

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

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**TITLE:** Alaska Railroad Week Posters

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2013.013

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: 1980-2008

Extent: 10 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Alaska Railroad, Susan Ogle, Richard Rodriguez, Armond Kirschbaum, Steve Gordon, Nancy Taylor Stonington, Tom Stewart, Robert Silvers, Betty Atkinson, Kurt Jacobson

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

In 1979, Alaska Governor Jay Hammond declared September 10-16 as Alaska Railroad Week in recognition of the Railroad's contributions to the state. An exhibition highlighting the Railroad's history was mounted at the Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum (now the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center), and the Railroad deposited at the Museum its photographic archives. Alaska Railroad Week has been held annually since 1979, and a poster featuring art by an Alaskan artist has been issued.

**Scope and Content Description:**

The collection consists of ten posters issued for Alaska Railroad Week. See detailed description for more information.

Arrangement: Chronological.

**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:

Alaska Railroad Week Posters, Anchorage Museum, B2013.013

### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

#### Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by George F. Shaw in February 2013. Nine of the posters (except 1995) were purchased by Shaw from Pat Crenshaw prior to donation.

#### Processing Notes

Posters for 1988 and 2000 mounted on foam core. Small tear in 1997. Water damage to 2005.

### **RELATED MATERIALS**

B1979.002 Alaska Railroad Collection

### **SUBJECTS**

Alaska Railroad—Posters

Railroads—Alaska—Posters

#### Detailed Description of the Collection

[Information supplied by donor]

.1 – No title. 1980 ALASKA RAILROAD WEEK 21 - 27 Sept.

Graphic is freight train pulled by a single blue & yellow unnumbered diesel locomotive. NO year appears on the poster. Confirmed by artist Susan Ogle as 1980. 18” x 26.” S. [Susan] Ogle [19]80 lower right of image, printed by Pluto Screenprint, Anch. Print has SOgle '80 in lower right corner of poster. “The graphic image of the train making as "s" turn. On a silver foil paper. Screenprint. Guessing an edition of 200. This was the smallest of the 4 editions I am sure.” Information from e-mails between GFS & SO, 5 Jan 2013 email.

.2 - Rail Yard. 1988. Copyright 1987 ARRC.

Diesel 3014 in Anch. Yard, city outlined / silhouette left top. This poster has a repairable crease in the lower left quadrant. 30” x 15.5”. Richard Rodriguez. The 1988 poster was the

second of the three painted by Richard Rodriguez. Locomotive #3014 is set in a foggy atmosphere in the Anchorage yard, with the Anchorage skyline in the background.

.3 - Anchorage Depot. 1992. Copyright 1991 ARRC.

Anchorage Depot, 0-4-0 #1, & parking lot in foreground. 30" x 20.5". Armond M. Kirschbaum. The Railroad celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Anchorage Depot by having Armond Kirschbaum paint it for the 1992 poster. The depot was built in two stages, with the two-story wing on either end added six years later in 1948.

.4 - Ski Train. 1994. Copyright 1993 ARRC.

Engine 3805 on point of Ski Train. Skiers unloading on Right of Way. 23 3/4" x 18 1/4". Steve Gordon. The Nordic Ski Club Train to Grandview was a wildly popular charter train, selling out every year. Avalanche and insurance concerns were enough to convince the Railroad to run the train north to Curry, past Talkeetna. In 1994 Steve Gordon painted the scene in this, his second poster for the Railroad.

.5 - Tall Bridge. 1995. Copyright 1994 ARRC.

Passenger train crossing timber trestle. 18" x 26.5". Nancy Taylor Stonington. The Riley Creek Bridge is the last bridge before the northbound passenger train arrives in Denali National Park. Nancy Taylor Stonington was a popular and well-established watercolorist in Alaska when she painted this fall scene in 1995.

.6 - Winter Freight. 1997. Copyright 1996 ARRC

Diesels 3014, 2504 & ?? on point of freight. Red fox in lower left corner. 35" x 22". Tom Stewart. Tom Stewart painted the 1997 poster in a realistic style. He chose to show a southbound freight train near Beluga Point; a curious small red fox watches closely from the corner.

.7 – Mosaic. 2000. Copyright 1999 ARRC

Diesel locomotive made with many small prints, different subjects. 36" x 24". Robert Silvers. In 2000, Robert Silvers created a photo mosaic made up of more than 1,000 images submitted by railroad fans and employees. John Binkley, former board chairman, and Bill Sheffield, former Alaska governor and ARRC CEO, stand on the locomotive waving the American and Alaska Flags.

.8 – Caboose. 2005. Copyright 2005 ARRC

Caboose 1077, child with dog swinging in small park. 24" x 19". Betty Atkinson. The Alaska Railroad runs through urban areas along with the more well-known wilderness it's famous for. The northbound Caboose #1077, painted in 2005 by Betty Atkinson, passes Elderberry Park in downtown Anchorage. The painting shows how trains always elicit a wave from kids.

.9 - Winter Train. 2006. Copyright 2006 ARRC

Diesel 4001 on point of passenger train in snow storm. 24" x 18.75". Kurt Jacobson. Alaska is known for its challenging weather but it rarely delays the Alaska Railroad. In 2006, Kurt Jacobson shows what that inclement winter weather can look like with Locomotive #4001 pulling a passenger train through the backcountry with Mt. McKinley in the background.

10 - Dawn Departure. 2008. Copyright 2008 ARRC  
Fairbanks depot with diesel 4015 on passenger train. 31.5" x 16". Kurt Jacobson. The Railroad was proud of the new Depot in Fairbanks and shows it off in the 2008 poster painted by Kurt Jacobson. In it, a passenger train sits in the front waiting space for passengers to board. This is one of the "rae" posters depicting the North End.

Guide written: February 20, 2013