

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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TITLE: Joan C. Ray Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2005.017

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: ca. 1939-1988

Extent: 1.0 linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Joan Q. Chisholm Ray

Administrative/Biographical History:

Joan Q. Chisholm Ray was the daughter of John J. (Jack) Chisholm, traveling foodstuffs salesman, and Carlotta Chisholm, who, with her sister May V. Beattie, operated the Hotel Parsons located at Third Avenue and H Street in Anchorage. Jack had come to Juneau with his father in 1894, and first settled in Anchorage in 1915. He was known as the “Dean of Alaska salesman” for his work with Seattle grocery firms. The family owned the city’s third residence, located at 926 Third Ave.

Joan Chisholm was born Sept. 19, 1919, in Portland, OR. She moved to Anchorage with her family in the 1930s. She worked in various positions before joining Pacific Northern Airlines in 1951. In 1956, she married Jack G. Ray. She retired in 1980 and died Jan. 9, 2000.

Scope and Content Description:

Collection consists of 79 black-and-white photographs, one VHS videocassette, and four ledger books. Nineteen photographs are early Alaskan scenes, circa 1930s. Two photographs of military aircraft date from World War II. The set of 58 photographs taken by Ray in May 1988 document downtown Anchorage. The videocassette is labeled “Alaska-Aleutians: World War II.” Also included are four ledger books from the Hotel Parsons, dated 1943-1949.

Arrangement:

Arranged in three series: 1. Early Alaskan photographs; 2. Ray Anchorage photographs; 3. Videocassette and ledger books.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Materials in good condition.

Technical Access: VHS videocassette player required to view video materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Joan C. Ray Collection; Anchorage Museum, B2005.017

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Materials donated by Karen C. Cameron, niece of Joan Ray.

Processing Notes

Nine near duplicate photographs from the Ray Anchorage series were deaccessioned.

Separated Materials

Objects (buttons, pins) transferred to Collections, May 2011.

Notes

RELATED MATERIALS

SUBJECTS

Chisholm, John C., 1875-1957

Chisholm, Carlotta Quinn, 1885-1965

Ray, Joan Chisholm, 1919-2000

Hotel Parsons (Anchorage, Alaska)

World War, 1939-1945

Anchorage (Alaska)

Fourth Avenue (Anchorage, Alaska)
Fairbanks (Alaska)
Palmer (Alaska)
Seward (Alaska)
Knik Glacier (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

B1/F1

Early Alaska photographs

- .1 – Fairbanks, Alaska [street scene, Bank of Fairbanks, Kaye Fur Corp., Golden Belt Tours Inc., Alaska Steamship Co., automobiles, military personnel]
- .2 – Alaskan Totem Pole
- .3 – Alaskan Sunset [Cook Inlet?]
- .4 – Big Ice Floes, Alaska
- .5 – Placier [sic] Glacier, Alaska [Spencer Glacier?]
- .6 – Floating Icebergs, Alaska
- .7 – Otter Lake
- .8 – Alaskan Storm [trees and sky]
- .9 – Eskimo Raincoat [girl in feathered gut parka]
- .10 – Palmer, Alaska
- .11 – Baby Moose, Alaska
- .12 – Knick [sic] Glacier, Alaska
- .13 – First Alaskan Locomotive [Fairbanks rail depot]
- .14 – Looking for Trouble [bear cubs on gun turret]
- .15 – Kenai Mountains, Alaska
- .16 – Alaskan Sourdoughs Home [log cabin]
- .17 – Seward Port
- .18 – 200 Foot Iceberg Crevasses, Alaska
- .19 – Bars & Bars, Anchorage, Alaska [Sourdough Cocktail Bar, Owl Cocktail Bar, Schodde's, Big Dipper Bar, [?] Steam Baths, City Hotel, automobiles, people]
- .20 – [airstrip, pilot, airplane with Stars and Bars insignia, ca. 1943-47, number 447068 on tail]
- .21 - [airstrip, airplane with Stars and Bars insignia, ca. 1943-47, and Great Seal of the United States]

B1/F2

Ray Anchorage Photographs, May 1988

- .22 – Look south down D toward 5th from corner of 4th & D
- .23 – Looking west down 4th from 4th & D
- .24 – Looking east down 4th from corner of 4th & D
- .25 – Looking west down 4th from corner of E & 4th [4th Avenue Theatre, Grizzly's Gifts]
- .26 – Looking east down 4th from corner of E & 4th [National Bank of Alaska]
- .27 – Looking west from corner of 4th & F [4th Avenue Theatre]
- .28 – Looking east down 4th Ave from corner of F & 4th
- .29 – Looking west down 4th from corner of F & 4th

- .30 – Looking east down 4th from corner of G & 4th [4th Avenue Theatre]
- .31 – Looking west down 4th from H St
- .32 – Looking east down from 4th & H [4th Avenue Theatre]
- .33 – Looking east southside 800 blk 4th corner of I & 4th [Alaska Cleaners]
- .34 – Captain Cook Hotel from corner of 4th & I
- .35 – Looking east down 4th Ave from corner of 4th & I [First Interstate Bank]
- .36 – Southside 4th Ave 900 blk looking west [Keyboard Cocktails]
- .37 – West end 800 blk 4th Ave southside [Alaska Cleaners]
- .38 – Anchorage [Daily] Times building southside 800 blk 4th Ave
- .39 – Southeast corner 4th & H 700 blk
- .40 – 4th & H southside 800 blk [Anchorage Daily Times]
- .41 – 700 blk 4th Ave northside looking east [Pioneer Club]
- .42 – NW corner 4th & H 800 blk 4th
- .43 – Center of block northside 700 blk 4th Ave [Pioneer Club, Allen's Nugget Jewelry, Dan's Camera Repair]
- .44 – 700 blk northside 4th Ave center of block [Gaslight, Novosel's Jewelry, Larry Beck's Alaskana]
- .45 – Old Federal building 600 blk 4th Ave northside
- .46 – Northside 600 blk 4th Ave 4th & G [Trapper Jack's Trading Post]
- .47 – 700 blk southside 4th Ave [Alaskan Ivory Exchange]
- .48 – Southside 600 blk 4th Ave [4th Avenue Theatre, Adams', Tour Alaska]
- .49 – Southside 600 blk 4th looking west [4th Avenue Theatre, Woolworth's]
- .50 – 500 blk northside 4th Ave [Alaska Sightseeing Tours, Stewarts Photo Shop]
- .51 – Old Federal building 600 blk 4th Ave northside
- .52 – 500 blk 4th Ave northside looking west [Grizzly's Gifts, Anchorage Hotel]
- .53 – NW corner 4th & E 500 blk 4th east end [Grizzly's Gifts, Anchorage Hotel]
- .54 – West end 400 blk 4th Ave northside [McDonald's]
- .55 – Southside 400 blk 4th Ave ½ Carrol bldg center [National Bank of Alaska, Alaska Treasure Shop]
- .56 – 500 blk 4th Ave looking west, old city hall [Key Bank]
- .57 – West end 400 blk southside 4th Ave ½ of Carrol bldg in center [National Bank of Alaska, Martin Victor Furs]
- .58 – Wendler bldg southside 400 blk 4th Ave east end [Club 25, Alaska Heritage Arts, Myron Rosenberg Gallery]
- .59 – Wendler bldg SW corner 4th & D 400 blk [Club 25, Alaska Heritage Arts, Myron Rosenberg Gallery]
- .60 - Wendler bldg SW corner 4th & D 400 blk [Club 25, Alaska Heritage Arts, Myron Rosenberg Gallery]
- .61 – Sunshine Plaza 4th Ave northside 400 blk [Tito's Gyros]
- .62 – Post Office Mall 4th Ave n. side 300 blk [KEAG-FM, Fashion Wigs, Hilton Hotel]
- .63 – 4th 300 blk southside [Turf News, Army-Navy Surplus, Panhandle Bar-Café]
- .64 – 4th Ave 300 blk southside east end of block [Turf News, Army-Navy Surplus, Panhandle Bar-Café]
- .65 – 4th & D southside west end of blk corner bldg police substation [Arctic Treasures Loan, The Avenue Bar]

- .66 – 300 blk 4th southside toward center of block [Arctic Treasures Loan, The Avenue Bar]
- .67 – 4th & D northside Sunshine Plaza & Post Office Mall
- .68 – 300 blk 4th northside Post Office Mall
- .69 – 4th & D looking north
- .70 – 4th & D looking south down D toward 5th [Cyrano's Books & Café, Kodiak Furs, Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall]
- .71 – 4th & G southside [First National Bank of Anchorage]
- .72 – 4th & G southside [First National Bank of Anchorage]
- .73 – 600 blk southside 4th Ave [4th Avenue Theatre]
- .74 – 4th & G northside [Trapper Jack's Trading Post]
- .75 – Old city hall 500 blk southside 4th Ave [Visitor Information Center]
- .76 – 400 blk southside 4th Ave [Alaska Treasure Shop]
- .77 – 500 blk northside 4th Ave [Leidenverg & Kay's, 515 Cocktail Lounge, Phillips Cruises & Tours, Anchorage Hotel, Grizzly's Gifts]
- .78 – 500 blk northside 4th Ave [Gray Line of Alaska, Alaska Sightseeing Tours, Grant's Fine Jewelry, Fur Trappers, Kumagoro Restaurant, Stewarts Photo Shop]
- .79 – 500 blk northside 4th Ave [Stewarts Photo Shop, Downtown Deli and Café, Arctic Passage Gifts]

B1/F3

- .80 – VHS videocassette: Alaska-Aleutians, World War II

B2

- .81 – Ledger book: Hotel Parsons, August 1943-December 1949; bank deposits and withdrawals
- .82 – Ledger book: Hotel Parsons, August 1943-December 1949; assets, liabilities, capital, income, expenses
- .83 – Wage-Hour Social Security Monthly Time Book, August 1943-December 1949
- .84 – Ekonomik Check Register, the First National Bank, Oct. 16, 1947-Nov. 8, 1949