

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center  
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**TITLE:** Maria and Gust Alexson Photographs

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2013.057

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: circa 1931?

Extent: 2 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Maria Kinnunen Alexson

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

Maria Kinnunen sailed from her home country of Finland to San Francisco in 1906, and met her future husband, Gust Alexson, on the ship. Gust had been visiting relatives and was returning to Alaska, where he had been engaged in gold mining at Nome. They married in 1909 in Nome, and spent the next two decades running a boarding house in winter and prospecting for gold in summer. In 1931, they returned to Finland for a visit and then relocated to Seattle upon their return to the United States.

**Scope and Content Description:**

Two black-and-white photographs, one a photographic postcard showing Maria Alexson in a fur parka, mittens, and boots, annotated in Finnish and English on the verso; and the other a family group portrait, with three men, three women, and two children in sleds in front of two houses, possibly in Finland, annotated in Finnish on recto.

Arrangement: Not applicable

**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:

Maria and Gust Alexson Photographs, Anchorage Museum, B2013.057

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by the families of Audrey Fredensburg and Dorothy Reif in July 1999. Transferred to the archives in June 2013.

Separated Materials

Photos were donated along with 21 objects, which remained in Collections.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

1999.044.001-.021

**SUBJECTS**

Alexson, Maria Kinnunen

Alexson, Gustavo

Finnish Americans—Alaska

Guide written: June 11, 2013