

**NIELSEN COLLECTION.** (Located in Small Collections File) **Photos. 1 file folder in .15 cu.ft. 1920s – 1940s.**  
B05.18 *Inventory.*

John Calvin Nielsen was born in Afognak, Alaska on April 22, 1907. His mother, Mary Balue was a native of Alaska, and his father, John B. Nielsen emigrated from Denmark. After Balue's death in 1915, eight year old John traveled alone from Alaska to live with relatives in Pottawattamie, Iowa. Educated through grammar school, at the age of nineteen he returned to Alaska to work with his father on the Alaska railroad. He later worked for Kennicott Mining Co. in the Wrangell Mountains. Nielsen joined the Army Air Force in 1942. When his service time ended in 1945 he moved to California, and lived in the San Francisco Bay area. In 1951, John married Fruma and worked for a heating company in San Leandro for over twenty-one years before retiring. He died in Redwood City, California on October 30, 1988.

The Nielsen Collection consists of one folder containing 12 photographs and two postcards. The photographs are black and white and of various activities related to mining, including a gold sluice box and high-powered hoses, and portraits of John Calvin Nielsen and his parents. A postcard of the Red Dog Saloon is included, along with a small art piece of the aurora borealis.

This collection was donated to the Anchorage Museum by Dolly Smith in 2005.

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## **INVENTORY**

BOX 1/Folder 1 – Postcards and Photographs

### **Miscellaneous Items**

B05.18.1

Written on back, “Northern Lights Alaska, Latouche 1920s”

### **Photographs**

B05.18.2

Hydraulic gold mining area

B05.18.3

Man with cigarette in mouth works in sluice box. Hydraulic gold mining in background

B05.18.4

Gold pan in sluice box

B05.18.5

Gold pan in sluice box with hydraulic gold mining in background.

B05.18.6

Side of building with cattle skull near window

B05.18.7

Hydraulic gold mining area

B05.18.8

Close up of hydraulic gold mining

B05.18.9

Hydraulic gold mining. Long sluice box in foreground.

B05.18.10

Close up of tailings from gold mining

B05.18.11

Unidentified man poses next to hose used for hydraulic gold mining.

B05.18.12

Postcard. Interior view of "World Famous" Red Dog Saloon. Juneau Alaska. Written on back, "Visit The Red Dog Saloon and relive the Days of '98. Sawdust on the floor; Antiques; Community Singing and Entertainment. Gordon and Virginia Kanouse, Owners.

B05.18.13

Hand colored photographs with oval cut mat on top  
John Bernard Nielsen 1873-1938, Mary Balue Nielsen 1886 – 1915

B05.18.14

Black and white portrait of John Calvin Nielsen  
Written on back, "John Calvin Nielsen. 4/22/07 – 10/30/88.  
Museum accession # B03.21"