Guide to Collection

Rieck, Earl D. and Ddothea M.

Earl D. and Ddothea M. Rieck Photograph Collection, 1949

PCA 599

2 Boxes
337 slides, 35 mm color
35 b&w prints
1 narrative

Processed by: Jim Simard, Feb. 2018
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, Feb. 2018

ACQUISITION: This collection is a gift of Gerald Rieck, Ddothea and Earl’s son. Acc. #2018-003.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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PROCESSING: Slides were numbered and labeled by the photographer. The donor created an inventory, provided digital scans of selected images, and wrote an accompanying descriptive narrative.
PCA 599: Earl D. and Dorothea M. Rieck Photograph Collection, 1949  
Alaska State Library

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Earl D. Rieck was the bridge construction superintendent on the first highway to link Anchorage and Seward. Mr. Rieck worked for the M.P. Munter Construction Company supervising the erection of the bridges for the new highway.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Slides and photo prints documenting bridge construction in the area of Portage, Alaska. Photos taken by Earl D. and Dorothea M. Rieck.

The collection includes images of camp life as well as the visit in the summer of 1949 of Mrs. Rieck and her two children Charlotte and Gerald. Collection contains an illustrated narrative by Gerald Rieck.

SUBJECTS

Bridges; Bridge Construction; Seward Highway; Portage, Alaska; Quartz Creek Bridge; Muddy Creek; Quartz Placer Creek; Twenty Mile; Portage River; Turnagain Arm; M.P. Munter Construction Company; Lytle Green Company; United States. Alaska Road Commission

INVENTORY

Inventory descriptions are from donor typed inventory, information written on slides, and digital image descriptions provided by donor.

BOX 1: Located in Refrigerated Room #227B in the Vault

Slide Suitcase

Drawer 1, Left Side, Slides 1-50

1. Reflection near Placer – June ‘49
2. Sunset at Portage – May 1949
3. Half-track. [Verso:] Stuck in snow on way to glacier – May 1949
4. Dorothea Rieck with glacier ice – May ‘49
5. Anchorage homes – April 23, ‘49
6. Sunset Muddy Creek – June 1949
7. Moose – May ‘49
8. Moonrise at dusk behind camp
9. Looking toward glacier from camp
10. Snow slide near glacier - May ‘49
11. Picking up Euclid tractor, Righting Uke (see drawer 2, slide #14)
12. Shadow on mountain
13. Sunset Portage - May 1949

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA599.pdf
15. Moose where? - May 1949
16. Reflection
17. Third bridge to glacier reflection - May 1949
18. Leaving Whittier - from train
19. Cooks at camp
20. Portage Glacier tunnel to Whittier June 1949 (refer to slide #78)
21. Jerry Rieck fishing
22. Jerry Rieck on Muddy River Bridge
23. Jerry Rieck watching little fish – May ‘49
24. Moose – May ‘49
25. Moose – May ‘49
26. Oil tanker at dock, Whittier
27. 4th (Avenue) Anchorage – April 1949
28. Sunset
29. 20 Mile finished, 20 Mile bridges 1949
30. Glacier
31. Sunset Muddy Creek - June 1949
32. Jerry Rieck, Smokey, Henry Cushman at Portage Glacier - June 1949
33. Toward Portage from glacier - June 27, 1949
34. Quartz Creek - June 1949
35. Bear - August ‘49
36. Earl Rieck on 20 Mile Bridge/Piers - May 1949
37. Curing bridge deck, 20 Mile bridge curing
38. Bear at camp - July 10, 1949
39. Glacier
40. Autumn scene
41. Mountain
42. Jerry Rieck with fish at cabin
43. Grog shop
44. Crane at construction camp
45. Earl and Jerry Rieck fishing
46. Rainbow
47. Autumn scene
48. Sunrise
49. Jerry Rieck with fish
50. Burn-pile under bridge

Drawer 1, Right Side, Slides 51-100

51. Autumn Landscape
52. Loading steel girders. Loading steel stringers for Quartz Creek bridge.
53. Sunset
54. Quartz Creek bridge completed - September
55. Outhouse
56. Landscape

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57. Near glacier - May 1949
58. Snowy River scene
59. Completed bridge
60. Bear - August ‘49
61. Moose - May ‘49
62. Completed bridge with Half-track
63. Cloud at sunset, Portage AK - June ‘49
64. Rainbow at camp
65. HD-19 and Steve plowing for stringer stockpile at Muddy Creek
66. Glacier - June 1949
67. Dorathea and Jerry Rieck Quartz Creek ‘49
68. Sunset Muddy Creek - June ‘49
69. Bear eating jam by cabin - July 1949
70. Completed bridge
71. Road bed scene
72. Wild flowers at Peters Creek - July 10, 1949
73. Glacier – June 27, ‘49
74. Bear - July 1949
75. Earl Rieck fishing - May 8th, ‘49[Verso:] Upper Placer River
76. Dorathea Rieck, Dorothy Parker, Henry Cushman - June 4, 1949. Portage Alaska
77. Completed Bridge
78. Entrance to Whittier RR tunnel, across Portage River, Henry Cushman – June 1949 (refer to slide #20)
79. Nasturtiums
80. Cloud scene
81. Moose - June 1949
82. Jerry and Dorathea Rieck boating on 20 Mile
83. 2 Moose - June ’49
84. Moose - June ‘49
85. Camp landscape
86. Moose - June ‘49
87. Completed bridge
88. The gap trestles - August 1, ‘49
89. Tractor and road building equipment
90. Glacier
91. Looking across Portage River from tunnel - June 1949
92. Moose - May 1949
93. Jerry Rieck with Lytle Green dogs - July 10, 1949
94. Start of journey from McNally Creek across Arm
95. Euclid
96. On boat (Baranof) - September 15, 1949
97. Earl Rieck in Quartz Creek - July 17, 1949
98. From Petteson Creek toward Portage - July 10
99. Smokey (in Portage Creek with a stick) - July 4th, 1949
100. Toward Anchorage and Arm from Peters Creek - July 10

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Drawer 2, Left Side, Slides 1-50

1. Bear – July ‘49
2. Glacier ice – June 27, ‘49
3. Bear – August ‘49
4. Fishing grounds – August
5. Trestle gap – August 1, 1949
6. Glacier – June 27, ‘49
7. Loading steel beams
8. Portage Glacier – May 1949
9. Portage Glacier 1949
10. Bear – August 1949
11. Anchorage RR Depot – April 1949
12. Anchorage – April 1949
13. Portage RR station 1949. Depot, waiting room, telegraph office, residence, freight house, etc.
14. Euclid righted (see drawer 1, slide #11)
15. Mountain and road bed
16. Sunset – May ‘49
17. From rear of camp, watchman’s house
18. Moose – May 1949
19. Reflection in water
20. Sunset on mountain by camp
21. ARR #1 locomotive in Anchorage
22. Anchorage sunset – April 1949
23. Surplus half-track and construction truck near glacier
24. Portage Glacier 1949
26. Sunset scene – May 22
27. Dock at Whittier
29. Portage – April 1949
30. Moose
31. Stan and Smith on snow slide looking for bear – May 1949
32. Euclid being righted – Placer River (see drawer 2, slide #14)
33. Euclid tractor (see drawer 2, slide #14)
34. Sunset – May ‘49
35. Portage River
36. Anchorage – April ‘49
37. Fjording river to glacier – May 22, 1949
38. Euclid tipped off bridge (see drawer 2, slide #14)
39. Railroad track
40. Sunset – May 1949
41. Euclid earthmover
42. Reflection in Whittier Bay 1949
43. Muddy River construction
44. Snow slide on way to glacier
45. Moose tracks
46. Moose
47. Looking toward Whittier from train
48. Spencer Glacier – August 1, ‘49
49. Spencer Glacier – August 1, ‘49
50. Spencer Glacier – August 1, ‘49

Drawer 2, Right Side, Slides 51-100

51. Moving house – 1949
52. Looking towards glacier
53. Portage Glacier 1949
54. 4th Anchorage - April 23, 1949
55. May 19th, 1949 – Dorathea Rieck at Beaver Pond
56. 20 Mile Bridge complete
57. Euclid again
58. ARR #1201 [#1202]
59. Portage Glacier
60. Two moose
61. Reflection in Whittier Bay
62. Just a picture of cloud
63. Snow scene
64. Portage bridge construction camp - 1949
65. Completed bridge
66. Bear – August ‘49
67. River view
68. Charlotte (Rieck) Patrick and Jerry Rieck on Muddy Creek bridge
69. Seward – August 2, 1949, Alaska Steamship Co.
70. Stan Kirka toward Whittier – June 27, ‘49
72. Bear – July 1949
73. Bear – August ‘49
74. Burn pile under bridge
75. 20 Mile Bridge deck, June 1949
76. Sunset from camp – July 4, ‘49
77. Moose – June 1949
78. Completed bridge
79. Moose – June ‘49
80. Quartz Creek Bridge and approach
81. Completed bridge
82. Quartz Creek Road – June 1949
83. HD-19 towing driver over arm, Cat pulling pile driver across Arm
84. Blue Lupine at Portage – June 1949
85. Completed 20 Mile Bridge
86. Jerry Rieck fishing – August ‘49
87. Magician and Jerry Rieck at cookhouse at Portage camp
88. Construction equipment
89. Portage Glacier – May 1949
90. Looking up Portage River toward glacier
91. Towards Seward, Branch of Placer, 20 Mile Bridge – 1949
92. Muddy Creek – June ‘49
93. Squirrel with bread on path – June 1949
94. Sunset at camp – June 1949
95. Scene from McNally Creek
96. Driver enroute over arm. Cat pulling pile driver - half-track ahead
97. HD-19 towing pile-driver across arm. Cat pulling pile driver across Turnagain Arm
98. Towing driver across Turnagain Arm with HD-19
99. Jerry Rieck in shovel, Quartz Creek – June 1949
100. Quartz Creek Bridge

Drawer 3, Left Side, Slides 1-50

1. Sunset end of June
2. Jerry Rieck and Smokey near cabin 1949
3. Sunset on Placer River looking toward camp – July 1st, 1949
4. Sunset on mountain
5. Reflection at eve – July ‘49
6. Aft view of Steamship Baranof
7. On way to Seward – August ‘49
8. Toward Portage, Turnagain Arm, Peters Creek – July 10, ‘49
9. Glacier lake
12. Reflection of Portage Mountain – July ‘49
13. Earl D and Dorothea M Rieck at Portage, AK 1949
14. View from deck of Baranof
15. Sunset over Mts., Spencer Glacier – June ‘49
17. Portage Glacier
18. 20 Mile Bridge complete
20. Fishing in Quartz Creek – July 17th, 1949
22. Girls from Boston on bikes at Portage – July 13th, 1949
23. Bev and Wilber picking flowers at Peters Creek – July 10th
25. Wilber, Bev, Henry, Peters Creek – July 10th, 1949
26. Jerry Fishing in Quartz Creek – July 17th, 1949
27. Quartz Creek – July ‘49
28. Quartz Creek – July ‘49
29. Sparklers in Sunset on July 4 - Henry, Dorothea, Jerry.
30. Sunset behind camp, June 1949
31. Spencer Glacier, August 1, 1949
32. Autumn scene
33. Ronnie on Placer – July ‘49
34. Donkey engine – July ‘49
36. Completed bridge
37. Glacier – June, 1949
38. Railroad scene
39. Moose Pass – August 1, 1949
40. Dot Parker – June 1949
41. Back of Peters Creek – July 10, 1949
42. Sunset from camp
43. Autumn scene
44. Completed bridge
45. Glacier ice – June 27, ‘49
46. Portage Glacier
47. Moving mixer to Muddy Creek
48. Muddy River Bridge – May 1949
49. HD-19 unloading stringer at Muddy Creek
50. Jerry in Mosquito Net Hat – May 1949

Drawer 3, Right Side, 51-100

51. Sunset on Placer River – July 1, 1949
52. Toward Whittier - June 27, ‘49
53. Toward Turnagain Arm – June 27, 1949
54. Blue Lupine at Placer River – July 1949
55. Picking flowers at Portage, Henry Cushman, Jerry and Earl Rieck – June 1949
56. View on 20 Mile River – August 1949
57. Reflection in gravel pit – July 4, 1949
58. Fishing in Beaver Creek, Jerry and Earl Rieck – July 17, 1949
59. 20 Mile Bridge complete
60. Picking wild flowers at Peters Creek, Dorathea Rieck – July 10, 1949
61. Moose – May 1949
62. Toward 20 Mile – June 27, 1949
63. Sunset from camp - June 1949
64. Earl Rieck and Jerry Rieck at Quartz Creek – July 17, 1949
65. From Muddy Creek sunset – June 1949
66. Looking down Placer – July ‘49
67. Bay City setting stringers on Placer
69. Jerry Rieck and Henry Cushman in front of cabin - 1949
70. On way to Seward – August 1, 1949
71. Muddy Creek Bridge, Earl – June 1949
72. Flying to Anchorage
73. Boating on Portage River, Smokey, Henry Cushman, Jerry Rieck, Dorathea Rieck – July 4, 1949
74. Wild flowers, Peters Creek – July 10, 1949
75. Jerry Rieck in Quartz Creek – July 17, 1949
76. Looking up Placer, sunset on Mts. – July 1, 1949
77. Looking across Placer River toward camp – July 1, 1949
78. Looking toward Anchorage “arm” – July 10, ’49
79. Glacier on way to Seward – August 1, 1949
80. Waterfall on way to Seward – August 1, 1949
81. Boys from Boston on bikes – July 13, 1949
82. Glacier ice
83. Towards glacier
84. Going down Portage (River) – July 4th, 1949
85. Quartz Creek Road, Dorathea Rieck – June 5, 1949
86. Temporary bridge over Placer towards Anchorage
87. Placer Bridge – July ‘49
88. May 1949 – Placer River ice floes
89. Branch of Placer – May 1949
90. Setting stringers on Placer River
91. Towards Seward from Placer River, Placer River trestle
92. Cement mixer, Placer River
93. Setting stringers on Placer. Crane loading pre-stressed concrete stringers.
94. Ice in Placer River
95. Henry’s cabin, Jerry Rieck – May 1949
96. Jerry Rieck in side yard - Portage, AK, July 9, 1949
97. P.R.A. Inspectors, Portage (Public Roads Administration)
98. Taken May 5th, 1949 at camp
99. Portage Glacier
100. Portage Camp and Outdoor Shower

Small box of slides
Slides B1-B37

1. Setting stringers 20 Mile 7-6-49
2. Setting stringers 20 Mile 7-6-49
3. 20 Mile River setting stringers 7-6-49
4. Setting stringer 20 Mile 7-6-49
5. HD-19 unloading stringer at 20 Mile
6. Setting stringers at 20 Mile - July 6, 1949
7. 20 Mile trestle (bridge)
8. 20 Mile River Bridge
10. Concrete carrier at camp
11. Seward – August 2, 1949
12. Jerry Rieck on boxcar in Portage AK 1949
13. Airplane over camp

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14. Cement mixer
15. Final work on bridge
16. At Anchorage – April 24, 1949
17. Bear – July ‘49
18. Scenic flowers
22. Earl Rieck on bridge supports
23. Scenic view
24. Pansies at Portage, Alaska – July 1, 1949
25. Earl Rieck
26. Construction equipment
27. Bridge construction
28. Dorathea Rieck at cabin in Portage, AK
29. Dorathea Rieck at Cabin - Portage AK, 1949
30. Pansy – July 10, ‘49
31. River scene
32. Railroad bed
33. Sunset from camp, 7-4-49
34. Scenic view
35. Sunset in June 1949 at Portage
36. Bay City loading stringers at stringer farm
37. Heated stringer farm

BOX 2

Folder 1


Folder 2

Prints, (b&w), 1-33

1. “Alaska Hi-Way. Winding in and winding out fills my mind with serious doubt as to whether the dude that built this route was going to hell or coming out!” ©Jim Garrett Anchorage Alaska. (post card)
2. PRA [Public Roads Administration] man with baby seal
4. Baby seal in sink – Portage camp
5. M.P. Munter on left.

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7. Portage Depot
8. Our Dodge pickup coming from Portage.
15. Our camp taken from rear side. Sun was wrong.
16. Carloads of Ukes on spur at camp. (Lytell Greenes) [Lytle Green Company]
17. [Lytell Greene [Lytle Green Company] Camp buildings, mountain]
18. Quartz Creek [Bridge construction]
19. Quartz Creek [Bridge construction] (2 copies)
20. Tidewater Bridge over slough #1.
21. [Tidewater Bridge over slough #1]
22. Temporary bridge washout approach.
23. Stringers for Quartz Creek [Crane loading stringers for bridge]
24. [Stringers for Quartz Creek. Crane loading stringers for bridge]
25. Cement mixer. (2 copies)
26. Same Euclid [earthmover] being righted
27. [Cat plowing snow]
28. [Four men, in snow, working on wooden bridge piles]
29. Bear under laundry behind cabin
30. Seward, Alaska (post card)
32. Midnight in June, Seward, Alaska. (post card)
33. Seward [Snow covered yard, tree, building, mountains]