

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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Guide prepared by: Ivy Turinsky, Archivist

TITLE: Hammers Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2001.042

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1938-1942

Extent: 64 photographic prints, 26 copy prints

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Harold Hammers, United States Army, Air Force, 2nd Mapping Squadron

Administrative/Biographical History:

Harold Hammers was a member of the Army/Air Force Photographic Corps in Alaska from 1938 to 1942. Nothing else is known about the creator at this time of writing.

The 2nd Reconnaissance Squadron was constituted as 2nd Photographic Squadron on 15 May 1941 and activated 10 June 1941. Redesignated 2nd Mapping Squadron on 13 January 1942, 2nd Photographic Squadron on 9 June 1942, 2nd Photographic Charting Squadron on 11 August 1943, 2nd Reconnaissance Squadron (Long Range, Photographic) on 15 June 1945.

1/5/44	Peterson Field, Colo
8/2-9/2/44	Buckley Field, Colo
10/20/44	Hollanida, New Guinea
12/13/44	Morotai
5/5/45	Palawan

1941 F-2
1942 F-2, A-29, F-3
1943 A-29, B-25

1944 B-25, B-24/F7
1945 B-24/F7¹

Scope and Content Description:

The Hammers collection consists of photographs taken by Harold Hammers as a member of the Army/Air Force Photographic Corps in Alaska from 1938 to 1942. The collection includes photographs of scenic images such as volcanoes, glaciers, planes, wildlife, and the towns of Dgheyaytnu (Anchorage), Idlughet (Eklutna), Fairbanks, Matanuska, Palmer, Qutalleq (Seward), and Yaakwdáat (Yakutat). There are also photographs of the Alaska Railroad and portraits of Indigenous individuals and ivory work. Individual subjects in the collection include the Chugach Mountains, Indigenous school children, F-2's near Be'u (Mount Foraker) & Dghelay ka'a/Deenaalee (Denali) and Niqnalchint (Ninilchik) and F-2's over Tiger Glacier and Tikahtnu (Cook Inlet), Ice floes at Placer Lake and Placer Glacier, Ch'naqał'in / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), the Kenai Mountains, the Talkeetna Mountains, Tiger Glacier, and the U.S. St. Mihiel. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

Arrangement:

Prints arranged in two folders. Copy prints sleeved with corresponding original.

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:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation: Hammers Collection, Anchorage Museum, B2001.042

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information:

Donated December 2, 2001, by Roger and Jeanne Hammers.

¹ https://www.generalstaff.org/NAF/Pt_I_1941-1942/941usaf.pdf

Processing Note:

Almost all prints bear a stamp on the back reading, "Official Photograph, Air Corps U.S. Army, 2nd Mapping Squadron, Felts Field, Washington." Exceptions as follows:

Back of one copy of .8, both copies of .9, both copies of .11, .31, both copies of .37, .42, .43, .47, .48, .50, and .57 read, "Official Photograph, 2nd Mapping Squadron, Air Force, U.S. Army."

There is no stamp on the back of one copy of .21, both copies of .24, both copies of .34, .40, .51, .55, and .58.

RELATED MATERIALS

B1980.0105 2nd Mapping Squadron Photographs

B2013.065 2nd Mapping Squadron Photographs

SUBJECTS

United States. Army Air Forces. Mapping Squadron, 2nd
United States. Army Air Forces. Photographic Squadron, 2nd
Aircraft – Alaska
Airplanes, Military – Alaska
Be'u / Mount Foraker (Alaska)
Boarding schools
Cemeteries – Alaska
Ch'naqaŋ'in / Puyulek / Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna (Alaska)
Chugach Mountains (Alaska)
Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)
Dgheyaytnu / Anchorage (Alaska)
Dnal'iy / Tnel'aay / Pioneer Peak (Alaska)
Eklutna Industrial School
Eklutna Vocational School
Fairbanks (Alaska)
Gwazhaŋ / Brooks Range / Arctic Mountains (Alaska)
Idlughet / Eklutna (Alaska)
Kenai Mountains (Alaska)
Little Tahoma Peak (Washington)
Matanuska (Alaska)
Mount Rainier National Park (Washington)
Niqnalchint / Ninilchik (Alaska)
Palmer (Alaska)
Placer Glacier (Alaska)
Placer Lake (Alaska)
Placer River (Alaska)
Puyulek / Ch'naqaŋ'in / Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna (Alaska)
Qutalleq / Seward (Alaska)
Railroads – Alaska

Skitnu / Scitna' / Knik River (Alaska)
Spencer Glacier (Alaska)
Steamships – Alaska
Talkeetna Mountains (Alaska)
təq^wuʔməʔ (Mount Rainier)
Tiger Glacier (Alaska)
Tikahtnu / Cook Inlet (Alaska)
Tipsoo Lake (Washington)
Tnel'aay / Dnal'iy / Pioneer Peak (Alaska)
U.S. St. Mihiel
Yaakwdáat / Yakutat (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

F1

- .1 – Snow gauge Elmendorf Field, Alaska [tall pole with crosspieces in front of automobiles, buildings. Dena'ina Etnena. Same as B2013.065.20]
- .2 – Seward Port [Resurrection Bay, steamship in water, mountains behind. Qutalleq, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory. One copy print. Same as B2013.065.16]
- .3 – [...] mukluks [pairs of mukluks, some unfinished, and materials. Fur, patterns, beadwork, same as B2013.065.34]
- .4 – Alaska glamour girl [young Indigenous individual wearing fur parka with hood up, smiling at camera. Per description in B2013.065, individual is an Eklutna student (possibly student at Eklutna Vocational School). Same as B2013.065.29]
- .5 – [Indigenous] glamour girl [young Indigenous individual wearing fur parka with hood up, smiling at camera]
- .6 – Alaska maid [young Indigenous individual regarding camera, wearing fur parka with patterning and fur hood, cuffs, holding mukluks, possibly same pair as one pictured in .3. One copy print. Per description in B2013.065, individual is an Eklutna student (possibly student at Eklutna Vocational School). Same as B2013.065.27]
- .7 – (10-240-2ND) (7-3-41-3:00P) (12-9,000) Iliamna volcano, Alaska (5062) [rock and snow-covered slope of Ch'naqaʔin / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), Dena'ina Etnena, steam or smoke rising on right. One copy print]
- .8 – (06-2408-2ND)(7-3-41-3:00P) (12-9,000) Iliamna volcano, Alaska (5062) [rock and snow-covered slope of Ch'naqaʔin / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), Dena'ina Etnena, steam or smoke rising, central. Same as B2013.065.60]
- .9 – (03-2408-2ND) (7-3-41-3:00P) (12-9,000) Iliamna volcano, Alaska (5062) [rock and snow-covered slope of Ch'naqaʔin / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), Dena'ina Etnena, steam or smoke rising on right. One copy print]
- .10 – (02-240 8-2ND) (7-3-41-3:00P) (12-9,000) Iliamna volcano, Alaska [rock and snow-covered slope of Ch'naqaʔin / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), Dena'ina Etnena, steam or smoke rising on right. One copy print]

.26 – [view across glacier (possibly Placer Glacier?), snowy mountain peaks behind. One copy print. Alternate view of .15 and .16]

.27 – (G7-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Chugach Mts., Alaska [snowy Chugach Mountain peaks, trees in foreground. One copy print]

.28 – (G35-248 8-2ND) (7-28-41-10:00A) Placer Glacier, Alaska. (6019) [view from water, icebergs of glacier, snowy mountain slope on left. Previous finding aid identified location as Spencer Glacier, Dena'ina Etnena and Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory]

.29 – [Indigenous] ivory work [ivory carvings, including figurines of animals and humans along with a Billiken, necklaces, bracelets or cuffs, and a ring. Same as B2013.065.33]

.30 – (04-2445-2ND) (8-20-41-2:00P) [Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)], Alaska. [snowy mountain peak of Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali), Ahtna, Dena'ina, Koyukon, Upper Kuskokwim, and Tanana Territory. One copy print. Same as B2013.065.53]

.31 – Chugach Mts. [view across field between trees towards forest, snowy Chugach Mountains behind. Fence, log piles along edge of woods. Same as .50 and B2013.065.66]

.32 – Alaska Railroad [individual standing to left of train Engine #613 on tracks, trees, buildings on left, snowy mountains behind. Likely same engine as .22. Same as B2013.065.22]

.33 – Matanuska [frames and two buildings, one with “Matanuska Valley Fair” written on roof, woods, snowy Tnel'aay / Dnal'iy (Pioneer Peak) behind, Dena'ina Etnena. One copy print. Same as B2013.065.15]

.34 – (G3-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Matanuska Valley, Alaska [buildings below snowy mountains, Palmer, Matanuska Valley Colony, offices, Pioneer Peak, Dena'ina Etnena. One copy print]

.35 – Palmer, Alaska [shops and automobiles, fairly snowy mountains behind. Signs on shops read, from left to right, “Bert’s Liquor, Beer, Wine; Palmer Cocktail bar; Rainier Beer; Café, Home Cooking; Alaska Greyhound Stage Depot; Koslosky’s Department Store; Coca-Cola; Dancing; Home Lunch.” License plate of closest automobile on left reads, “4182 Alaska 1941.” Dena'ina Etnena]

.36 – Palmer, Alaska [dirt road, buildings, Water Tower with text reading, “Palmer” below lightly snowy mountains. Dena'ina Etnena. Same as B2013.065.08]

.37 – (023-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2P) (12-1400) F2 over jagged mountains near [Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)] (5089) [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over snow-covered mountain range. One copy print]

.38 – (03-2468-IF) (6-12-41-1:00P) (12-3000) “F2s” over [Tikahtnu (Cook Inlet)], Alaska (6006) [two Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircrafts (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over water, mudflats below, mountains with snowy peaks behind. Dena'ina Etnena and Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory. Same as B2013.065.39]

.39 – (05-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2:00P) (12-14,000) F-2 over [[Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)], Alaska. (5089) [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over snow-covered mountain range, glaciers. One copy print. Same as B2013.065.41]

.40 – (08-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2:00P) (12-14,000) F-2 near [Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)], Alaska. [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over clouds, snowy mountains behind. Same as B2013.065.43]

- .41 – (024-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2P) (12-14000) “F2” near Mt. Foraker & [Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)] (5089) [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over clouds, snowy and rocky peaks, glacier, possible river on right]
- .42 – (029-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2P) (12-14000) “F-2” over Arctic Mountains [Gwazhat (Brooks Range)] (5089) [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over snowy mountains, glacier in foreground. Gwich'in, Iñupiaq, and Koyukon Territory]
- .43 – (04-2448-IF) (6-5-41-3:15P) (12-2500) “F-2's” near Ninilchick [sic], Alaska. (5092) [two Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircrafts (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly, one with “Army” printed on underside of wing, flying over forested land with small lakes, snowy mountain range in distance. Niqnalchint / Ninilchik, Dena'ina Etnena. Same as B2013.065.51]
- .44 – Russian Orthodox Burial [spirit houses and chapel at cemetery in Ildughet (Eklutna), Dena'ina Etnena. Forest, mountains in background. Same as B2013.065.24]
- .45 – U.S. St. Mihiel [steamship at dock, text on side reads, “U.S. Army Transport St. Mihiel.” Wharf, buildings, trees at dock and along shore in background. Two individuals on wharf. Previously identified as Yakutat, 1941, in finding aid. Handwritten note on back reads, “Same as B0.106.41.” Possibly Yaakwdáat (Yakutat), Laaxaayík Kwáan. Same as B2013.065.17]
- .46 – (027-2445-2ND) (8-4-41-2:P) (12-14000) Ribbon Glacier, [Be'u (Mount Foraker)] & [Dghelay ka'a / Deenaalee (Denali)] (5089) [Beechcraft Model 18 F-2 photographic reconnaissance aircraft (possibly JRB-1) with camera mounted in belly flying over rocky, snowy mountains, glacier. Possibly Ahtna, Dena'ina, Koyukon, Upper Kuskokwim, and Tanana Territory. Same as B2013.065.48]
- .47 – (022-2488-IF) (6-6-41-10:45A) (12-500) “F-2” over Tiger Glacier, Alaska. (6019) [shadow of military aircraft on glacier, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory. Same as B2013.065.51]
- .48 – (011-2408-2ND) (7-3-41-3:00P) (12-9,000) 2408 volcano, Alaska (5062) [snowy peak of Ch'naqa'in / Puyulek (Iliamna Volcano / Mount Iliamna), steam or smoke on left, clouds and snowy mountain peaks behind. Dena'ina Etnena]
- .49 – Talkeetna Mts. [water, forest, snowy Talkeetna Mountains viewed through trees. Same as B2013.065.70]
- .50 – Chugach Mts. [view across field between trees towards forest, snowy Chugach Mountains behind. Fence, log piles along edge of woods. Same as .31 and B2013.065.66]
- .51 – Mountains [təqʷuʔməʔ (Mount Rainier) viewed from the east over Tipsoo Lake, Little Tahoma Peak visible on left below summit, two individuals walking on knoll across lake, trees, snowdrifts surrounding. One copy print]
- .52 – (G20-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Loaded for bear [bear cub inside cannon. Same as B2013.065.35]
- .53 – (G21-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Looking for trouble [two bear cubs on cannon, one looking inside. Same as B2013.065.36]
- .54 – Alaskan sunset [view of sunset across water, silhouetted trees in foreground. Same as B2013.065.64]
- .55 – Alaskan storm [trees caught in wind, bending in front of thick cloud. Same as B2013.065.63]]

- .56 – Otter Lake [view across water, forested shore, mountains with patches of snow in background, tree on left in foreground. Dena’ina Ełnena. Same as B2013.065.65]
- .57 – (G12-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Fourth Avenue at night [long exposure view of Fourth Avenue, Dgheyaytnu (Anchorage), showing streaks of light down street from traffic. Automobiles, shops visible. Streetlights, some signs of shops lit up. Signs for businesses include Ship Creek Meat Co., Dr. Hines Optometrist, Montgomery Ward, Rexall Drugs, Hewitt’s Drugs, Cheechako Tavern, Anchorage Grill. Looking east towards Chugach Mountains on horizon. Dena’ina Ełnena. Same as B2013.065.01]
- .58 – (G11-2487-2ND) (5-18-41) Anchorage, Alaska [individuals, bicycles, and automobiles in front of Federal Building, Fourth Avenue, Dgheyaytnu (Anchorage), Dena’ina Ełnena. Signs on front read, “Anchorage, Alaska” and “United States Post Office and Court House.” Same as B2013.065.02]
- .59 – Post Office, Anchorage [Federal Building, Fourth Avenue, Dgheyaytnu (Anchorage), Dena’ina Ełnena. Two individuals, flagpole flying US flag in front. Signs on front read, “Anchorage, Alaska” and “United States Post Office and Court House.” Same as B2013.065.07]
- .60 – Yakutat future post office Alaska [buildings (possibly including canneries), boats, and wharf along shore, sign on right in front of building reads, “Lot reserved for future post office.” Two individuals on wagon on wharf. Yaakwdáat (Yakutat), Laaxaayík Kwáan. Same as B2013.065.19]
- .61 – Matanuska farm [farm buildings across field, fence in foreground, forest and snowy mountains in background. Same as B2013.065.14]
- .62 – Matanuska Valley Road [trees on left, dirt road along fenced fields and woods on right, snowy mountains in background. Same as B2013.065.11]
- .63 – Fairbanks Alaska [intersection with shops, automobiles, two individuals standing on corner regarding camera. Signs on building, from left to right read, “Bank of Fairbanks; ey St; Furs; [illegible], Coca-Cola, Tobacco; Kaye Fur Corporation; Gifts, Furs; Golden Belt Tours Inc.; and Alaska Steamship Co.” Lower Tanana Territory. Same as B2013.065.18]
- .64 – Anchorage Alaska [downtown Dgheyaytnu (Anchorage), Dena’ina Ełnena. Shops, pedestrians, automobiles, adult with baby carriage. Fourth Avenue near G Street. Signs on shops read, from left to right, “Alaska Transfer Co., Storage, Coal, Wood; The Gitchell; [illegible]; Clothi [illegible]; International [illegible] Office; Eckmann’s Furniture.” Looking east towards Chugach Mountains. Same as B2013.065.06]

Guide written: September 9, 2003

Updated: 11 May, 2026