 12, 1972

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95 Downtown Mantanuska [Matanuska] Valley, May 1967
96 Downtown, May 1967

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97 Downtown, Main Street, re-constructing church, Oct., 1967
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99 Harbor, Oct. 1967
100 Ferry from airfield, Oct. 1967
101 Off-shore islands taken from fort mock up, Oct. 1967
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103 Historical Building, Oct. 1967
104 Russian Block house, Oct. 1967

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108 Airport - charter plane, March 21, 1972
109 Inside Russian Orthodox Church building, March 21, 1972
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113 [Ice cap], July 1967
114 [Ice cap], July 1967

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122  Moose, June 1968

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147  Russian Orthodox Church building, March 21, 1972
148  Inside Russian Orthodox Church building, March 21, 1972

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