

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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Guide prepared by: Ivy Turinsky, Archivist

TITLE: CIHS Butler

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1967.023

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1930-1952

Extent: 76 items, including 60 photographic prints and postcards, 1 memo book

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Andrews, E.; Butler, Alice M.; Fritschen, Julius; Hewitt's Drug Store; Johnston; Robinson Studio; Schallerer, Otto; The Photo Shop Studio; Winter & Pond

Administrative/Biographical History:

Little is known about Alice M. Butler. According to the accession file, she lived in Anchorage until June of 1967, when she moved to Seattle to be near a clinic for her deafness and to be near her granddaughter, Mrs. Jack Morrison, Jr.

Robinson Studio was an Anchorage photography studio, ca. 1947-1958. They photographed in the Southeast, Interior, and Southcentral areas. Their advertisement in the May 1948 Anchorage Territorial Telephone Book says "Everything in Fine Photography. Aerials – Motion Pictures, Weddings – Advertising, Alaska Scenics. Assignments Taken Anywhere Anytime." The studio also produced real photo postcards such as the ones in this collection.¹

Scope and Content Description:

The Butler collection consists of 60 photographic prints and postcards and one memo book ranging from the 1930s to 1952. The collection includes photos of Nellie Neal Lawing (Alaska Nellie) and her home; Kichxáan (Ketchikan), Taant'a Kwáan, Lingít Aaní; Holy Ascension of Our

¹ <https://alaska.libraryhost.com/repositories/2/resources/276>

Lord Cathedral in Iluuluġ (Unalaska), Unangaġ territory; Sheet'ká (Sitka), Sheey At'íká Kŵáan, Lingít Aaní; St. Sergius Chapel, Curarpalek (Chuathbaluk), Central Yup'ik territory near Kuskokwim River; Sun'aq (Kodiak), Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory, and Indigenous people dancing. There are also photographs of steamships; Denali National Park and Preserve; Kaachxana.áak'w (Wrangell), Shtax'héen Kŵáan, Lingít Aaní in 1933; Qutalleq (Seward), Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory; and Suacit (Valdez), Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory. A photograph of "Moose Gooser Jr.," Engine No. 1 in 1951 is also in the collection. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

Arrangement: Collection arranged by previous archivist.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use. Restricted items noted in detailed description below. Please contact ARC staff for information and access.

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: CIHS Butler, Anchorage Museum, B1967.023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information:

Donated by Alice M Butler on June 20, 1967, to the Cook Inlet Historical Society. Transferred to the Anchorage Museum.

Processing Note:

Per accession paperwork, items .1-.16 include books, booklets, letters, and price lists. List of titles and brief descriptions in accession file.

Separated Materials:

Items .1-.5 and .7-.16 not located with collection at time of writing. Per accession paperwork, certain items offered to CIHS as duplicates in 2011, others noted as in the "Historical Periodical Collection" and Vertical Files. Certain items appear to be in library catalog.

RELATED MATERIALS

B1966.025 Alice Butler Clipping Diary

SUBJECTS

Nellie Neal Lawing / Alaska Nellie
Jefferson Randolph Smith II / Soapy Smith
Alaska Railroad
Alutiiq/Sugpiaq
Central Yup'ik
Cooper Landing
Curarpalek / Chuathbaluk (Alaska)
Dgheyaytnu / Anchorage (Alaska)
Dena'ina Ełnena
Denali National Park and Preserve (Alaska)
Dzánti K'ihéeni / Juneau (Alaska)
Hope (Alaska)
Idlughet / Eklutna (Alaska)
Iluuluł / Unalaska (Alaska)
Joint Base Elmendorf–Richardson
K̄aachx̄ana.áak'w (Wrangell, Alaska)
Kenai Lake
Kenai River
Kichx̄áan / Ketchikan (Alaska)
Deenaalee / Dghelay Ka'a / Denali (Mount McKinley) (Alaska)
Gwich'in
Gwichyaa Zheh / Fort Yukon (Alaska)
Kichx̄áan / Ketchikan (Alaska)
Lingít
Mines and mineral resources—Alaska
Qutalleq (Seward, Alaska)
Sheet'ká (Sitka, Alaska)
Skagway (Alaska)
Steamships
Suacit / Valdez (Alaska)
Sun'aq / Kodiak (Alaska)
Suntrana (Alaska)
Tanana
T'aaquí K̄wáan Sít'l / Taku Glacier (Alaska)
Tutl'uh / Turnagain Arm (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

B1/F1

.6 – [narrow, tall notebook with red cloth binding cover on spine and paper cover. Lined pages, each page has the header, “Schwabacher Hardware Co.; Seattle, Wash.; Articles” and

footer "Colonial Pocket Knives (Fully Warranted)." Handwritten entries. Note on inside page reads, "Found this in the old Sabol cabin in Hope, Alaska. 1953. Delemer Sabol's father had a mine some place near Hope – A. M. Butler." Per accession paperwork: Road House Memo Book found by A.M. Butler at Hope, Alaska at the old Sobal Cabin in 1953. Dena'ina Etnena]

B1/F2

- .17 – S.S. Baranof, Seward, Alaska. [back: Steamships; [illegible] 300 passengers; Built at Camden N.J. in 1919; 375 ft long; 186 berths, 65 [illegible], 4600 [illegible]; 375 [illegible]; by order of Capt. Joe Ramsaur the old man; [newspaper clipping on back, text cut off:] Cap'n Joe Honor; Passengers and crew; the Alaska Steamship; Baranof joined forces la; honor Capt. Joe Ramsau; ter of the ship, on his; ding anniversary] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, signs on ship read, "Baranof." Qutalleq, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory]
- .18 – S.S. Columbia - Inside Passage, Alaska [back: Steamships] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship in water, treed slope behind]
- .19 – P-419 S.S. Denali on the Inside Passage Route, Alaska [back: Steamships; The Ocean passenger liners; Built in 1925] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, mountains behind. Name on ship reads, "Denali"]
- .20 – 400 Tourist Steamer at Taku Glacier, Alaska; Winter & Pond © [back: Steamships] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, T'aaḱú Ḳwáan Sít'i behind, Lingít Aaní]
- .21 – S-353 S.S. Yukon in Alaska; Schallerer's © [back: Steamships] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, waterfront community behind]
- .22 – S.S. Aleutian [back: Steamships; The Old Mexico; 1886; The Old Mexico 1886-] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, snowy mountains behind]
- .23 – S.S. Victoria, Seward Alaska [back: Steamships; 1870; Dumbarton Scotland.] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamship, snowy mountains behind. Signs on ship read, "Victoria"]
- .24 – C128. Russian Church, Sitka, Alaska; P-376 [back: Sitka, Alaska] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). St. Michael's Cathedral, Sheet'ká, Sheey At'iká Ḳwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .25 – R-812 Oldest [Indigenous] Russian Orthodox Church - Russian Village, Kuskokwim River [back: Orthodox Eastern Church, Russian; St. Sergius; Russian Village; Oldest Church in Natural State (137 years); (written by Billy Murry when he had Mur-Mac)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). St. Sergius Chapel in snow, Curarpalek (Chuathbaluk), Central Yup'ik territory]
- .26 – R-209 [Indigenous] Russian Orthodox Church © Robinson [back: Unalaska, Alaska; Taken at Unalaska -] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Holy Ascension of Our Lord Cathedral from yard, Iluuluḱ, Unangaḱ territory]
- .27 – 2144 Russian Orthodox Church, Kodiak [back: Kodiak, Alaska] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Holy Resurrection Orthodox Cathedral from yard, Sun'aq, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory]
- .28 – "The Bore" – Alaska Railroad Scene; Fritschen [back: Turnagain Arm; This is the "Bore" taken about Mile 79, on the A.R.R.; I just found the negative here. He didn't give the year; Julius Fritschen n old timer took this – Passed away at Sitka Pioneer Home in mid-40's] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Bore tide wave from beach, snowy mountains behind. Tutl'uh, Dena'ina Etnena]

.29 – R-202 Alaskan [Indigenous] Dance © Robinson [back: [Indigenous individuals] – Dancing; (During World War II) in Aleutians] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Three Indigenous individuals in masks dancing, central individual holding dance fans. Individuals to either side wearing fur clothing, trim detail visible]

.30 – [back: People; taken in 21, near Lindley Greens place – Some difference now?; Taken many years ago as your [illegible]; 1921; Julius Fritchen [sic] [Fritschen]] [individual wearing fur hat and holding cigarette, woods behind]

.31 – O 24 The Photo Shop Studio Sitka, Alaska [back: Caribou; Merry Xmas & Happy New Year: Am here for a week, checking up with Dr. he tells me I am in fair shape for my years, will be back in G [illegible] soon, more then. Had a little frost here this morning. Best regards, hope you'll have a jollier Xmas then [sic] there is in prospect for me, am sure of plenty to eat but liquid will probably be scarce [sic] so am taking some now in advance. Sincerely Julius.] [postcard. Two baby caribou in tall grass]

.32 – R-305 Alaskan Caribou © Robinson [back: Caribou] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Three caribou on slope]

.33 – [back: Sitka, Alaska; I took this at Sitka, taken from the front door of the Pioneer Home looking west, on the left is the S.O. dock, on the right the Sitka Cold Storage, all the large boats land at one of those docks, and the small boats and planes land in the space between at a float. The flagpole is in the center of the lawn.] [Sitka harbor, two individuals sitting. Sheet'ká, Sheey At'iká K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní. Likely taken—and caption likely written—by Julius Fritschen]

.34 – [back: Sitka, Alaska; looking toward landing from house.] [wooded waterfront with boat and pier. Sheet'ká, Sheey At'iká K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní. Likely taken—and caption likely written—by Julius Fritschen]

.35 – [back: Sitka, Alaska; taken from the landing.; The Goddard Annex of the Pioneer Home at this time – Julius died some time in mid 40's -] [from pier looking towards shore, buildings on hill and shore. Sheet'ká, Sheey At'iká K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní. Likely taken—and caption likely written—by Julius Fritschen]

.36 – [back: Sitka, Alaska; This was taken from the landing you see on the other photo.] [wooded waterfront, Sheet'ká, Sheey At'iká K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní. Likely taken—and caption likely written—by Julius Fritschen]

.37 – Alaska Nellie's [back: Lawing, Nellie Neal; (after 1951)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Individuals outside log cabin]

.38 – [back: Lawing, Nellie Neal; Alaska Nellie Lawing's Home] [buildings, sign reads "Lawing." Snowy mountains behind]

.39 – [back: Lawing, Nellie Neal; Alaska Nellie (taken about 1 1/2 years before she died)] [Nellie Neal Lawing standing in foreground in floral dress, likely outside front of home. Train cars behind reads, "Railroad; 132; 11; Ala[ska]"

.40 – S-124 Channel Island Sunset, Alaska Schallerer's © [back: Alaska (General); (1933)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Landscape looking out across water]

.41 – Mid summer sun at Fort Yukon – at mid-nite.; x [Fort Yukon, Alaska; (1951)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Landscape, Gwichyaa Zheh, Gwich'in territory]

.42 – A-556 Gold Dredge near Fairbanks Robinson [back: Gold mines and mining – Alaska – Fairbanks; (before 1939)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Building in water below cliff]

- .43 – Fishwheel on the Yukon River Alaska Frashers Fotos Pomona Calif. F8808 [back: Athabaskan [People]; (Before 1939); A Frashers Foto Card; Scenic Photos of the West; Published by Frashers, Inc. Pomona, Calif.] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Individual operating fishwheel]
- .44 – A-576 “S.S. Yukon” – Veteran River Sternwheeler, Nenana Robinson [back: Boats and boating; (1951)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Steamer at dock, sign on dock reads, “No smoking on or around dock,” name on boat reads, “Yukon”]
- .45 – A 610 Coal mine at Suntrana, Alaska Robinson [back: Coal mines and mining; (1940)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Mine buildings below cliffs, likely Tanana territory]
- .46 – 4A-228 Trapper’s Cabin and Cache – Alaska [back: Log cabins; (in 1930’s)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Cabin and cache with sod roofs, spruce and mountains behind]
- .47 – Ranger’s cabin and cache - McKinley Park L-9 [back: Mount McKinley National Park; (1950)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Denali National Park and Preserve. Log cabin and cache, forest behind]
- .48 – “Morning Mood” Mt. McKinley Wonder Lake P-1 Alaska – [back: McKinley, Mount; (193[3? 5?]); Happy Birthday from Catherine and Harry Dear Alice, This is wishing you a “Happy Birthday and many of them. If you don’t car for this crib Board send it back and I’ll get you something else. The pegs are in the side.] [postcard. Landscape view across Wonder Lake of Deenaalee / Dghelay Ka'a / Denali and mountain’s reflection. Denali National Park and Preserve]
- .49 – AR-121 Susitna River at Curry back of Alaska R.R. Hotel [back: Alaska Railroad – Curry to Cantwell; Curry; (before 1939)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Aerial of bridge over frozen river, buildings on far shore. Dena'ina Etnena]
- .50 – Curry Hotel, Alaska Railroad Brickley B-1 [back: Alaska Railroad – Curry to Cantwell; Curry; (about 1937); 2433] [train tracks, two individuals outside building, sign on building reads, “Depot.” Dena'ina Etnena]

B1/F3

- .51 – Native Alaskan Graves, Eklutna, Near Anchorage. [back: Eklutna, Alaska] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Spirit houses, likely at Eklutna cemetery. Group of individuals on right. Idlughet, Dena'ina Etnena]
- .52 – **[Restricted because of sensitive content]**
- .53 – “Moose Gooser Jr.” Or, the boy that did a man’s job for the Alaska Railroad. 079 [back: Alaska Railroad – Equipment; (1951)] [Engine No. 1 on display in town, side of engine reads, “Alaska Railroad 1”]
- .54 – R-511 Fort Richardson – Anchorage, Alaska © Robinson [back: Fort Richardson] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Buildings, view down street. Two individuals in uniform walking. Now Joint Base Elmendorf–Richardson, Dgheyaytnu, Dena'ina Etnena]
- .55 – Spencer Glacier, Alaska R. R. [signature illegible] [back: Spencer Glacier] [glacier between cliffs, Dena'ina Etnena and Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Territory]
- .56 – “Schooner Bend” Bridge Kenai River Hewitt’s Drug Store. [back: Bridges; This is the bridge going to Homer close to Coopers landing [sic], but guess its [sic] destroyed by now] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Covered bridge over river, forested hillside behind. Close to Cooper Landing, Dena'ina Etnena]

- .57 – 705-E Kenai Lake and Cooper’s Landing Robinson [back: Kenai Lake; (1952)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Aerial view of Kenai Lake and Cooper Landing, Dena’ina Etnena]
- .58 – Photo by E. Andrews 24 – Seward, Alaska 7A-H113 [back: Seward, Alaska; (Bought in 1933); Seward, Alaska is located at the head of mountain locked Resurrection Bay, whose ocean approach is through the Harding Gateway; Distributed by Northwest Magazine Distributing Co., Seattle, Wash.; Genuine Curteich-Chicago “C.T. Art-Colortone” post card (Reg. U.S. Pat. Off) [color postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink. Aerial view of Qutalleq, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory]
- .59 – 1251 Columbia Glacier, Alaska Johnston [back: Columbia Glacier; (1933)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Glacier from water, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory]
- .60 – Valdez, Alaska 7A317 [back: Valdez, Alaska; (1933); C. P. Johnston Co., Seattle, Washington; “C.T. American Art” Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.; CT co Chicago] [color postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink. Suacit from water, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory]
- .61 – S-355 Soapy Smith’s Skull Skagway, Alaska Shallerer’s © [back: Skagway, Alaska; (1933)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Signatures and artwork, including skull mural on granite cliff labeled, “Soapy Smith’s Skull.” Lingít Aaní]
- .62 – 308 - Governor’s Mansion, Juneau, Alaska Winter & Pond © [back: Juneau, Alaska] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Building and cars from street, mountains behind. Dzánti K’ihéeni, Aak’w Kwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .63 – C118. Ice Cave, Mendenhall Glacier, near Juneau, Alaska [back: Mendenhall Glacier; Ice Cave, Mendenhall Glacier; Mendenhall Glacier is probably one of the best known glaciers in Alaska on account of its easy accessibility. It is reached by a beautiful high-way out of Juneau. A very good idea of the size is obtained by comparing it with the figure out a man standing at the base.; T-Co] [color postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink. Individual and possibly dog across water from ice cave. Near Dzánti K’ihéeni, Lingít Aaní]
- .64 – Mt. Edgumbe Hospital, The Photo Shop Studio’ Sitka, Alaska. [back: Sitka, Alaska; (prob 1939)] [individuals in front of building, Sheet’ká, Sheey At’iká Kwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .65 – S-557 Entrance Tongass Narrows Ketchikan, Alaska Shallerers [back: Ketchikan, Alaska; (1939) prob] [landscape view of treed shore from water, Kichxáan, Taant’a Kwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .66 – © Fisher’s Studio, Ketchikan 91 Ketchikan and Tongass Narrows, 7A-H120 [back: Ketchikan, Alaska; (1933); C. P. Johnston Co., Seattle, Washington; “C.T. Art-Colortone” Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.; Quality CT co. Chicago] [color postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink. Aerial view of Kichxáan and Tongass Narrows, Taant’a Kwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .67 – 288 – Dock Street, Ketchikan, Alaska 62753-C [back: Ketchikan, Alaska; (1933); C.P. Johnston Co., Seattle, Washington] [color postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink. Pedestrians and automobiles on city street, sign on left reads, “Drugs.” Kichxáan, Taant’a Kwáan, Lingít Aaní]
- .68 – **[Restricted because of sensitive content]**
- .69 – C114 Wrangell, Alaska [back: Wrangell, Alaska; (1933); Wrangell; Wrangell was originally located by the Russians as a trading post. Most advantageously situated as a supply point, Wrangell has held prestige as such since the early days. The Stikine River traffic and outfitting of big game hunters contributes largely to the business activity of the city; T-Co] [color

postcard (unwritten/unsent). Likely linen and watercolor ink, same image as .70. Aerial view of K̄aachx̄ana.áak'w, Shtax'héen K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní]

.70 – Wrangell Alaska Where the Stikine Meets the Sea, © Schallerers S-545 [back: Wrangell, Alaska; (1933)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Black and white photographic print, same image as .69]

.71 – S-464 Street Scene - Wrangell, Alaska Schallerers © [back: Wrangell, Alaska; (1933)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Pedestrians and automobiles on city street, signs read, “City [...] Market,” “Drugs,

“Curios,” “Wrangell [...],” “Jenkin’s Café.” K̄aachx̄ana.áak'w, Shtax'héen K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní]

.72 – S-413. Wrangell Institute for Natives - Wrangell, Alaska. Schallerer's © [back: Wrangell, Alaska; (in 1930's)] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Aerial view of boarding school campus. Wrangell Institute may have also been known as Shoemaker Bay Industrial School.

K̄aachx̄ana.áak'w, Shtax'héen K̄wáan, Lingít Aaní]

.73 – Alaskan Moose - Mt. McKinley Nat'l Park A-30 [back: Mt. McKinley National Park] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Bull moose standing chest-deep in water, Denali National Park and Preserve]

.74 – Moose, Near Anchorage, Alaska [back: Moose; Published by Northwest Magazine Distributors; A 'Natural-Finish' Card Made by Graycraft Card Co., Danville, Va.; SA-46] [postcard (unwritten/unsent). Bull moose standing in field, near Dgheyaytnu, Dena'ina Ełnena

.75 – S-491; Shallerer's [back: Non-Alaskan; (1933-1939)] [Garden with fountains and pools, buildings and automobiles in background]

.76 – Stairway here [arrow] [back: Seward, Alaska; about 1958; Taken by Alice Butler; This is the old old telephone exchange and power house in Seward – The roof on left is living quarters and an outside stairway leading to upstairs. I wondered [sic] in door for aways but had no flash light so was afraid of old floors; old beds rockers, dressers & pictures on walls seen through windows] [Qutalleq, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq territory]

Guide written: July 10, 2003

Guide updated: September 22, 2022; June 18, 2026