

AMHA Archives
Ceceile Kay Richter Collection
B01.34

Ms. Richter worked for both the US Army Corps of engineers and one of the contractors on the project to survey former military sites prior to cleanup under ERDA (Environmental Restoration Defense Account) in the 1980's. This collection consists of some general files on the program; a file containing information regarding Ms. Richter's background and participation in the project; files listing airfields, naval construction, weather stations, White Alice sites, Department of Defense (DoD) priorities; files containing ownership information about some of the sites; and a copy of a paper given by Lyman Woodman on German POWs in Alaska.

There are also files giving information needed for the military cleanup survey about a number of specific sites, including Barrow, Fairbanks, Hoonah, Juneau, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Port Heiden, Port Moller, Seward, Skagway, Sitka, and Whittier. Area files are included for the Aleutian Islands, Northern sites, and Other sites.

DERP (the Defense Environmental Restoration Program) was created by the US Congress in December 1983 for the purpose of funding/arranging the cleanup of former DoD sites that had been contaminated during use. Unused buildings, hazardous waste, and other relics of the WWII and Korean War military buildups in Alaska were eliminated under DERP. Most work under DERP was done by civilian contractors working under supervision from the Army Corps of Engineers. See folder 4, (ERDA General) for more general information about DERP and the cleanup of former military sites in Alaska.

The following is a list of the files in the Richter collection, with a description of each.

Airfield list June 1945-

Lists all airfields active in the territory of Alaska as of June 1945. Contains information on geographic location (longitude/latitude), altitude, location relative to nearby towns/landmarks, dimensions & surface, and description.

DERP priority lists-

Forms, lists, etc. produced under DERP (Defense Environmental Restoration Program), indicating which sites were to be given priority in cleanup due to severe contamination, etc.

Donor Biographical Information-

Letters from Ms. Richter, telling of her experiences in Alaska

ERDA General-

Press releases, letters, etc. regarding the cleanup of former military sites in Alaska.

German POW Paper-

Paper presented by Lyman Woodman at the Alaska History Symposium, 2 November 1984 on the subject of approximately 700 German WWII POWs who had been held in Alaska. No apparent relation to DERP/ERDA or the rest of the collection.

Miscellaneous lists-

Assorted papers produced under DERP/ERDA. Many legal sized. Military language and acronyms abound.

Naval Construction-

List of past and present naval facilities in Alaska as of 1984. Some designated for cleanup/ restoration under DERP.

Ownership Misc.-

Letters regarding the legal/ownership status of certain areas of land on Umnak Island to be studied and/or cleaned up under DERP

Weather stations-

Reports concerning the construction of weather stations in the Aleutian Islands.

White Alice sites-

Report (Non-DERP) about the possibility of the elimination of White Alice sites in Alaska

Fairbanks-

Description of current and former DoD (Department of Defense) sites near Fairbanks to be cleaned up under DERP.

Juneau-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Juneau to be cleaned up under DERP.

Ketchikan-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Ketchikan to be cleaned up under DERP.

Kodiak-

Description of current and former DoD sites on Kodiak Island to be cleaned up under DERP.

Port Moller/Port Heiden-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Port Moller and/or Port Heiden to be cleaned up under DERP.

Seward-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Seward to be cleaned up under DERP.

Skagway-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Skagway to be cleaned up under DERP.

Whittier-

Description of current and former DoD sites near Whittier to be cleaned up under DERP.

Aleutians General-

Description of current and former DoD sites in the Aleutian Islands to be cleaned up under DERP.

Northern sites profiles-

Description of current and former DoD sites in northern Alaska to be cleaned up under DERP.

Other sites profiles-

Description of current and former DoD sites to be cleaned up under DERP that do not fit into any of the above categories. .