

B1967.001

O.G. Herning Collection

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Donor: Louise Potter

Accession Number: B1967.001

Description: 197 photographs

Biographical Information:

Orville George (O.G.) Herning was born July 30, 1863 in Eyota, Minnesota. As a young man Herning made his living as a rural school teacher until 1888 when he decided to go into the produce business with D.W.A. Roby. They eventually moved the business to Naugatuck, Conn., where Roby had relatives. In 1894, Herning married Martha A. Rogers of Naugatuck and had a son, G. Stanley Herning.

In 1897 Herning was recruited by the E.C. Davis Company (Boston Brokers) to lead a group of men to the Alaska Territory to prospect gold. The following he began managing an exploration company in Tyonek Alaska. Herning eventually settled in Wasilla where he managed the Klondike and Boston Gold Mining & Manufacturing Co. While living in Wasilla has also established the Knik Trading Post. Henning's diaries span the almost 50 years he spent living and working in these areas.

Beginning in 1898, Mr. Herning drew, published and sold three different maps of the Upper Cook Inlet mining area showing trails, geographical features and mineral areas. He was also an excellent photographer and from time to time wrote articles for various newspapers and trade magazines. [From: Louise Potter, Pre-Diary Notes.]