

Children of Camp 8, Matanuska Colony



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections

- Collection Name:** Mary Nan Gamble. Photographs, 1935-1945. ASL-PCA-270
- Identifier:** ASL-P270-609
- Title:** **A group of the colonists' children that play in the streets at Camp 8.**
- Description:** Title taken from image.
From the official album of the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Matanuska Colonization Project, 1935.
Photographer's number 303.
- Creator:** Geisman, Willis T.
- Subject.TGM:** Fourth of July celebrations
Children
Dogs
Tents
Camps
- Subject.LCSH:** New Deal, 1933-1939--Alaska--Matanuska Valley--Photographs.

Corporate Name:	United States. Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Matanuska Valley Colony (Alaska) Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation
Location:	Palmer (Alaska)
Region:	Southcentral Alaska
Time Period:	1913 to 1939
Date.original:	1935
Type:	Image (Photographs) Image (Group portraits)
Related Materials:	Guide to Mary Nan Gamble photograph collection: http://library.state.ak.us/hist/FindingAids/PCA270.htm CCL catalog: http://www.ccl.lib.ak.us/uhtbin/cgiisirs.exe/x/0/5?searchdata1=ocm52995001

More about the Matanuska Colony:

In 1935, Americans were struggling through the worst economic depression in history. Rural areas of the northern states were among the worst of sufferers. As part of a Federal Emergency Relief Administration project, President Franklin D. Roosevelt commissioned families from the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan to migrate North to live in an experimental farming community in the Territory of Alaska. These three northern states were chosen because of the forty-eight states in the Union, their climate was most similar to that of Alaska. The administration believed representatives from these states were well suited to survive the harsh elements of sub-arctic winters. Also, the would-be colonists were chosen from areas where the percentage of bankrupt citizens was the greatest in the nation. Ultimately, 203 select families received passage to Alaska to claim and work forty acres of farmland near the foot of Pioneer Peak in the Matanuska Valley, north of Anchorage.

Evangeline Atwood migrated to Anchorage with her husband at nearly the same time as the colonists. “The qualifications were clear,” Atwood in her book *We Shall Be Remembered*, “the hardy, pioneer type—not too many children—not too young and not too old—should know a little something about farming, but other trades will help too—can’t have too many unpaid bills—opportunity would be offered to the worthy.”

Roosevelt’s New Deal was meant to boost the economy through relocation of American citizens and through public works projects. Most of the citizens chosen for the Matanuska project were of blue-collar and hard labor backgrounds, ready to work the soil to survive.

The administration was careful to select families they believed were most likely primed for success. However, statistics and research can only tell so much. Unbeknownst to the government, several enrollees were later found to carry tuberculosis, and one had spent a significant amount of time in a sanitarium in Oregon.

The settlers made the long journey to the Matanuska Valley with relative success. The first contingent, from Minnesota, boarded a train in April 1935. San Francisco and the U.S.M.S. *North Star* welcomed the colonists at the first post of their journey.

Of these passengers, Atwood wrote, “In addition to the colonists, four hundred transient single men, together with nurses, doctors, reporters, photographers, and forty relief administrators crowded the ship’s passenger list beyond the thousand mark.”

The *North Star* followed the Inside Passage, stopping in Ketchikan and Juneau before arriving in Seward on May 4. The colonists, weakened by seasickness and a threat of measles, rallied in Seward as the “transients” moved onward to the Matanuska Valley. Lengthy Alaskan spring sunlight allowed the colony staff and contingent transients to work for long hours. In less than a week, on May 10, 1935, Palmer welcomed the first of the valley colonists to their home. A newly constructed base camp (complete with a mess hall and hospital tent) transformed the travel-weary migrants into a community of settlers.

Three days later, families from Michigan and Wisconsin journeyed by rail to Seattle to meet the U.S. Army Transport *St. Mihiel*. Illness had forced six families of mothers and children to stay in Washington and come to Seward later in the month; however, the rest of the colonists from Michigan and Wisconsin docked in Seward just ten days before they were to draw their plots of land.

Evangeline Atwood recounts the second contingent’s journey as one that was pressed for time: “When the *St. Mihiel* docked at Seward on May 22, the women and children were shocked to learn that they were to remain aboard ship while their menfolk continued on to Palmer.” The men desperately needed to make the drawing, scheduled for the next day in Palmer. They left their families on the ship to secure their investment.

On May 23, 1935, each family was to receive forty acres for cultivation. The move had not been easy, and the settlers quarreled over who was given the best land, and which occupations were most apt for each colonist. They complained of overpriced goods, and the slow delivery of essential tools and materials.

“There were rumors that some of the disgruntled were planning to take the train to Seward, where the *St. Mihiel* was still in port, to return to their stateside homes,” wrote Atwood. “But when the transport was ready to leave, not a renegade colonist was in sight.”

Eventually, the settlers’ pride that often spurred them to argue among each other was the same force that drove them to stay. They could not return after risking so much. Their previous communities were still poverty stricken. In short, there was still nothing to which they could return.

In her 1985 book marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Matanuska Colony, author Brigitte Lively wrote, “Of course, these victims of the depression really had

nothing to lose by coming, and it is said that many, for that reason, came up “just for the ride.”

Despite the quarreling, the disease, and the difficulty that came from farming in new land and elements, most of the settlers survived. They were able to meet basic needs and provide for their families. Admittedly, many left for already established townships. But there is no denying the effect this project had on the region. The townsite of Palmer was laid out, the small city of Anchorage grew in population, spawned at least in part from the notoriety of the Matanuska colonists.

The new Alaskan settlers were never claimed by the majority of America as a success. Most historians would argue that the principle reason for the end of the Great Depression was war, rather than Roosevelt’s New Deal. Regardless, the new citizens of the Matanuska Valley proclaimed themselves successful.

“The hopes and dreams of those that joined the colony were no more than has pursued since time began,” wrote author Lively in 1985. “Shelter and security for the family. They wished for these essentials, because where they came from these basic human needs were denied. Only when there is not threat to these needs does man hope and strive for other goals. The colonists that stayed in the Valley reached their goals. Most consider that reaching these goals were their greatest accomplishments.”

More than eighty years have passed since the first colonists arrived, and the Matanuska Valley remains a productive agricultural region specializing in dairy products, potatoes, rhubarb, lettuce, and giant cabbages. (Palmer is the site of the Guinness World Record for “Biggest Broccoli,” grown in 1993 by residents John and Mary Evans. The vegetable weighed a whopping 35 pounds.) The annual Alaska State Fair is held in Palmer and many historic buildings dot the fairgrounds. The displays of giant vegetables and the cabbage weigh-off always draw a big crowd. Today the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Alaska’s equivalent of a county government) encompasses more than 24,000 square miles, larger than many eastern seaboard states. And descendants of the original colonists can be found in the Palmer and Wasilla phone book.

The Palmer Chamber of Commerce distributes walking tour maps of their town, giving walkers the opportunity to see the five various house styles available to the colonists, who endured life in a tent city as they cleared land and began building.

The Colony House Museum, at 316 E. Elmwood, Palmer, is housed in one of the original homes and displays typical furnishings of that time. Another museum can be found in the lower level of Palmer’s log cabin visitor center with many examples of Colony memorabilia.

Links:

C. Earl Albrecht Papers, University of Alaska Anchorage:

<http://www.lib.uaa.alaska.edu/archives/CollectionsInv/ALBtoB/Albrechtserlst.html>

Palmer Historical Society books about the Colony:

<http://www.customcpu.com/ait/david/phsitems.htm>

Two farms and the Matanuska Colony Community Center are on the list of National Register of Historic Places:

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/AK/Matanuska-Susitna/districts.html>

Explore North website featuring an article titled “The Matanuska Colony: The New Deal in Alaska,” by Murray Lundberg:

<http://explorenorth.com/library/yafeatures/bl-matanuska.htm>

More reading:

Be sure to check for availability online through **your local library** catalog at <http://sled.alaska.edu/library.html>. For the statewide **Alaska Library Network** catalog, go to <http://sled.alaska.edu/library.html> and click on **ALNCat**.

We shall be remembered.

Evangeline **Atwood**

1966 [1st ed.]

English Book viii, 191 p. illus., maps (on lining papers) ports. 28 cm.
Anchorage, Alaska Methodist University Press,

Libraries with Item:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Code</u>
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
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AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	CANTWELL SCH COMMUN LIBR	X#9
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT RICHARDSON, POST LIBR	V90
AK	HAINES COOP LIBR	Q2R
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	ILISAGVIK COL, TUZZY CONSOR LIBR	X#7
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KENAI PENINSULA COL, UAA	X@5

AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SHELDON JACKSON COL	Q2X
AK	SUTTON PUB LIBR	X@6
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AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE KETCHIKAN CAM LIBR	Q3J
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	VALDEZ HIGH SCH LIBR	V9Z
AK	WASILLA HIGH SCH LIBR	XZY
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
AK	WILLOW PUB LIBR	X#3

Frontier physician : the life and legacy of Dr. C. Earl Albrecht /

Nancy Jordan

1996

English Book 222 p. : ill., maps ; 23 cm.

Fairbanks : Epicenter Press ; Portland, OR : Trade distributor, Graphic Arts Center Pub. Co., ;
ISBN: 0945397526 (hbk.) 094539750X (pbk.)

Libraries with Item:

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AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	HAINES COOP LIBR	Q2R
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V

AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	NORTHWEST CAM UNIV OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS	X\$8
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SHELDON JACKSON COL	Q2X
AK	UNALASKA PUB LIBR	X@8
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ

The frontier in Alaska and the Matanuska Colony /

Orlando W Miller

1975

English Book xi, 329 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.

New Haven : Yale University Press, ; ISBN: 0300016387 :

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR & INFO SERV	RLA
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR, BUR OF LAND MGT	UDA
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ALYESKA CENT SCH LIBR	Q2N
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	DENALI BOROUGH SCH DIST	X\$2
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT WAINWRIGHT POST LIBR	V91
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KENAI PENINSULA COL, UAA	X@5
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V

AK	KODIAK COL LIBR	XZ@
AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	NORTHWEST CAM UNIV OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS	X\$8
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SHELDON JACKSON COL	Q2X
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE KETCHIKAN CAM LIBR	Q3J
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	WASILLA HIGH SCH LIBR	XZY
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
AK	WILLOW PUB LIBR	X#3

Fond memories of Anchorage pioneers : personal histories /

Pioneers of Alaska. Igloo 15; Auxiliary 4

1996- 1st ed.

English Book v. : ill., map ; 29 cm.

Anchorage, Alaska (Box 101041, Anchorage 99510-1041) : The Auxiliary,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT RICHARDSON, POST LIBR	V90
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KODIAK COL LIBR	XZ@
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
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The Cook Inlet collection : two hundred years of selected Alaskan history /

Morgan B Sherwood

1974

English Book xii, 222 p., [2] leaves of plates : map ; 22 cm.
Anchorage : Alaska Northwest Pub. Co., ; ISBN: 0882400444

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR & INFO SERV	RLA
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR, BUR OF LAND MGT	UDA
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ALYESKA CENT SCH LIBR	Q2N
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	CHUKCHI CONSOR LIBR	X\$4
AK	CITY OF NOME	X\$7
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	GILSON JR HIGH SCH LIBR	G#L
AK	HAINES COOP LIBR	Q2R
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	ILISAGVIK COL, TUZZY CONSOR LIBR	X#7
AK	JUNEAU FOREST SERV LIBR	Q2P
AK	JUNEAU PUB LIBR	Q2L
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KENAI PENINSULA COL, UAA	X@5
AK	KENAI SCH DIST, MEDIA CTR	KENAI
AK	KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCH DIST	Q4X
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	KODIAK COL LIBR	XZ@
AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	MINERALS MGT SERV LIBR, ALASKA	UEM

AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3
AK	SITKA SCH DIST	Q2Y
AK	SUTTON PUB LIBR	X@6
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE, JUNEAU	Y4Z
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	VALDEZ HIGH SCH LIBR	V9Z
AK	WASILLA HIGH SCH LIBR	XZY
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
AK	WILLOW PUB LIBR	X#3

Territory of Alaska.

Alaska Geographic Society.

2002

English Book 96 p. : ill. (some col.), col. maps ; 22 x 28 cm.

Anchorage, Alaska : Alaska Geographic Society, ; ISBN: 1566610591 1566610605

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR & INFO SERV	RLA
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AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	FORT WAINWRIGHT POST LIBR	V91
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KETCHIKAN PUB LIBR	Q2Z
AK	KETTLESON MEM LIBR	Q2V
AK	KUSKOKWIM CONSORTIUM LIBR	XY7
AK	MOUNT EDGE CUMBE HIGH SCH LIBR	Q2W
AK	PETERSBURG PUB LIBR	Q2T
AK	SEWARD COMMUN LIBR	X@3

AK	SKAGWAY PUB LIBR	Q6M
AK	SOUTHWEST REG SCH DIST	SWRSD
AK	TALKEETNA PUB LIBR	X@7
AK	UNALASKA PUB LIBR	X@8
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE, JUNEAU	Y4Z
AK	US AIR FORCE, EIELSON BASE LIBR	AYH
AK	VALDEZ CONSORTIUM LIBR	X#2
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ

Alaskan group settlement : the Matanuska Valley Colony /

Kirk Haskin **Stone**

1950

English Book viii, 95 p., [22] leaves of plates : ill., maps ; 27 cm.

Washington [D.C.] : U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR & INFO SERV	RLA
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
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AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	BUREAU OF LAND MGT, JUNEAU MINERAL INFO	UEK
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE KETCHIKAN CAM LIBR	Q3J
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, SE, JUNEAU	Y4Z

The Matanuska colony : fifty years, 1935-1985 /

Brigitte **Lively**

1985

English Book 96 p. : ill. ; 21 cm.
Palmer, Alaska : B. Lively,

Libraries with Item:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Code</u>
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	FAIRBANKS N STAR BOROUGH LIBR	X#4
AK	HOMER PUB LIBR	XY8
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	KENAI PENINSULA COL, UAA	X@5
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	WASILLA HIGH SCH LIBR	XZY
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ
AK	WILLOW PUB LIBR	X#3

Matanuska Colony sixty years :
the colonists and their legacy, 1935-1995 /

Brigitte Lively

1995

English Book 96 p. : ill. (some col.) ; 26 cm.
Palmer, Alaska : B. Lively,

Libraries with Item:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Code</u>
AK	ANCHORAGE SCH DIST	XY4
AK	PALMER PUB LIBR	XZV
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ

The first summer :
photographs of the Matanuska Colony of 1935 /

James H **Fox**; Willis T **Geisman**

1980 **1st ed.**

English Book 80 p. : ill. ; 31 x 40 cm.

Palmer, Alaska : Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corp.,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	A HOLMES JOHNSON MEM LIBR	XZ#
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	KENAI COMMUN LIBR	XZ\$
AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF
AK	WASILLA PUB LIBR	XZZ

20 years of progress in the Matanuska Valley, Alaska.

Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

1955

English Book 36 p. : ill. ; 22 cm.

[Anchorage, Alaska] : Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corp.,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK
AK	ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBR	XYZ
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

Midwesterners in the Matanuska Valley : colonizing rural Alaska during the 1930s /

Arnold R **Alanen**

2000

English Article p. [53]-80 : ill. ; 28 cm.

In *People, power, places*. Knoxville : University of Tennessee Press, c2000.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Thirty-five years of shepherding in the Matanuska Valley, 1935-1970.

St. John Lutheran Church (Palmer, Alaska)

1970

English Book 64 p. : ill. ; 28 cm.

[Palmer, Alaska : St. John Lutheran Church,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ANCHORAGE MUS OF HIST & ART LIBR	XY6

The Matanuska Valley Colonization Project /

Marvin Albert Halldorson

1936

English Book : Thesis/dissertation/manuscript, Archival Material 131, xx leaves ; 28 cm.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

A growing place

the new pioneers of Palmer Alaska /

John LaFournaise

1999

English Visual Material : Videorecording : VHS tape 1 videocassette (26 min.) : sd., col. ; 1/2 in.

Anchorage, Alaska : KAKM Video,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

The frontier in Alaska and the Matanuska Colony

Orlando W **Miller**

1966

English Book : Thesis/dissertation/manuscript : Microform, Archival Material v, 443 leaves : maps.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	MATANUSKA SUSITNA COL	XZU
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

Archival Collections:

A preliminary guide to the records of the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation (Matanuska Valley Colony) /

Dale A **Stirling**

1986

English Book 79 leaves ; 28 cm.

[Anchorage, Alaska] : Alaskana Collection and Archives, Alaska Pacific University,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR & INFO SERV	RLA
AK	ALASKA RES LIBR, BUR OF LAND MGT	UDA
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Skinner Foundation photograph collection

B.F. Skinner Foundation.; Alaska Steamship Co.

1890s-1940s

English Archival Material ca. 4, 000 photographs (32 v.) : b&w, col.

The Skinner Foundation (Alaska Steamship Company) photograph collection covers steamship activity in Alaska from 1898 until approximately 1946, shortly after World War II including subjects such as steamships, steamboat travelers, steamboat cruises, passenger accommodations, shipping, other modes of transportation, tourism, Alaskan towns and villages, and turn-of-the-century Gold Rush photographs taken by various photographers. Vessel information sheets, ship

layouts, newspaper clippings, brochures, correspondence, vessel maintenance, personnel, the cargo industry and other corporate activities are also included.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Mary Nan Gamble photograph collection

Mary Nan **Gamble**; Willis T **Geisman**

1935

English Visual Material : Graphic 976 photographs : b&w.

Willis T. Geisman, official photographer for the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corp. (A.R.R.C.), produced four or five albums during 1935, documenting the Matanuska Colony Project. These albums are now located in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, the Alaska State Archives, and the Alaska State Historical Library. [Jim Fox, 3/26/1993.].

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Papers,

Mary Nan **Gamble**; Willis T **Geisman**

1935-1945

English Archival Material 1 ft.

Correspondence, including letters received from colonists; official reports and memoranda; travel journal kept by Gamble (1935); case files; clippings and publications about the colony; and other papers, together with album and other photos by Willis T. Giesman, official photographer.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Magazine article and photographs,

Ruby I **Cashen**

1935-1937

English Archival Material .1 cu. ft.

The collection consists of an article and photographs relating to the Matanuska Colony. The article, by Mrs. Victor Johnson, comes from The American Magazine and is titled "I'm a Cream-Puff Pioneer." The sixteen black and white photographs and postcards depict houses, farms, tents, churches, the hospital, people, Palmer Day activities, and Matanuska School.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA

Frances and Harry Walton Collection.

Correspondence,

Harry **Walton**; Frances **Walton**

1923-1952

English Archival Material 1 cu. ft.

The collection consists of letters and correspondence relating to the Walton family in Alaska and Washington.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA

Papers, 1939-1946.

Arthur O **Trosvik**

1939-1953

English Archival Material .85 cu. ft.

The collection consists of the papers and photographs of Arthur O. Trosvik concerning his military service in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II. The papers consist of incoming correspondence to Trosvik from friends and relatives during his training at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and later in Seattle, Washington in 1942, a letter from Trosvik in Anchorage to his mother in 1945, items from the period of his training at the Signal Corps Replacement Center at Fort Monmouth in 1942, items from the period of his service in Alaska from 1944 to 1945, military publications from 1940 to 1946, other miscellaneous publications and items from his period of military service, military service medals, ribbons, and pins, and photographs. The photographs from Alaska include views of the Alaska Railroad, Seward, Moose Pass, Portage Glacier, Girdwood, Cook Inlet, Eklutna, Palmer and the Matanuska Colony, McKinley National Park,

Nenana, Fairbanks, Circle Hot Springs, and Circle City. Many of the photographs concern signal corps crews erecting telephone poles and stringing wires along the Alaska Railroad.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA

Records of the Office of Territories, R.G. 126.

Central classified files relating to reindeer, Matanuska, and forestry

United States.; United States.

1937

English Archival Material : Microform ft.

[Alaska : Dept. pf the Interior, Alaska Reindeer Service,

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ELMER E RASMUSON LIBR	UAF

U.S. Office of Territories photograph collection,

Willis T Geisman

1935

English Visual Material : Graphic, Archival Material 35 photoprints : b&w.

The photographs in this collection were obtained from the National Archives, Record Group No. 126 and National Archives' identification number is cross-referenced in the finding aid. The images were photographed by Willis T. Geisman, official photographer for the Alaska Rural Relief Corporation's Matanuska Valley Colony project in 1935. He produced four albums spanning April to October 1935. The albums were dispersed to several locations including the Alaska Historical Collections (PCA 270). "Geisman's work is of tremendous importance in its documentation of the Colony's history and its technical skill, artistic and documentary style." [Fox, James H., Palmer, AK].

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

J.C.P. Skottowe photograph collection,

J C P Skottowe

1935-1936

English Visual Material : Graphic, Archival Material 90 photoprints : b&w.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	ALASKA STATE LIBR	ALK

Papers and photographs, 1935-1937.

Almer J **Peterson**

1935-1948

English Archival Material .25 cu. ft.

The collection consists primarily of Almer J. Peterson's photograph album and other papers and photographs. They almost entirely relate to the Matanuska Colony and vicinity (1935-1937). In addition, there are a xerographic copy of the album, conservation negatives for most of the photographs, political artifacts (two blotters and a pencil), and a Matanuska Valley Fair program (1937).

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA

Papers Concerning the Matanuska Project,

David **Williams**

1935-1939

English Archival Material : Microform 3 reels, microfilm.

The collection contains copies of correspondence between Williams and his family and friends, government reports on the progress and problems of the colony, articles concerning the colony, clippings, and photographs.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA

Photograph Album,

Willis T **Geisman**

1935

English Archival Material : Microform 1 reel, microfilm.

The collection contains a copy of the official Matanuska Colony photograph album for 1935. It was produced by Willis T. Geisman, a photographer for the organization.

Libraries with Item:

Location	Library	Code
AK	UNIV OF ALASKA, ANCHORAGE	UAA