

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

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Guide prepared by: Amy Valentine, Archivist

**TITLE:** Stiffler Collection

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2004.002

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: 1937-1938

Extent: 1 Album

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Helen L. Stiffler, Marden K. Stiffler

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

On September 14, 1930, Helen L. Roberts (b. 1902, d. 1999) married Marden K. Stiffler (b. 1903, d. 1990) in Cook, Illinois<sup>1</sup>. In the 1930s, the couple taught for 10 years in Flat and Chignik, Alaska. In the late 1930s or early 1940s, Helen and Marden had a daughter, Carole Stiffler. Not much was known about Helen and Marden Stiffler when this Finding Aid was written.

**Scope and Content Description:**

Collection is comprised of one leatherbound photo album containing 61 black-and-white photographic prints that were hand-tinted by Helen L. Stiffler. This album was given to Helen and Marden from their students in Flat, dated 1937-1938. Subjects include canneries, sled dogs, snowshoeing, glaciers and travel by boat and plane. The areas depicted include Flat, Seward, and Southeast Alaska.

Arrangement: Original order maintained.

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<sup>1</sup> "Helen L. Roberts." *FamilySearch*, <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/G4TC-SW1/helen-l-roberts-1902-1999>. Accessed 29 July 2025.

## **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: Stiffler Collection, Anchorage Museum, B2004.2

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Album donated by Carole Smith (Stiffler) on December 26, 2003.

Processing Note

Notes with identification information from donor retained with album. Mylar sleeves added to album June 23, 2025.

## **RELATED MATERIALS**

B1990.003 Alyce E. Anderson Photographs

B2008.005 Chester and Leah Webster Peterson Collection

B2009.026 Claire L. Wilcox Collection

B2012.031 Rupert A. Moon Collection

B2013.049 Katherine G. Kane Manuscript, My Twenty Seven Years in Alaska and the Aleutians

B2014.012 Charles W. Wray Negatives

B2019.003 Eklutna and Anvik Collection

Canneries Resource Guide

Dog Team Subject Guide

## **SUBJECTS**

Alaska, Southeast

Canneries

Boats and boating

Flat (Alaska)

Glaciers

Gold mines and mining – Alaska  
Hydraulic mining  
Juneau / Dzánti K’ihéeni (Alaska)  
Seward / Qutalleq (Alaska)  
Sled dogs  
Snowshoes and snowshoeing  
Teachers

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### B1

Front Cover interior, inscription - “With kindest regards to Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Stiffler from their pupils of Flat, Alaska – ’37-’38. Peter Turner, Clara Johnson, Marie Elizabeth Nielsen, Harry Turner, John Anderson, Paul E. Keller, Mary Maxine Keller”

- .1 - [Landscape, from hillside]
- .2 - Marge [Landscape, hills and mountains]
- .3 - [Landscape, mountains]
- .4 - Marge [Landscape, mountains]
- .5 - Marge Frank [Landscape, mountains and river valley]
- .6 - [Flat, Alaska; Hydraulic mining, Iditarod District] [Miner holding hose. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .7 - [Flat, Alaska; Hydraulic mining, Iditarod District] [Miner with shovel in creek. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .8 - [Flat, Alaska; Hydraulic mining, Iditarod District; Dredge. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .9 - [Flat, Alaska] [Helen Stiffler and child, both wearing fur parkas. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .10 - [Flat, Alaska] [Two children in parkas standing on snowbank near building. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .11 - [Flat, Alaska] [Helen Stiffler in fur parka, buildings in background. Possibly Deg Xinag territory]
- .12 - [Southeast Alaska village] [Street view between buildings, likely Tlingit territory]
- .13 - Marge [Southeast Alaska] [Russian Orthodox cemetery, likely Tlingit territory]
- .14 - [Southeast Alaska] [Person standing on shoreline next to rock formations, likely Tlingit territory]
- .15 - [Southeast Alaska, Marden K. Stiffler] [Marden standing on rocky shoreline, likely Tlingit territory]
- .16 - [Southeast Alaska village] [Distant view of waterfront community, likely Tlingit territory]
- .17 - [Southeast Alaska, cannery and fishing boats] [Likely Tlingit territory]
- .18 - [Southeast Alaska fishing boats] [Distant view of ship, likely Tlingit territory]
- .19 - [Southeast Alaska, steamships and villages] [Ship near waterfront community, likely Tlingit territory]
- .20 - [Southeast Alaska glacier] [Mendenhall Glacier, Tlingit territory, Dzánti K’ihéeni (Juneau)]
- .21 - [Southeast Alaska glacier] [Mendenhall Glacier, Tlingit territory, Dzánti K’ihéeni (Juneau)]

- .22 - [Southeast Alaska, Steamship Baranof, fish tenders, crabs and crabbing] [Ship at dock, people with salmon harvest in foreground, likely Tlingit territory]
- .23 - [Southeast Alaska, fishing boats, and Helen Stiffler] [Helen, docks in background, likely Tlingit territory]
- .24 - [Marden Stiffler and glacier] [Marden posed with Mendenhall Glacier in background, Tlingit territory, Dzánti K'ihéeni (Juneau)]
- .25 - [Helen Stiffler and glacier] [Helen posed with Mendenhall Glacier in background, Tlingit territory, Dzánti K'ihéeni (Juneau)]
- .26 - Marge [Aboard ship near Seward] [Likely Alutiiq / Sugpiaq territory]
- .27 - [Fourth Avenue in Seward. Mount Marathon.] [Alutiiq / Sugpiaq territory, Qutalleq (Seward)]
- .28 - [Glacier] [Landscape, scenic]
- .29 - [Glacier]
- .30 - Marge, Frank, Awe (?) Lomblin Q. [Glacier] [Aerial, river]
- .31 - [Scenic] [Aerial]
- .32 - [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of aircraft overhead]
- .33 - [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .34 - Frank [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .35 - [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .36 - Marge [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .37 - [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .38 - Marge [Airplane in flight, scenic] [View of mountain range from aircraft]
- .39 - Marge Lomblin Q. [Scenic] [Snowy landscape]
- .40 - Marge, Frank & Tomblin Q. [Scenic] [Snowy landscape, community at distance]
- .41 - Marge [Scenic] [Snowy landscape]
- .42 - [Scenic] [Snowy landscape]
- .43 - [Snowshoeing, scenic] [Snowshoes sticking upright out of snow]
- .44 - [Scenic] [Snowy landscape]
- .45 - [Marden Stiffler snowshoeing, scenic]
- .46 - Tomblin Q [Helen Stiffler, sled dogs] [Helen wearing fur parka and seated in dog sled basket]
- .47 - [Helen Stiffler, sled dogs]
- .48 - [Helen Stiffler, sled dogs]
- .49 - [Helen Stiffler, sled dogs]
- .50 - [Helen Stiffler, sled dogs]
- .51 - Frank, Awe (?) Lomblin Q [Helen Stiffler, sleds] [Helen with unidentified person with sled dog team]
- .52 - Marge, Frank & Tomblin Q [Sled dogs] [People with sled dog team, buildings in background]
- .53 - Marge [Sled dogs] [Person with passenger driving sled dog team]
- .54 - Marge, Tomblin Q [Scenic] [View from water, mountains at distance]
- .55 - Marge (Tomblin Q) [Scenic] [Glacier]
- .56 - [Scenic] [View from water, mountains at distance]
- .57 - [Scenic] [View from water, mountains at distance]

- .58 - [Distant view from boat of waterfront community]
- .59 - Marge Tomblin [Waterfront community, buildings on stilts]
- .60 - Marge [View from water, island with buildings at distance]
- .61 - [View down shoreline, dock and large building (possibly a cannery?) at distance]

Guide written: June 23, 2025

Guide updated: July 29, 2025