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Guide prepared by: Susan Pope, Volunteer, and Sara Piasecki, Archivist

TITLE: Jesse Lee Home Album

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1978.180

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1910-1933

Extent: 1 box; 1.2 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Nellie J. Nash Lien, J.E. Thwaites, S. Sexton, M. Hohner, Guy F. Cameron, L.H. Pedersen, Alaska Shop, Ladd Photo, Case and Draper, Sydney Laurence, Pat O’Cotter, Winter & Pond, Peterson

Administrative/Biographical History:
Nellie J. Nash Lien was an elementary teacher at Jesse Lee Home in Seward, Alaska, circa 1927-1933. She probably arrived in Alaska when her husband began work as a dragline operator during the construction of the Alaska Railroad. She died in 1965 in Roseville, California.

Jesse Lee Home was a Methodist orphanage and boarding school which operated in Unalaska, Alaska, from 1889-1925, primarily serving children from the Aleutian Islands and the Seward Peninsula. With the onset of the influenza epidemic in the early 1910’s and 1920’s the number of orphans from Alaska Native villages increased dramatically. The Jesse Lee Home in Unalaska, as well as other mission schools, was soon overwhelmed with children. Cost and logistics of operating a school so far from supply centers in Seattle prompted the Methodist church to relocate the school from Unalaska to Seward in 1925. The new facility consisted of boys’ and girls’ dormitories, classrooms, kitchen, gymnasium, garden, and other buildings.
Jesse Lee Home's most famous resident was Benny Benson, who as a thirteen-year-old student created the winning entry for design of the Alaska flag.

Due to damage from the 1964 Alaska earthquake, the Seward Jesse Lee home was evacuated from its location and the students were housed at other facilities in Seward. The Home was relocated to Anchorage in 1966. Due to an expanded foster care system and the changing needs of the children in the state, the focus of Jesse Lee Home is now on providing mental health services, emergency shelter, and group homes to children from all of the state.

Scope and Content Description:
The collection consists of one scrapbook measuring 10” x 13”, containing 248 photographic prints and postcards created or collected by Nellie J. Nash Lien. One negative, corresponding to print .156, laid into the scrapbook.

Arrangement: Not applicable.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

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Preferred Citation:
Jesse Lee Home Album, Anchorage Museum, B1978.180

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information
Donated by Lien’s nephew Edward N. Roberts in July 1978.

Processing Note
Nitrate negative scanned in 2014.
Separated Materials
Nitrate negative removed to freezer.

RELATED MATERIALS
Jesse Lee Home Papers, B1993.038

SUBJECTS
Lien, Nellie J. Nash, d. 1965
Ongiluk, Albert
Domiano, Nicholas
Ahlooksook, Moses
Kanyak, Willie
Nuiasuk, Jack
Eteegruk, Eddie
Elyak, Clarence
Elyanik, David
Rosenberg, Carl
Rosenberg, Esther
Gardiner, Mattie
Gardiner, Nick
Olson, Harry
Merrill, Frances
Merrill, Edna
Merrill, Walter
Merrill, Richard
Merrill, Annie
Carlson, Charlie
Carlson, Katie
Carlson, Alice
Carlson, Marie
Carlson, John
Kristensen, Helen
Kristensen, Steve
Kristensen, Stanley
Balamatoff, John
Balamatoff, Emma
Lange, Charles
Lange, Harriet
Lange, John
Lange, Fred
Hughes, John
Hughes, Mary
Hughes, Helen
Hughes, George
Hughes, Alice
Benson, John Ben, 1913-1972
Lyons, William
Lyons, Mollie
Lyons, Lillie
Pestrikoff, Fred
Kivik, Lucy
Holstrom, Marie
Smith, Annie
Bankes, Mary
Skinner, Charlie
Skinner Clara
Skinner, Helen
Skinner, Lena
Skinner, Beatrice
Peterson, Susie
Peterson, Charles
Peterson, Mary
Peterson, Nina
Conn, Aleck
Larson, Mary
Ferguson, Katie
Golley, Annie
Golley, Mary
Nelson, Charles
Nelson, Carolyn
Kochuten, George
Tutikoff, Sarah
Eakin, Millie
Lewis, Mary
Smith, Olive
Olson, Lura
Day, Marie S.
Thornton, Blanche
Knapp, Isabelle
Hatten, Charles
Gould, Anna
Schmidt, Roma
Hill, Dorothy
Williams, Slim
Eddlebrock, Mary
Jesse Lee Home (Seward, Alaska)
Alaska Railroad
United States. Marshal (Alaska)
Victoria (Steamboat)
Haida (Ship)
Starr (Steamboat)
Tom and Al (Steamboat)
Farallon (Ship)
Harbors—Alaska
Railroads—Alaska
Sled dogs—Alaska
Mushers—Alaska
Ships—Alaska
Steamboats—Alaska
Shipwrecks—Alaska
Church buildings—Alaska
Docks—Alaska
Eskimos—Fishing—Alaska
Eskimos—Dwellings—Alaska
Cemeteries—Alaska—Bristol Bay Region
Sea lions—Alaska
Volcanic eruptions -- Alaska -- Katmai National Park and Preserve
Cold weather clothing—Alaska
Snowshoes and snowshoeing –Alaska
Nursing—Alaska—Seward
Nurses—Alaska—Seward
Ice carving—Alaska—Seward
Parkas—Alaska
Students—Alaska—Seward
Education—Alaska
Schools—Alaska—Seward
Orphanages—Alaska—Seward
Seward (Alaska)
Resurrection Bay (Alaska)
Bering Sea Region
Katmai, Mount (Alaska) -- Eruption, 1912
McKinley, Mount (Alaska)
Columbia Glacier (Alaska)
Skagway (Alaska)
Taku Glacier (Alaska)
Prince William Sound (Alaska)
Copper Center (Alaska)
Atlin (B.C.)
Haines (Alaska)
Ripinski, Mount (Alaska)
Davidson Glacier (Alaska)
Belkofski (Alaska)
Spencer Glacier (Alaska)
Nome (Alaska)
Kenai Lake (Alaska)
Anchorage (Alaska)
Nushagak (Alaska)
Haines (Alaska)
Port Chilkoot (Haines, Alaska)
Marathon, Mount (Alaska)
Sitka (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

.1 – Winter view of Seward Alaska
.2 – “The Loop” Alaska R.Y. Mile 52, 3 miles by rail, ½ mile the way crows fly, Alaska Shop Photo
.3 – [Dog team in winter, mushers]
.4 – [Jesse Lee Home]
.5 – S.S. Victoria, 2T, Nome, Alaska, 200
.6 – S.S. Victoria, Nome, Alaska
.7 – U.S.S. Haida, Worlds Flight Escort, Seward, Alaska, Alaska Shop Photo
.8 – [Steamship Starr next to smaller ship, Tom and Al]
.9 – Wreck of S.S. Farallon at low tide, taken 4 weeks after wreck, Cooks Inlet, Alaska, Jan. 5.10, Copyright 1910, by J.E. Thwaites [postcard]
.11 – Thwaites 4023, We encountered some ice in Alaskan waters
.12 – [Church, Alaska]
.13 – Sunrise on Resurrection Bay, Alaska
.14 – Sun drawing water from Kenai Lake, Alaska
.15 – [Fishing Boats on Kenai Lake, Alaska]
.16 – [Postcard, Main Street, Seward, Alaska, Brown and Hawkins, Hotel Overland, Seward Tailors, The Terminal Bar, Jacks, Hotel Coleman]
.17 – First dog team Nome to Seward, S. Sexton [Postcard]
.18 – [Sled dogs, mushers, tundra]
.19 – Racing teams, Seward, Alaska, [street, Hardware Stoves and Ranges, Jack’s, ...Trading Post, postcard]
.20 – U.S. Marshall’s Office, Seward, Alaska [postcard]
.21 – Eskimo fish cache, Bering Sea, Alaska [postcard]
.22 – Native residence, barabara, Nushagak, Alaska, Bering Sea [postcard]
.23 – Russian Church Cemetery, Bristol Bay, Bering Sea, Alaska [postcard]
.24 – Mt. Katmai in eruption, copyright 1912, M. Hohner
.25 – Mt. McKinley, 20,360 feet high, Alaska, Sidney [sic] Lawrence [postcard of Sydney Laurence Mt. McKinley painting]
Seal Rocks, Seward [Alaska, sea lions on rocks. postcard]

Columbia Glacier, Alaska, copyright Guy F. Cameron, photographer, A 200 [postcard]

Columbia Glacier, Alaska, copyright Guy F. Cameron, photographer, 344 [postcard]

“Flirting in Alaska,” Taku Glacier, 794, copyright, L.H. Pederson, photographer, Skagway, 1914 [postcard]

Glacier Land, Prince William Sound, Alaska 4 [postcard]

Woman and two small girls, Jesse Lee Home

Man and two small girls, Jesse Lee Home

Baby in chair, Jesse Lee Home

Two adults standing in snow wearing warm clothing, woman in fur parka, Jesse Lee Home

Small girl with parasol, Jesse Lee Home

Small girl in sailor dress, Jesse Lee Home

Small girl with glasses and summer dress, Jesse Lee Home

Two small girls in dresses holding cake (?), Jesse Lee Home

Small girl in summer dress standing in field of flowers, Jesse Lee Home

Copy of negative, Jesse Lee Home buildings, Seward, Alaska

Copy of negative, Jesse Lee Home buildings, with staff and students in foreground, Seward, Alaska

Group of small children, Jesse Lee Home

Group of small children, old cars in background, Jesse Lee Home

Woman dressed in fur parka and other cold weather clothing, standing in front of cabin, Seward, Alaska

Woman dressed in fur parka and other cold weather clothing, sitting on porch of cabin, wearing snowshoes, Seward, Alaska

Woman sleeping in wicker chair on porch, Jesse Lee Home

Two women holding snowballs with mountains in the background, Jesse Lee Home

Group of children on school porch, Jesse Lee Home

Copy of negative, two women standing in front of building, Jesse Lee Home

Nurse and two patients in infirmary, Jesse Lee Home

People standing on ice sculptures, Jesse Lee Home

People standing on ice sculptures, Jesse Lee Home

Ice sculptures, Jesse Lee Home

Children with snowman, Jesse Lee Home (two copies)

People standing on ice sculptures, Jesse Lee Home

Family group on sofa, woman holding baby, Jesse Lee Home

Woman putting baby in crib, Jesse Lee Home

Man with three small girls on school steps, Jesse Lee Home

Woman with baby, Jesse Lee Home

Two men and two women in school foregrounds, Jesse Lee Home

Two women and two nurses in school foregrounds, Jesse Lee Home

Four women in school foregrounds, Jesse Lee Home

Three women and one man in school grounds, Jesse Lee Home

Three women in school grounds, Jesse Lee Home
65 – [Woman and child in fur parkas, Jesse Lee Home]
66 – [Two men and a woman on sofa, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
67 – [Men plowing and digging the earth in front of school, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
68 – [Group of boys on old truck full of wood, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
69 – [Group of boys and woman cleaning fish, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
70 – [Boys' basketball team on steps of school, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
71 – [Group of boys dressed up, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
72 – [Man and boys on hay wagon, goats in foreground, Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
73 – Albert Ungoylook, Dec. 14, 1914, [Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
74 – Nicolas Domiano, Feb. 14, 1915, Greek father, [Jesse Lee Home, Seward–Alaska]
78 – Eddie Eteegruk, born Nov. 17, 1913
79 – Clarence Elyak, b. July 6, 1911
80 – David Elyanik, Born Dec. 1, 1912
81 – Carl Rosenberg, Sept. 10, 1914, “Mother an Eskimo Belle”
82 – Esther Rosenberg, April 2, 1916, “Mother an Eskimo Belle”
83 – Mattie Gardiner, born Oct. 31, 1916
84 – Harry Olson, Oct. 20, 1916, Harry, half brother to Mattie and Nick Gardiner
85 – Nick Gardiner, Nov. 5, 1917
86 – Just arrived from Pt. Hope, Alaska, Frances, Edna, Walter, Richard, and Annie Merrill
87 – Twins, Negro father, Eskimo mother, Frances and Edna Merrill
88 – Six weeks after arrival, Edna Merrill
89 – Annie Merrill
90 – Richard Merrill
91 – Walter Merrill
92 – Frances, Edna, Walter, Richard, and Annie Merrill taken in May, 1929, just before they went back to Point Hope, [on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
93 – Ephrim Kalamakoff, Jan. 12, 1912
94 – Mike Kalamakoff
95 – Inikinti Kalamakoff, June 4, 1918
96 – [Woman and man in front of Jesse Lee Home]
97 – [Man and woman on grounds of Jesse Lee Home]
98 – [Group of children on grounds of Jesse Lee Home]
99 – [Making bread in kitchen of Jesse Lee Home]
100 – [Students in classroom of Jesse Lee Home]
101 – [Young children and teacher in front of Jesse Lee Home]
102 – [Children and teacher on railroad tracks]
103 – Charlie Carlson, June 9, 1912
104 – Katie Carlson, Dec. 2, 1910, [caption: “Three have gone from the ‘Home’. There are two more in Home now, for school year 1929-30”]
105 – Alice Carlson, Sept. 19, 1913
106 – Marie Carlson, Nov. 6, 1914
107 – John Carlson, June 26, 1917
108 – Helen Kristensen, May 9, 1915
109 – Steve Kristensen, July 16, 1918
110 – Stanley Kristensen, Jan. 20, 1923
111 – John Balamatoff, born Nov. 12, 1918, [caption: “Aleut and Russian parentage”]
112 – Emma Balamatoff, born July 4, 1910
114 – Harriet Lange, b. Sept. 26, 1912
115 – John Lange, b. Dec. 12, 1915
116 – Fred Lange, b. Nov. 11, 1917
117 – Laura Sanguinettie, b. Feb. 20, 1914 [caption: “from Chignik, Alaska, Italian father”]
118 – Louis Sanguinettie, b. July 23, 1915
119 – Madolene Sanguinettie, born Aug. 28, 1917
120 – Frank Santuinettie, b. July 4, 1919
122 – John, Mary, George, Helen, and Alice Hughes [with unidentified girl]
123 – [Mary, Helen, and Alice Hughes]
124 – Mary Hughes, b. Oct. 16, 1916
125 – Helen Hughes, b. Oct. 15, 1919
126 – Alice Hughes, b. Aug. 12, 1919
127 – William Lyons, born (May 17, 1913), Feb. 19, 1912
128 – Mollie Lyons, May 17, 1913
129 – Lillie Lyons, Feb. 26, 1919
130 – Carl Benson, Aug. 13, 1914
131 – Benjamin Benson, Sept. 25, 1912, Designed the Alaskan Flag [most sources list Benson’s birth date as Oct. 12, 1913]
132 – Benny Benson, [with pig in livestock pen]
133 – Meanik Arooruk (Mike Riley) [caption: “From St. Laurence Island, Bering Sea”]
134 – Kanana Aroonuk (Kanana Riley), May 5, 1918
135 – [Young boy sitting on stump. Jesse Lee Home in background]
136 – [Young girl sitting on barrel]
137 – Fred Pestrikoff, b. July 29, 1913, [caption: “One of twenty”]
138 – Melissa Pesnakoff, May 3, 1912
139 – Lucy Kvik, July 5, 1911
140 – Marie Holstrom, Dec. 21, 1913
141 – Fannie Olson
142 – Carolyn Nelson, Mar. 4, 1911, [caption: “Father born in Denmark, mother part Native”]
143 – Annie Smith, Oct. 23, 1914
144 – Amuch Francis Walker, May 5, 1918
145 – Nettie, [caption: “died”]
146 – Eva Olaowsine, b. July 3, 1911
147 – Pauline, died in Nome, [caption: “Went to Nome to be in hospital to become a nurse”]
Bessy Akayak, b. July 4, 1911
Mary Bankes, Sept. 20, 1913
Charlie Skinner, April 6, 1913
Clara Skinner, Feb. 18, 1916
Helen Skinner, b. Aug. 17, 1917
Lena Skinner, b. Jan. 18, 1919
Beatrice Skinner, May 12, 1923
[Girl and small child dressed in winter clothing, fur parkas]
Susie Peterson, born Jan. 12, 1913 [has neg]
Charles Peterson, b. Nov. 15, 1916
Mary Peterson, b. July 14, 1920
Nina Peterson, b. April 6, 1923
[Small boy with goat, dressed in sailor suit, on Jesse Lee Home grounds]
Alex Bear, b. Oct. 10, 1913 at Belkoffs, Alaska
Steven Paulson, b. Nov. 5, 1916
George Kochuten, b. April 7, 1921
John Alexanderson, died
Cecil Torgramson
Mary Harris, b. Sept. 4, 1911
Meta Torgramson, [caption: “outside”], [sister to Cecil, Laura, and Minnie Torgramson]
Laura Torgramson, b. May 1911
1. Meta Torgramson; 2. Minnie Anderson
Minnie Anderson, b. Oct. 8, 1909, [caption: “Norwegian father, Native mother”]
Rose Anderson, Feb. 13, 1913
William Anderson, March 30, 1915
Mary Golley, [caption: “outside”]
Annie Golley, b. Feb. 6, 1912
Helen McKeon, b. Jan. 12, 1921
Malanya Nevzeroff, Nov. 6, 1916, Eskimo
Tanna Evenoff
Aleck Conn and Mary Larson
Aleck Conn, Nov. 22, 1911
John Andre, b. Sept. 19, 1909
Mary Larson, born Sept. 29, 1910, [caption: “Half sisters”]
Katie Ferguson, b. Sept. 4, 1921
Patricia Anderson, b. Feb. 23, 1918
[Children standing behind casket with flowers]
[Young girl standing on log]
Charles Nelson, b. Dec. 1909
Nick Heidel, Sept. 4, 1911
Andy Peterson, b. Feb. 27, 1914
Sarah Tutikoff, Aug. 20, 1912; Valentine Tutikoff, May 6, 1921; Nicoli Tutikoff, May 22, 1923, [Caption: “Called ‘The Sparrows’ by the children”]
Nicoli Tutikoff, May 22, 1923
Herbert Maldonado, b. Feb. 6, 1918, [caption: “Spanish father, Native mother”]
Victor Maldonado, b. July 26, 1917
Minnie Eakin, June 4, 1919, From Nome
Christine Belby, b. April 15, 1914, [caption: “Eskimo mother, white father, from Nome. Died in Nome, T.B.”]
“Flu, Spring of 1927”
Miss Knapp getting her babies to bed
Miss Beedle keeps things clean
Miss Smith’s Sunday School class
Dear Miss Olive Smith with the small boys
Miss Beedle and Miss Thornton on Marathon Mt.
[Miss Olive Smith with boys reading the funny papers]
Easter play [caption: “The Dawn, 1927”. Children on stage dressed in biblical clothing]
[Children on stage dressed in biblical clothing with adult holding cross]
[Three children on stage dressed in biblical clothing]
[Children on stage dressed in biblical clothing with adult holding cross]
Circle at rifle practice
Group of teachers on front steps of Jesse Lee Home
Christmas 1927, Mrs. Lura Olson, [reading to children in front of fireplace]
Christmas 1927, Miss Marie S. Day, [reading to children in front of fireplace]
Christmas 1927, Miss Blanche Thornton, [reading to children in front of fireplace]
Christmas 1927, Miss Isabelle Knapp, [reading to children in front of fireplace]
Miss Anna Gould, [with girls reading in front of fireplace]
1. Miss Marie S. Day, 2. Miss Blanche Thornton [with girls holding buckets]
Miss Isabelle Knapp[standing in snow with small children]
Miss Marie Day and the older girls out for a walk
Girl’s Building, All the girls, 1. Mr. Charles Hatten, 2. Miss Isabelle Knapp, 3. Miss Anna Gould
Miss Day and her helpers [teacher and girls dressed in hats and aprons]
All the boys, Miss Olive Smith, so good. Mr. Love, sick one week with appendicitis. In home one year, died Aug. 1927
Girl Scouts, Jesse Lee Home [girls in uniforms holding rifles]
[Teachers standing on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
[Students with teacher on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
[Students with teacher on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
[Teachers in front of Jesse Lee Home]
First and second grades, 1928-1929, [standing with teacher on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
.224 – Third and fourth grades, 1928-1929, [standing with teacher on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
.225 – Miss Roma Schmidt, 1927-1928, seventh grade, [on steps of Jesse Lee Home]
.226 – Eighth grade, 1927-1928
.226a – Third grade, 1927-1928, Mrs. Lien
.227 – Fourth grade, 1927-1928
.228 – Second grade, 1929-1930
.229 – First grade, 1928-1929
.230 – Seventh grade, 1928-1929
.231 – Sixth grade, 1928-1929
.232 – Alaska Sunset 9 [postcard]
.233 – Seward, Alaska, J.E. Thwaites, Photographer [postcard]
.234 – Slim Williams—On trail—Copper Center, Alaska—Chicago World’s Fair, Omak, Wash. May 13, 1933, Ladd Photo [postcard]
.235 – Mt. Wells, Copper Island Narrows, Lake Atlin, Scene on White Pass and Yukon Route [postcard]
.236 – “Here’s to Alaska,” by Pat O’Cotter, [Poem. Resurrection Bay, children, sled dogs, bears, dall sheep skull, Copper Creek, Alaska, Seward, Alaska. postcard]
.237 – Peterson, Photographer [two bear cubs. postcard]
.238 – C104, Memorial Park, Sitka, Alaska [postcard]
.239 – Moose, Kenai Peninsula, Alaska [postcard]
.240 – Winter sunlight, Anchorage, Alaska [postcard]
.241 – 5620, Seward, Alaska [postcard]
.242 – Haines and Ft. Wm. H. Seward from Mt. Rippinsky, Pyramid Harbor and Davidson Glacier in Distance, 157, Case and Draper, Photographers [postcard]
.243 – Miles Canyon, Scene on White Pass and Yukon Route [postcard]
.244 – Treadwell Mines, Showing Juneau in Distance, ©W.P. Co. [postcard]
.246 – The Break-up, 3/23/18 [postcard]
.247 – Alaska Live Stock, Value $100 each, Thwaites, Photographer, 1294 [husky puppies. postcard]
.248 – [Photo missing as of 2015. Postcard, Spencer Glacier, on Alaska Railroad, Seward]

Guide updated: September 27, 2017