Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Morse, Edward K.

Edward K. Morse Collection, 1925-1930s
PCA 462

2 albums - b&w photographs
2-16 mm films – silent, b&w
Microfilm
DVD

Processed by: Gladi Kulp, 6/2006
Updated by: Jacki Swearingen, 11/2012

ACQUISITION: Dr. Edward K. Morse donated the collection in 2003, Acc. no. 2003-042. The donation was facilitated by Pennelope Goforth, of Anchorage, who uncovered the albums when she was researching her biography of John E. Thwaites, *Sailing the Mail*.

ACCESS: The collection is available for viewing.

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

PROCESSING: The albums are in good condition but some silvering has been noted. The films are nitrate. One film has been transferred to DVD format. The second film is unrelated to Alaska and has not been reformatted.
HISTORICAL NOTE

Dr. Edward K. Morse, a resident of Maine, and great-nephew of photographer, John E. Thwaites, assembled the large album of photos and ephemera during a trip on the S.S. Northwestern in 1930-1931; photos of family scenes were taken by him with a small camera. The bulk of the photos were by John E. Thwaites. The album also contains menus and Alaska Steamship Co. photographs.

Isabelle Thwaites, wife of John Thwaites, probably assembled the small album in ca. 1925. “Alaskan Photos. Taken, for the most part, By Lady Ysobel [Isabelle] - herself”[information taken from inside cover of photo album]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The collection contains the two albums described above as well as 2-16mm films.

One film is of a trip on the Alameda from Ketchikan to Skagway. The film includes footage of canneries and buildings such as Quadra (N.W. Fisheries Co., Boca De Quadra, Alaska), Metlakatla Commercial Co., Alaska Pacific Salmon Corporation (APSC) Sunny Point Cannery in Ketchikan, and Superior Packing Co. in Tenakee Inlet. Also included are views of fish traps, the Taku and Mendenhall glaciers, Auk Lake, the AJ Mine, the Pullen House, and a Native market. The second film is unrelated to Alaska.

The collection also includes two other items: A few frames of microfilm from the National Archives containing documents showing John E. Thwaites on the payroll as postal clerk and a DVD entitled John E. Thwaites and the Ice Worm; Commemorating Gold Rush Days; Valdez, Alaska 2003 copyright 2003 J. Pennelope Goforth.

INVENTORY

Albums
462A – Photographs
462B – SnapShots, Isabelle

Films
462-16mm-Film-1 [Views of Southeast Alaska and the Yukon]
Approximately 9 minutes. Transferred to DVD 11/2012

Film Sections:
An Early Morning Call At Quadra, A Cannery, Our First Stop
Arriving At Ketchikan, “The Home Port” Alaska’s Largest City. Ketchikan
To Skagway And Intermediate Stops On The Alameda
A Rainy Day At Taku Glacier – Mendenhal [Mendenhall] Glacier And
Auk Lake

462-16mm-Film-2 - Unrelated to Alaska and has not been reformatted to DVD.

Microfilm
A few frames of microfilm from the National Archives containing documents
showing John E. Thwaites on the payroll as postal clerk.

DVD
John E. Thwaites and the Ice Worm; Commemorating Gold Rush Days; Valdez, Alaska

INVENTORY OF ORIGINAL FILM
Stored in freezer on 7th floor

2-16 mm films (small 7” film canisters) stored in freezer R4