REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:
Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Alaska Resource Center
625 C Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-929-9235
Fax: 907-929-9233
Email: resourcecenter@anchoragemuseum.org

Guide prepared by: Sara Piasecki, Archivist

TITLE: Jerry Forsyth McKeen Railmotor Photographs

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2016.009

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 2016

Extent: 55 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Gerald M. Forsyth

Administrative/Biographical History:
McKeen Company began producing its self-propelled railmotor car in 1905. Car no. 83 is a 1910 model, and was acquired by the Alaska Railroad in the mid-1920s from the Yuma Valley Railroad. It was modified several times before being retired in the late 1940s. During its Alaska run, it served primarily to carry students between Fairbanks and the university campus; during World War II, it was used as a PX car for the 714th Railway Operating Battalion, running between Seward and Fairbanks.

In 1999, the car was purchased by Pat Hickey, who sold it to Anchorage Historic Properties in 2004. Madison Kirkman of Ramona, California, raised funds to ship the car from Anchorage to California for restoration in 2016.

Scope and Content Description:
The collection consists of 55 digital photographs of the McKeen railroad motorcar prior to its shipment to California, all taken by Jerry Forsyth in March of 2016. Images depict deterioration of the car and preparations for shipment.
Arrangement: Original order maintained

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

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

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: Original born-digital photographs and/or copies thereof require computer access. No special equipment is needed to access the printed versions of the images.

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Preferred Citation:
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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information
Donated by Forsyth in March 2016.

Processing Note
Digital files transferred from CD to Museum servers. Files copied to create access versions. All images printed out on standard office paper for physical access.

RELATED MATERIALS
Alaska Railroad Collection, B1979.002

SUBJECTS
Alaska Railroad
Railroad cars—Alaska
Railroad motorcars

Guide written: March 24, 2016