

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center  
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Resource Center  
625 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: 907-929-9235  
Email: [resourcecenter@anchoragemuseum.org](mailto:resourcecenter@anchoragemuseum.org)

Guide prepared by: Amy Valentine, Archivist

**TITLE:** Vern Brickley Souvenir Photographs

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2025.003

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: circa 1950s-1970

Extent: 6 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Vern Brickley

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

Vern Brickley (1909-1970) came to Valdez, Alaska from Tacoma, Washington, in 1936 not as a photographer, but to work on a movie set. He lived through one winter on Fox Island in Prince William Sound, where he was involved in the herring fishery and raising foxes. Just prior to WWII he moved to Fairbanks, then was drafted into the Army as a photographer, and moved to Anchorage in 1940. He was in the Army at Fort Richardson for about three years and discharged in 1945. He traveled throughout the Aleutians during the Japanese invasion, and many of the photographs of Attu from the campaign bear his name. It is thought that he traded for some of these images, since he was printing them commercially.

Until 1954 he and his family lived in Anchorage at 920 B East 15th Avenue. He is listed continuously in the phone book until April, but no business is listed in the yellow pages. At that time the family moved to Moose Pass, and Brickley worked at the military rehab center in Seward, teaching dark room techniques. According to his son Bill, this is when he picked up the historical negatives of Seward. They moved back to Anchorage in 1958, and Brickley then became a photographer for the Army Corps of Engineers, working for the District Engineers at Elmendorf Air Force Base. Many of the Corp photographs of the 1964 earthquake are his work.

He died October 28, 1970, survived at the time by his widow, Margaret; a son, William; two daughters, Mrs. Don Parker, and Miss Eileen Brickley.

**Scope and Content Description:**

The collection consists of 6 souvenir photograph booklets containing accordion strips of commercially produced black and white images. Each booklet holds 8 photographs and is based on the following's topics: Alaska, Fort Richardson, Anchorage, Fur Rendezvous, Sled Dogs, and Indigenous people.

**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: Vern Brickley Souvenir Photographs, Anchorage Museum, B2023.3

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Acquisition and Appraisal Information**

Donated by Kathleen Sukon on April 19, 2025.

**Processing Note**

Staples removed and booklets disassembled for flat storage.

**Notes**

Collection materials contain outdated language that does not reflect the mission and goals of the Anchorage Museum today.

**RELATED MATERIALS**

B1998.014 Vern Brickley Collection

B2011.011 Doris Rhodes Scrapbooks

B2015.004 Jose Romano Collection

B2022.006 Vern Brickley Photo Album

## SUBJECTS

Anchorage / Dgheyaytnu (Alaska)  
Anchorage Fur Rendezvous  
Dogsledding — Alaska  
Fishing — Alaska  
Fort Richardson (Alaska)  
Glaciers — Alaska  
Inupiaq (Indigenous people) — Alaska  
King Island / Ugiuvak (Alaska)  
Kotzebue / Qikiqtaġruk (Alaska)  
Mines and mining  
Nome / Sitnasuaq (Alaska)  
Seppala, Leonhard, 1877-1967  
United States. Army, Alaska

### Detailed Description of the Collection

#### F1

.1 – Alaska. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: Denali, Pavlof Volcano, Malaspina Glacier, midnight sun, salmon, dredge mining, Alaskan fur pelts, farming]

.2 – Alaskan [Indigenous people]. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: young women at Ugiuvak / King Island, drummers in Qikiqtaġruk / Kotzebue, families at Nelson Island, workshop beneath a skin boat, two people in fur parkas, National Guardsmen in formation, Tom cod ice fishing, Seal hunter carrying boat]

.3 – Alaskan Sled Dogs. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: Arctic mail carrier, freighting north of Sitnasuaq / Nome, Leonhard Seppala with dogs, war-time team at Fort Richardson, Bob Busby and team, Dick Mitchell and team, Siberian Huskies, “Team-Mates”]

.4 – Anchorage, Alaska. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: Anchorage aerial, Fourth Avenue, East 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., parade near Federal Building, City Hall and Fire Station, Mt. McKinley apartment building, High school exterior, recreation at Spenard Lake]

.5 – Anchorage Fur Rendezvous. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: Queen contest and coronation, Little Diomedé group photo, blanket-toss, dog team racing down 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, dog sled racing and spectators, junior dog race, Indigenous group drumming with dancer, Blue Fox fur pelts]

.6 – Fort Richardson, Alaska. A Story in Pictures. Vern Brickley. Moose Pass. Alaska. [accordion photo strip interior, 8 photos: Main entrance sign, Headquarters building, Chapel, Theater, military members skiing, Barracks, Skyline Service Club, Buckner Field House]

Guide written: June 16, 2025