

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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TITLE: Inlet Potters Club Records

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1995.015

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: circa 1960-1972

Extent: 0.2 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Inlet Potters Club, Hazel Butcher

Administrative/Biographical History:

The Inlet Potters Club was organized in 1950 “for the purpose of sponsoring pottery exhibits and to encourage an interest in clay work in the area.” Annual shows were mounted during Fur Rendezvous in Anchorage, Alaska, starting in 1950, and during the Alaska Music Festival from 1962.

Hazel Bingham Butcher was born in 1909 in Odgen, Utah, to Eugene and Esther Bingham. She studied ceramics under Clark Riddle in Provo. She came to Alaska in 1944 with her husband, Harold J. Butcher. In Anchorage, she studied under Alex Combs and became a founding member of the Inlet Potters Club. She died Sept. 15, 2000.

Scope and Content Description:

The collection consists of photographs, negatives, meeting minutes, financial records, correspondence, and ephemera pertaining to the Inlet Potters Club and the art of Hazel Butcher.

Arrangement: Arranged in three series: 1. Photographs. 2. Paper materials. 3. Ribbons.

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:

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Preferred Citation:

Inlet Potters Club Records, Anchorage Museum, B1995.015

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by Hazel Butcher in 1995.

Processing Notes

Newsprint clipping photocopied and discarded.

RELATED MATERIALS

Margery McCormick Collection, B1985.047

SUBJECTS

Butcher, Hazel B., 1909-2000

Nethken, Alcie, 1914-2007

Combs, Alex, 1919-2008

Lee, Pauline S. (Polly)

Van Kommer, Opal

Hale, Mary, 1920-2007

Simonds, Charlotte, d. 2004

Park, A. E. (Betty), d. 1972

Inlet Potters Club

Earth, Fire & Fibre Exhibition (Anchorage, Alaska)

Pottery—Alaska

Artists—Alaska—Anchorage

Arts--Alaska--Exhibitions

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series 1: Photographs

F1

Prints

- .1 – Digging clay out at Telequana [sic]. Pauline Johnson and I, Hazel Butcher, would climb down the bank and dig inlet clay & fill several plastic bags then our sons would come & carry the heavy bags to the car. The clay was blue in color and so clean that we could use it without washing or straining and it fired to a beautiful red or rust color. It was nice without a glaze.
- .2 – [Hazel Butcher in workshop]
- .3 – Hazel Bingham Butcher throwing pots on an electric wheel
- .4 – Pauline Johnson, Alcie Nethken, the year Pauline won the grand prize
- .5 – Inlet Potter's Club, Marge King, president [group of women sitting around table]
- .6 – [same as .5]
- .7 – Inlet Potter's Club, taken by Hazel Butcher. Grace Alexander and daughter, Kathi Lester, Lois DaFoe, Alcie Nethken, Pauline Johnson, Lois McCoy, Opal Van Kommer & son
- .8 – Alcie Nethken, Lois McCoy, Pauline Johnson, Hazel Butcher, Opal Van Kommer, Kathey Lester, Grace Alexander
- .9 – Hazel Butcher's bowl that won the grand prize, judged by Alex Combs
- .10 – [ceramics on display]
- .11 – Hazel Butcher's pottery made in the basement of her home
- .12 – [ceramics in judged exhibition]
- .13 – Pottery display in window of Northern Commercial store
- .14 – [ceramics in exhibition, with piece by Alex Duff Combs hanging on wall]
- .15 – [ceramics in exhibition]
- .16 – [ceramics on display]
- .17 – [ceramics in exhibition]
- .18– [ceramics in exhibition]
- .19– [ceramics in exhibition]
- .20– [ceramics in exhibition]
- .21 – Pauline Johnson best of show
- .22 – [similar to .21]
- .23 – Ceramic top table
- .24 – “Golden Week Pouch,” Becky Patterson [in exhibition, with sign for “Governor's Award”]
- .25 – [similar to .25]
- .26 – [ceramic vase]
- .27 – [ceramics on display]
- .28 – [ceramic vase and plant pots with sign “Tundra Pottery”]
- .29 – [ceramics in exhibition]
- .30 – [ceramics on display, with sign “Articles made by members of the Inlet Potters Club”]
- .31 – [ceramics on display]
- .32 – [ceramics in exhibition]
- .33 – [ceramics in exhibition]
- .34 – [ceramics in exhibition]

.35 – Bernard Leach Pottery in England. To me the greatest potter who ever lived. The pottery was closed, so we didn't get to see the pottery inside and that had been my lifelong dream nor did we get to meet him personally, but in Calif. I did know one of his students, Marguerite Wildenhain. I have a teapot made by Bernard Leach and a vase by Marguerite. I was never where I could buy a pot from the great Japanese potter, Hamada.

Negatives, 35mm strip

.36-.56 – These negs may be from the Design Exhibition 1971 at the Anchorage Museum [note dated July 18, 1997, by Wanda Samster]

Series 2: Paper materials

F2

Meeting minutes, Sept. 13, 1960-November 1970

F3

Financial information, 1967-1971

F4

Exhibitions, 1960-1972

F5

Miscellaneous papers

- Correspondence. Typescript copy. Secretary, Inlet Potters Club to Garry Hanson, re Fine Arts Council of Anchorage, October 30, 1964

- Correspondence. Typescript letter signed Robert W. Ward, Secretary of State, to Anthony B. Lastufka re reappointment of Mary Hale to Alaska State Council on the Arts, June 10, 1970

- Correspondence. Typescript letter signed Robert W. Ward, Secretary of State, to Anthony B. Lastufka re reappointment of Charlotte Simonds to Alaska State Council on the Arts, June 11, 1970

- Manuscript list of names and addresses, no date

- Typescript. Inlet Potters Club, historical information, no date

- Typescript. Inlet Potters Club, historical information, no date

- Clipping. "For Betty Park." Poem by Ruben Gaines in memoriam Ann Elizabeth Park, 1972

Series 3: Ribbons

F6

Butcher Ribbons, 1955, First Annual Ceramic Show

Guide written: August 9, 2012