

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

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**TITLE:** Charles Fletcher Album

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2018.014

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: 1964-1965

Extent: 1 box; 0.8 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Charles I. Fletcher

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

Charles Fletcher (1925-2005) came to Alaska in 1955 and worked as an engineer with Tuttle Engineering, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, A and G Construction, and the state Department of Transportation.

**Scope and Content Description:**

The collection consists of one album, measuring 8 ¾" x 6 ½", titled "Photographs Seward Hwy. after Mar. 27<sup>th</sup> earthquake & during repair" containing 181 black-and-white photographs of work on the Seward Highway after the 1964 Alaska Earthquake. Many of the photos are captioned by Fletcher. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

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.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation:

Charles Fletcher Album; Anchorage Museum, B2018.014

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by granddaughter Hollie Frackman in August 2018.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

See 1964 Earthquake resource guide for related collections

**SUBJECTS**

Alaska. Department of Highways  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska Earthquake, Alaska, 1964  
Earthquakes—Alaska  
Roads—Earthquake effects—Alaska  
Construction equipment  
Seward Highway (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

- .1 – 659+00 looking south, trench for riprap [view down highway, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .2 – 651+00 looking south, riprap suppose[d] to be as in all case here [view down shoreline]
- .3 – Pit #7 Kern [view down highway to heavy equipment at base of bluff]
- .4 – Standing at south end of causeway, look south, trench for rock [view down right-of-way, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .5 – Picture of riprap [view down shoreline, water-filled trench between riprap and Turnagain Arm, heavy equipment on highway at left]
- .6 – Drag line digging trench for riprap [excavator on right-of-way creating water-filled trench]

- .7 – Turning D.W. 20 back up on it[s] wheels with 80D [John Deere 80D excavator preparing to lift Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper on its side along shoreline]
- .8 – Kern Bridge looking south [view across Kern Creek, bridge at left]
- .9 – Same [John Deere 80D excavator preparing to lift Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper on its side along shoreline]
- .10 – Turned over as they were trying to pull it out [two men standing next to Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper on its side along shoreline, flooded utility poles visible in background]
- .11 – D.W. 20 topped over same as other picture [Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper on its side along shoreline]
- .12 – Same [automobile and bulldozer on highway shoulder above Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper on its side along shoreline]
- .13 – Placing riprap [view down right-of-way to bulldozer, Turnagain Arm at left]
- .14 – Picture of high tides covering road near bridge #635, it covered a good part of road. Date? 8/11/64 [view down highway to flooded section, utility poles in subsided area in left background]
- .15 – Taken during high tides from sta. 601+00 looking north, 9:30 a.m. 8/11/64 [utility poles in subsided area, line in water]
- .16 – Same as above [view down flooded right-of-way, utility poles in water at left, riprap at right]
- .17 – Bird Hill rock pit, 8/3/64 [view down road to heavy equipment]
- .18 – This picture was taken to show the problems with the rain we are having. This D.W. 20 is stuck and has to be towed out with cat, 8/3/64 [man standing next to Caterpillar DW20 motorscraper]
- .19 – Taken from bridge 625A looking north, high tides, 8/3/64 [view across bridge to flooded area, utility poles in subsided area at left]
- .20 – Pit #6 [view across road to rock pit area]
- .21 – Putting riprap in place, 8/3/64 [view down filled trench, automobile on road at left]
- .22 – Taken from station 601+00 looking north [view down water-filled trench]
- .23 – Picture of riprap pit call[ed] Pit #6, 8/11/64 [bulldozer removing earth from cut]
- .24 – 8/11/64, Pit #6, riprap pit [cut]
- .25 – Looking south from sta. 903 [automobile on highway, water-filled trench at right]
- .26 – Looking north from sta. 903+00, hauling rock with end dumps, [hots?] car [view down road to semi trailer end dump trucks]
- .27 – Rt. shoulder looking south, 835+65, 8/11/64 [view down right-of-way]
- .28 – Rt. shoulder looking north, 835+65, 8/11/64 [view down right-of-way]
- .29 – Picture off at a dist[ance] of Pit #4, hauling fill from this area [distant view of possibly heavy equipment near base of ridge, creek at left, automobile side-view mirror in foreground]
- .30 – Hauling material to road prism from Pit #4 [view down road to dump trucks, utility poles in flooded area at right]
- .31 – Road south of Pit #4 [view down right-of-way, utility poles in flooded area at right]
- .32 – Looking north of Pit #4 [actually south view down right-of-way, utility poles in flooded area at right]
- .33 – Taken 500 N of bridge #632 looking north, high tide [view across flooded area]
- .34 – Same as above [view across flooded area]

- .35 – Taken about 500 ft. north of bridge 632 looking south, high tides [view across flooded area, rear of pickup truck in foreground, buildings in right background]
- .36 – Hauling rock to Girdwood area from Bird Hill Pit [view down shoulder, semi trailer end dump truck in right foreground, bulldozer in distance]
- .37 – Texaco sta. west of sta. 310+00 at high tide [damaged building in flooded area]
- .38 – Picture showing contractor trying to get fill raised before high tides 310+00 looking north [view down road to vehicles, flooded trench at right]
- .39 – Taken at 636A looking north [view down road to dump truck and bulldozer, pickup truck at right, man walking at left, utility poles in subsided area in background]
- .40 – Same as above [view down raised roadbed, flooded area at right, vehicles in distance, Turnagain Arm at left]
- .41 – Making road to haul out of rock pit “C” [dump truck on raised roadbed across flooded area]
- .42 – [view down right-of-way looking south]
- .43 – N. end of causeway looking south, benching & hauling fill [view across area of rock fill to heavy equipment]
- .44 – Sta. 725+00 causeway [view across area of rock fill, water-filled trench in foreground]
- .45 – Causeway [heavy equipment on raised roadbed, photographer’s shadow in foreground]
- .46 – Picture of bridge #634 showing water action on upstream side, 8/24/64 [view across creek, highway bridge at left, railroad bridge at left, caution flag next to sign “10 MPH” in left foreground]
- .47 – [view along shoreline of Turnagain Arm looking north showing erosion, pickup truck parked at right]
- .48 – [line of semi trailer end dump trucks on raised roadbed across flooded area]
- .49 – [bulldozer and dump truck on cut]
- .50 – [view down raised roadbed across flooded area, heavy equipment in distance. Mounted upside down]
- .51 – [bulldozer and dump trucks in area of rock fill]
- .52 – [view down right-of-way, dump truck at left, bulldozer in middle ground, photographer’s shadow in foreground]
- .53 – [view down right-of-way, dump truck at left, bulldozer in middle ground, photographer’s shadow in foreground]
- .54 – [view down right-of-way, heavy equipment in area of rock fill]
- .55 – [heavy equipment on right-of-way, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .56 – [bulldozer preparing to pull overturned truck out of trench]
- .57 – [heavy equipment on right-of-way, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .58 – [men with shovels working on section of pipeline or culvert in flooded area, utility poles in subsided area in background]
- .59 – [men working on partially buried pipeline or culvert at water’s edge]
- .60 – Pit #6 [men watching excavator removing rocks from cut, three men labeled “Supt.”, “Spaulding” and “Beard”]
- .61 – Left shoulder at Bird Flats, 13+00 to 1318 [view down riprap-filled trench, Alaska Railroad freight cars on track at left]

- .62 – Hauling shot rock for fill, Bird Flats [view down road to bulldozer and dump truck, Alaska Railroad freight cars on track at right]
- .63 – Traffic tied up because of soft place in fill near 1350+/- [view down road to line of automobiles, Alaska Railroad track along shoreline at left]
- .64 – Same as above [view down road to line of automobiles, Alaska Railroad track along shoreline at left, pickup truck in foreground]
- .65 – Bridge #641, preparing to blast it [view down road to small bridge, dump truck on new span at left]
- .66 – Culvert that R.R. installed. This is before we tied on [pickup truck on small bridge over creek, section of pipe under bridge]
- .67 – Bridge #642 after it was blasted [view underneath small bridge, water half-way up culvert pipe]
- .68 – Bridge #642 after it was blasted [view underneath small bridge, water half-way up culvert pipe]
- .69 – Bridge #641 [pickup truck on small bridge, new span at right]
- .70 – Bridge #642 before it was blasted [pickup truck on small bridge over creek, section of pipe under bridge]
- .71 – Bridge #641 after blasting it [view down road to damaged span]
- .72 – Bill McGee & his rod etc. during World Series, Bird Flats [surveyor standing in road with theodolite on tripod, automobiles in background]
- .73 – Pit #6 loading rock with 80D N.W. [men watching John Deere 80D excavator removing rock from cut]
- .74 – Pit #6, rod showing the size of rock [close-up of rod next to boulders in cut]
- .75 – Pit #6 [view across cut]
- .76 – Pit #6 [view across cut]
- .77 – Pit #6 [view across cut]
- .78 – Causeway [heavy equipment on right-of-way, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .79 – M.K. Pt. drilling for fill material [view across cleared area to heavy equipment, mountain in background]
- .80 – [view down right-of-way, trench at left]
- .81 – Bird Hill [view down road to pickup truck, bulldozer, and dump truck, utility poles at left]
- .82 – Bird Flats, auto car dumping [view down road to semi trailer end dump placing piles of fill on pavement, vehicle at left, building in right background]
- .83 – Rejected riprap [rod in ground next to pile of boulders, Turnagain Arm in background]
- .84 – Riprap, sta. 698 to 700+ [fill along right-of-way, photographer's shadow in foreground]
- .85 – Riprap on causeway lt. sh[oulder] [view down shoreline, utility pole in subsided area in left background]
- .86 – South end of causeway [view down right-of-way to men standing in distance, Turnagain Arm at right]
- .87 – Causeway [view down shoreline, utility pole in subsided area at left]
- .88 – Causeway [view down shoreline]
- .89 – Pit "C" [cleared area on hillside]
- .90 – Pit "C" [cut]

- .91 – Foreman for Green and myself. Bridge removal at #629. Jim Whitter & myself [on verso:] Jim Whitaker & myself on Dec. 1, 1964, Bridge #629 [two men standing next to automobiles, excavator in background. Polaroid]
- .92 – Bird Hill rock pit, 9/14/64 [on verso:] Bird Hill borrow pit rock site, 9-14-64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .93 – Bird Hill rock pit, 9/14/64, trying to load with 988 loaders [cut. Polaroid]
- .94 – Bird Hill rock pit, 9/14/64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .95 – Checking gradation of riprap, did not pass [men looking into bucket of excavator, two men at left labeled “Moore” and “Ray”. Polaroid]
- .96 – Bird Hill rock pit, 9/14/64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .97 – Bird Hill rock site, 9/14/64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .98 – Checking gradation of riprap, 9/14/64 [men looking at boulders, excavator at right. Polaroid]
- .99 – Bird Hill rock site, 9/14/64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .100 – Bird Hill rock site, 9/14/64 [cut. Polaroid]
- .101 – Aug. 14, Checking gradation of riprap, did not pass [men looking at boulders, excavator at right, men at left labeled “Napier Supt.” and “Moore”. Polaroid]
- .102 - #1 Peterson [shovel, crate, and small cart next to pile of riprap. Polaroid]
- .103 – M.K. Point [pile of riprap. Polaroid]
- .104 – Sta. 183 looking S.E. before filling bridges [scenic of flats along Turnagain Arm, road and guardrail in foreground. Polaroid]
- .105 – Peterson Pit riprap [cut. Polaroid]
- .106 – Peterson Pit riprap [cut. Polaroid]
- .107 – Peterson Pit riprap [rod next to boulder to show size. Polaroid]
- .108 – [riprap. Polaroid. Mounted upside down]
- .109 – Snow fall at Girdwood, A.M. 11/19/64 at project shut down [automobiles and equipment in deep snow. Polaroid]
- .110 – [riprap. Polaroid. Mounted upside down]
- .111 – Bridge #634, ice damage, taken the [sic] 4/4/65 [view from one bridge to parallel span, Turnagain Arm in background]
- .112 – Ice damage, Br. #634 taken 4/4/65 [ice chunks in river at base of span]
- .113 – Ice damage [on print:] 4/4/65 Br. #634 [view from one bridge to parallel span, Turnagain Arm in background]
- .114 – Ice damage [on print:] 4/4/65 Br. #634 [view from one bridge to parallel span, two men walking on bridge, Turnagain Arm in background]
- .115 – 4/17/65 Bridge #634 [view from riverbank of crane on bridge, parallel span at left. Polaroid]
- .116 – 4/4/65 Br. #634 [view from one bridge to parallel span, Turnagain Arm in background]
- .117 – 4/14/65, Green’s Cat D7, high tide caught it at 4:45 P.M. [heavy equipment submerged in deep water, bridge in background. Polaroid. Cf. .134, .141]
- .118 – March 27, ’64, Bridge #625 after quake [view across creek, girders of collapsed span visible, man standing on far bank, building at left]
- .119 – March 27, Bridge #626, earthquake damage, 1964 [view across heavily damaged small span]
- .120 – [view across damaged span, crane at left]

- .121 – Damage to Seward Highway from Portage south 4 miles [view down right-of-way to creek]
- .122 – Damage to Seward Highway from Portage south 4 miles [view down right-of-way, man walking near section of missing pavement, heavy equipment in distance]
- .123 – Damage to Seward Highway [view down road with sections of missing pavement, water-filled trench at right]
- .124 – Damage to Seward Highway. These two fellows were R.R. officials. Had to walk from Ingram Cr. Bridge to Girdwood [two men standing on right-of-way, water-filled trench at left]
- .125 – Bridge #625 [view across damaged span to heavy equipment]
- .126 – [pickup truck in gravel pullout along highway]
- .127 – Taken from Bird Hill looking north [scenic of Turnagain Arm]
- .128 – Taken from Bird Hill looking north [scenic of Turnagain Arm]
- .129 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [view from riverbank of crane and pickup truck on span, ice chunks in water; print date Apr 65]
- .130 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [crane and pickup truck on span, men standing next to girder at left; print date Apr 65]
- .131 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [view from riverbank of crane and pickup truck on span, ice chunks in water; print date Apr 65]
- .132 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [view from riverbank of crane and pickup truck on span, ice chunks in water; print date Apr 65]
- .133 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [crane on span; print date Apr 65]
- .134 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [view from riverbank of bulldozer in water underneath span; print date Apr 65. Cf. .117]
- .135 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [men and crane on span, moving pier into place; print date Apr 65]
- .136 – Emerg. repair Br. #634 [view across span, men and heavy equipment in distance; print date Apr 65]
- .137 – Emerg. Br. repair #634 [view across span, long line of automobiles stopped on far side, automobile in foreground; print date Apr 65]
- .138 – Emerg. Br. Repair #634 [men and crane on span, lowering pier into place; print date Apr 65]
- .139 – Br. repair #634 [men and crane on span, lowering pier into place; print date Apr 65]
- .140 – Bridge #634 during repair [view from riverbank of bulldozer in water underneath span; print date May 65]
- .141 – D7 Cat, tide got over [bulldozer submerged in deep water, bridge in background; print date May 65. Cf. .117]
- .142 – D7 in tide [bulldozer submerged in deep water, bridge in background; print date May 65]
- .143 – D-7 tide [bulldozer submerged in deep water, bridge in background; print date May 65]
- .144 – Removing decking for repair of #634 [men working on span; print date May 65]
- .145 – Office at Girdwood [two pickup trucks parked in front of modular unit with sign “Alaska Dept of Highways Project Engineer”; print date May 65]
- .146 – Showing berms along project on causeway looking south [view down right-of-way; print date May 65]

- .147 – Placing Type II [view down right-of-way, berm at left, automobile in foreground, utility poles in background]
- .148 – Same as above [view down right-of-way; print date May 65]
- .149 – Slopes looking N [view along shoreline, riprap along road, utility poles in subsided area in background; print date May 65]
- .150 – Showing berms on each side of road [view down right-of-way; print date May 65]
- .151 – Slopes, north of R.R. from Girdwood [view down right-of-way, heavy equipment in distance, Turnagain Arm at right; print date May 65]
- .152 – Showing slopes N of R.R. which are not completed [view down right-of-way, heavy equipment in distance; print date May 65]
- .153 – Dumping some rock at R.R. at Girdwood. Euclid went off into ditch because of no brakes [Euclid dump truck partially in water, wheel tractor-scraper in foreground; print date May 65]
- .154 – Same deal [Euclid dump truck partially in water; print date May 65]
- .155 – [view down right-of-way; print date May 65]
- .156 – Place need repairing because of tide washout [man standing on shoreline at low tide, utility poles in subsided area in background; print date May 65]
- .157 – Clean up work in Pit #3 [view across road to pickup truck, excavator in distance; print date May 65]
- .158 – Screening plant in Pit #3 [distant view of plant; print date May 65]
- .159 – Concrete from old structures dumped i[n] Pit #3 on F.A. will have to be covered [pile of debris in flat area; print date May 65]
- .160 – [Bailing?] for Type II in Pit #3 [view across flooded area to excavator; print date May 65]
- .161 – M.K. Point before clean up [view along shoreline to utility pole, lines in water; print date May 65]
- .162 – Material that was placed at culvert on seaward side. Not much rock in it at all [view along shoreline, utility poles in water at right; print date May 65]
- .163 – Slope repair that need[s] to be done [view down trench paralleling road; print date May 65]
- .164 – Slope worked [sic] needed [view along shoreline, flooded subsidence area at right, pickup truck at left, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center reads in part “Slope at sta 578’”]; print date May 65]
- .165 – Same [view along shoreline, flooded subsidence area at left, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center; print date May 65]
- .166 – Same [view along road shoulder, railroad bridge at right, “Slow” sign in background, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center; print date May 65]
- .167 – Same [view down road, automobile parked in center, clipboard with handwritten note on ground; print date May 65]
- .168 – Before, shows how they were ending dumping Type II, appro[x] sta. 763+00 north [view down right-of-way, piles of earth on righthand side of road, automobile and trucks on road, Turnagain Arm at left; print date May 65]
- .169 – Slope repair needed [view along shoreline, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center reads in part “Borrow”]; print date May 65]
- .170 – Slope repair needed [view along right-of-way, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center near pole, water in trench at left; print date May 65]

- .171 – Shows cond[ition] of slopes, May 1965 [view along shoreline, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center]
- .172 – Cond[ition] of slopes, May 1965 [view along right-of-way, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center]
- .173 – Slopes at Sta. 867+00 poor [view along right-of-way, clipboard with handwritten note on ground in center]
- .174 – Installing culvert at Sta. 812+00 [view down road to men, section of pipe, and heavy equipment]
- .175 – Culvert operation at Sta. 812+00 [man operating small bulldozer on road next to parked automobile]
- .176 – Shows what type of oper. Installing culvert at 812+00 using back hole [sic] and dumping into 988 loader bucket. Wrong type of equip. [men operating heavy equipment to move earth]
- .177 – Sta. 812+00, the wrong type of equip. to backfill culvert, whereby he was stuck for 2 hrs and had to bring equip. from south end of job [man standing on backhoe which has tipped over]
- .178 – Hauling on N end Sta. 928+00 to 956+00. The operation was not efficient, so many truck[s] in such a small area [view down right-of-way to line of heavy equipment]
- .179 – Looking south, sign facing wrong. This shows improper signing which I mention in diary. The truck foreman said give me a letter to [dot?] up proper signs. The supt. was there and said nothing. It was too late in the day to give close order. These 3 pictures [.179-181] show sta. approx.. 900+00 to 956 looking north. No signs at all and this was the way the operation was working [view down road, sign at right]
- .180 – [view down road]
- .181 – [view down road, automobile in foreground]

Guide written: February 26, 2019