## Alaska's Black and People of Color Subject Guide

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This guide is intended to assist researchers in locating archival materials pertaining to Black and People of Color (BPOC) communities in Alaska, housed at the Anchorage Museum Archives and Library. It is not necessarily a complete listing of all BPOC-related holdings. Please note that our collections contain materials that are racist, sexist, and may be painful or traumatizing for researchers. Please contact archives staff at <u>resourcecenter@anchoragemuseum.org</u> or 907-929-9235 for assistance in locating other collections of interest.

### Using this Guide

Archival materials that help tell the stories of Alaska's BPOC community members are becoming more plentiful and accessible. Photographs, documents, and ephemera speak to the experiences of people from these historically marginalized communities and bring to life the significant contributions these Alaskans continue to make to the 49<sup>th</sup> State—including through business, politics, the military, education, the arts, and civic life.

The following collections document the lives and experiences of BPOC people throughout Alaska. The collections are ordered by accession number. Collections without individual items indicate the entire collection is relevant to the topic of this subject guide. Please note this Subject Guide does not represent a complete listing of all materials related to the topic in the Anchorage Museum's collections. For more information, please refer to each collection's Finding Aid, available on the Museum's website, or contact archives staff at the email address above.

This document will be updated as new collections are accessioned and relevant materials are found through research and review. This guide includes materials available in the Anchorage Museum Archives & Library in the following categories:

Archival collections	page 2
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### Crary-Henderson Collection, B1962.001

The Crary and Henderson Families lived and worked in the Valdez area during the boom times of the early 1900s. William Halbrook Crary was a prospector and newspaper man born in the 1870s (may be 1873 or 1876). William and his brother Carl N. Crary came to Valdez in 1898. Will was a member of the prospecting party of the Arctic Mining Company; Carl was the captain of the association. The Company staked the "California Placer Claim" on Slate Creek and worked outside of Valdez on the claim. Slate Creek is a tributary of the Chitina River, in the Chistochina District of the Copper River Basin. Will Crary was the first townsite trustee for Valdez. Carl later worked in the pharmaceutical field in Valdez and was also the postmaster. Will married schoolteacher Nan Fitch in Valdez in 1906.

This collection includes images of an Asian-American crew member, a restaurant worker, and man in the crowd.

.001A.470, .001A.482, .001A.488

Keywords: Ships, Valdez (Alaska)

## CIHS U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska, Collection, B1962.x.015

The Alaska Highway, which runs from Dawson Creek, British Columbia, to Delta Junction, Alaska, was constructed in 1942 to connect Alaska to the Lower 48 states. The collection consists of 28 black-and-white official U.S. and Canadian Army photographs of Alaska Highway construction.

This collection includes images of Black soldiers building the Alaska Highway.

.2-.6, .26-.27

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Highway; World War, 1939-1945 – Transportation

## KNIK Pioneer Audio Reels, B1963.012

KNIK was Alaska's first FM radio station and one of the first stations in the nation to begin what is now known as "Smooth Jazz." The collection consists of 26 7" reels of ¼" magnetic audio tape containing oral history interviews with Anchorage pioneers, recorded by Ruth Briggs of radio station KNIK in 1961 and 1962, for the program "Alaska Speaks."

This collection includes one audio reel related to the life and experience of Mattie "Tootsie" Crosby who was a Black entrepreneur in Southeast and Southwest Alaska in the early- to mid-1900s.

Reel 7, Scotch plastic, 1200', "Note: Side 2 is ok, Side 1 is only half there." Side 1, 2. "Tootsie" Mattie Crosby. 30 min.

**Keywords:** Crosby, Mattie "Tootsie," 1884-1972; African Americans – Alaska; Iditarod (Alaska); Flat (Alaska); Businesses – Alaska

#### Marie Silverman Collection, B1963.016

Marie Silverman came to Alaska from Norway in 1908. She married Sol Silverman in Ketchikan, and the couple lived in various locations before settling in Anchorage in 1915. Marie worked for the Anchorage Times and was active in community affairs. She died in 1967.

This collection includes one image of a Black baseball player in an Anchorage uniform.

.83

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Railroad; Anchorage (Alaska); Baseball; Seward (Alaska)

#### Whittington Photographs, B1965.004

The Whittington collection consists primarily of photos of a snow slide in 1920 and of a train stalled and packed in as a result of that snow slide. The photographs of the snow slide include photos of a snowplow clearing the snow slide, a temporary track, an engine, train cars, and views of the slide. Other photographs in the collection include Spencer Glacier, a photo of where the Portage Bay tunnel now begins from 1920, Child's Glacier, Port Armstrong, Whaling, a Labor Day Parade with the ARR commission float and Shriner's Float, Shakan, Tenakee Inlet frozen over, Kodiak, Ft. Liscum, Valdez, a blizzard, and Sitka. Steamship photographs include the Estebeth, Alonguin, and Alaska.

This collection includes one image of two Chinese American men pulling a sled with wood through the snow.

.53

Keywords: Chinese Americans – Alaska

## CIHS Griffin Collection, B1966.007

This collection consists of one photograph of captured Japanese at Attu Island in 1943.

.3

**Keywords:** Attu Island (Alaska); Soldiers--Japan; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

### CIHS Isaacs, B1967.019

The Isaacs collection includes photographs of Chickaloon and Anchorage scenes. Scenes of Chickaloon include houses and coal fields. Anchorage scenes include the first lot sale in 1915, fourth avenue on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, Anchorage terminal yards, the U.S. Marshal's Office and Jail, and President Harding and Mrs. Harding at the Anchorage Depot. Also in the collection are photos of Baseball teams. Photographers of the collection include J. E. Candle, P. (Phineas?) S. Hunt, Augusta Pyatt, and the McCain Studio.

This collection includes a photograph of a Black baseball player seated with other Anchorage Baseball Team players from 1915.

.23m

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Baseball

## Alaska Command Collection, B1970.079

Two hard bound presentation albums of Alaska Command photos from 1962 and 1965.

This collection includes images of Black and People of Color soldiers.

Keywords: African Americans - Black; Military - Alaska

### USARAL Photographs, B1971.056

This collection consists of photographs from President Nixon and Hirohito's visit to Anchorage in 1971 at Elmendorf. Photographs include crowd scenes, Emperor Hiro Hito with the Princess and Japanese dignitaries, President and Mrs. Nixon, Nixon shaking hands with Emperor Hiro Hito, Senator Stevens with Governor Egan and Mrs. Egan, and the U.S. Air Force band.

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Elmendorf Air Force Base (Alaska); Hirohito, Emperor of Japan, 1901-1989; Nixon, Richard M., 1913-1994

### Charles Weller Collection, B1974.040

Charles Weller worked for the Alaska Railroad and Alaska Road Commission in the 1930s and 1940s. Nothing else was known about him at the time of processing.

This collection includes three images of Japanese-American Harry Mikami of Anchorage and two images of Bill Harris who was at the Monte Carlo Café in Fairbanks.

.10, .28, .29, .148, .149

**Keywords:** Harris, Bill; Mikami, Harry, 1915-1992; African Americans – Alaska; Japanese American – Alaska

### CIHS Collection, B1975.134 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes images of President Warren G. Harding's trip to Alaska with Black and People of Color in the crowd at events, such as driving the golden spike in Nenana the summer of 1923.

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Railroad; Harding, Warren G., 1865-1923; Nenana (Alaska)

### Sidney Hamilton Collection, B1976.082

The photos contained in the Sidney Hamilton Collection depict the city of Anchorage and the Cook Inlet area from the mid-1940's to mid-1950's. During these post war years, Anchorage experienced an economic boom and rapid population growth. As population grew so did the city, resulting in the construction of many new businesses along Fourth and Fifth Avenues. It was also around this time that the Glenn highway was completed, connecting Anchorage with the Richardson and Alaska Highways.

This collection includes one image of a Black soldier in uniform in a parade.

.129

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Military – Alaska

#### Zula Swanson Photographs, B1977.104

Zula Swanson (1891–1973) was born on a cotton plantation in Jackson Gap, Alabama, in 1891. In 1918, she moved to Portland, Oregon, where she worked as a dressmaker, and where she married shortly after arrival. The marriage did not last, and, with limited financial resources, Zula became a sex worker and managed to amass a large savings. In 1929 she relocated to Anchorage, Alaska, to escape charges of bootlegging and drunk driving.

Swanson realized the financial opportunities of her profession in Anchorage and purchased property downtown, which she turned into a brothel disguised as a boardinghouse. She also owned the Rendezvous Hotel, which served as a meeting place for new arrivals seeking housing and job opportunities. Swanson continued to prosper in Anchorage, purchasing commercial and residential lots throughout the 1940s and 1950s, quickly becoming one of the largest landowners in the state. In 1962, she sold one of her downtown lots, reportedly worth as much as \$250,000 (roughly \$2 million in 2022), to developers who built J.C. Penney department store.

While growing her businesses, Swanson maintained an active role in civic life in Anchorage. She was one of the founding members of the Anchorage chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1951, and was a member of various community clubs, including the Daughters of the Elks and the Northern Lights Civic and Social Club. She owned her dream home on Goose Lake near the University of Alaska Anchorage. Swanson passed in Anchorage in January 1973, at the age of 82.

This collection consists of two black and white photographs of Zula Swanson in an interior setting.

**Keywords:** Swanson, Zula, 1891–1973; African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Businesses – Alaska – Anchorage

### Jesse Lee Home Album, B1978.180

Nellie J. Nash Lien was an elementary teacher at the Jesse Lee Home in Seward, Alaska, circa 1927-1933. Jesse Lee Home was a Methodist orphanage and boarding school which operated in Unalaska, Alaska, from 1889-1925, primarily serving children from the Aleutian Islands and the Seward Peninsula. With the onset of the influenza epidemic in the early 1910s and 1920s the number of orphans from Alaska Native villages increased dramatically. The Jesse Lee Home in Unalaska, as well as other mission schools, was soon overwhelmed with children. Cost and logistics of operating a school so far from supply centers in Seattle prompted the Methodist church to relocate the school from Unalaska to Seward in 1925. The new facility consisted of

boys' and girls' dormitories, classrooms, kitchen, gymnasium, garden, and other buildings. Due to damage from the 1964 Alaska earthquake, the Seward Jesse Lee home was evacuated from its location and the students were housed at other facilities in Seward. The Home was relocated to Anchorage in 1966.

This collection includes four photographs of young women and men of possible mixed heritage.

.86-.88, .92

Keywords: Jesse Lee Home – Alaska; Seward (Alaska)

#### Alaska Railroad Collection, B1979.002

The collection consists of photographic images created by the Alaska Railroad and Alaska Engineering Commission. Most of the collection focuses on locomotives, bridges, buildings, construction, freight, equipment, passenger services, employees, and track. While the focus is the railroad, the photographs often capture details of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century Alaskan life, as well as images of the Alaskan landscape.

This collection includes materials related to Black employees and contractors in various railroad operations, including Alvin C. Campbell.

.73, .1909, .4782, .6356 .7567, .10263, .10264, .10275, .4.287.002a, .4.287.002b, .4.287.003, .G256, .G667, .G899, .J22

**Keywords:** Campbell, Alvin C.; African Americans – Alaska; Construction; Railroad; Transportation; Workers

### AHFAM FIC Collection, B1980.001 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes four photographs of Japanese soldiers on Attu Island.

.38-.41, .45

**Keywords:** Attu Island (Alaska); Soldiers – Japan; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

### Woodman Photograph Collection, B1980.027 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes a photograph of Black soldiers working on the Seward Highway.

.12

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Girdwood (Alaska); Military – Alaska

#### Alex Family Photograph Collection, B1980.098 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes images of Black spectators at Fur Rendezvous sled dog races.

.13-.15

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Fur Rendezvous (Anchorage, Alaska)

#### AHFAM FIC Collection, B1982.046 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes a photograph of a Black baseball player standing with a team in Anchorage, July 4, 1915.

.14

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Baseball

### Ward Wells Collection, B1983.091

Ward Wallace Wells, Jr. (1920-1982) was born in Rich Lake, Wisconsin. He arrived first in Juneau with his first wife Virginia in 1946 and moved to Anchorage the following year where he opened a photography studio on Fifth Avenue and G Street. Wells was active for the next thirty years, shooting commercial activities throughout the state, taking portraits, and building an extensive file of stock photographs, including images of business activities, new buildings, portraits, Fur Rendezvous, the Anchorage Symphony, and the 1964 earthquake. He also traveled extensively for work and captured many significant images of communities in northern and western Alaska. His work was featured in national magazines like Life and Time, as well as in the press and on national television. He maintained an active studio and was well known throughout the state until his death in 1982.

This collection includes materials related to daily life and work in and around Anchorage, including sports and recreation, grocery shopping, the arts, church, and other activities.

.C184.1, .C1317, .C1351.1, .C1351.2, .C1655.3, .C1864, .C1914, .C1961, C1961.1, .C2232.4, .C2241, .C2594.2, .C2599.1-.3, .C3504, .C3523, .C5943, .C6260.1, .C6872.1, .C7705.1, .C7705.4, .C7710.8, C7715.1, .C7946.5, .C7946.12-.13, .C8059.1, .C8059.5, .S1435.2, .S1644.3, .S2023.23-41, .S2055, .S3091.1, .S3094.1, .S3425.327

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; African American churches – Alaska; Airplane – Alaska; Baseball – Alaska; Bowman, Willard, 1919-1975; Businesses – Alaska; Choirs (Music); Church – Alaska; Grocery shopping; Holiday, Billie, 1915-1959; Japanese restaurants – Alaska; Laundry workers; McSmith, Blanche, 1920-2006; Medical personnel; Military – Alaska; Musicians, Black; Swanson, Zula, 1891–1973; Wright, Joshua, 1929-2017

#### Mayor George Sullivan Photograph Collection, B1984.055

This collection consists of black-and-white photographic prints, 35mm black-and-white negatives, color photographic prints, and 35mm color slides. Most photos are of Sullivan at official functions such as speeches, presentations, parties, and ground-breaking events. Sullivan was Mayor of the City of Anchorage from 1967-1975. When the City and Borough unified in September 1975, Sullivan continued as Mayor of the Municipality of Anchorage until 1981.

This collection includes materials related to activities and official business conducted through the Mayor's Office, including Japanese Garden dedication ceremony.

.1A-.2B, .7A-7B, .31-.51, .53, .56, .66, .73-.79, .87, .115-.117, .128B, .136, .144, .146, .147, .151, .155, .156, .159B, .160B, .167, .169, .173, .185-.188, .197.5, .197.7, .200-.205, .221, .222, .234, .272-.274, .280, .292

**Keywords:** Office of the Mayor; Anchorage (Alaska) – Politics and government; Local government – Alaska – Anchorage; Sullivan, George M., 1922-2009

#### Karl Fortess Collection, B1984.077 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes a photograph of a Black crew member on the deck of a ship and a Black railway worker standing next to a train.

.13.010, 23.010

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Railroad; Sailors, Black

### Romig Collection, BL1985.063 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes an image of a Black man seated in a group shot of the "Rustlers" and the "Hustlers" membership teams.

.69

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska

### Anchorage Public Information Office, B1986.096 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes materials related to Municipality of Anchorage, including images of Black employees in various departments.

.178.10, .parksinteriors01, .people03-.people06, .policepeople1, .portpeople03, .solidwaste02

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska); African Americans – Alaska

### Bessie Kendall Couture Collection, B1987.002

Bessie Kendall Couture was the owner and operator of two restaurants, the Black and White Restaurant and the Broadway Restaurant and Bakery, in Skagway, Alaska. Her first restaurant in Skagway is thought to be the first black-owned business in Alaska, operating 1886-1900 during the height of the Klondike Gold Rush began. She opened her second restaurant in the 1920s with her third husband, William Couture.

Not much is known about Kendall Couture. We do know she was married at least three times, the first marriage ending in divorce and the second marriage, to a man named A.W. Kendall, ending in tragedy with his death in the shipwreck of *The Princess Sophia* in 1918. She married William Couture in 1920 in Skagway where they both worked as cooks. In her later years, Kendall Couture divided her time between Alaska and Seattle, spending winters in the Lower 48. According to the Skagway census of 1930 and 1940, Bessie was the head of household and owner of her home.

This collection consists of 48 photographs that were found by the donor, Mary Ellen Schesser, in her mother's basement. According to the donor, her grandmother, Anne Woods, met and befriended Couture onboard a ship travelling to Alaska, and they stayed in touch.

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Skagway (Alaska); Couture, Bessie Kendall; Nome (Alaska); Business; Portrait photography; Restaurant

#### Don Miller Adakian Photograph, B1989.015 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes a photograph of the members of "The Adakian" Staff, a World War II newspaper, including two Black soldiers, Alva Morris and Don Miller.

.1

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

### Lu Liston Collection, B1989.016

Lucien Liston was a longtime Alaskan businessman and artist and has been described as the last of a long line of drug store photographers who provided images for sale to the traveling public. Hewitt's Drug Store was an old-school drug store and newsstand that also had a lunch counter. A purveyor of photographic supplies and services, the store provided passport and portrait photographs, did a brisk business in postcards, and sold copies of paintings by Alaskan artists such as Sydney Hamilton. The proprietors often purchased photographs from Anchorage residents and others, adding them to Hewitt's stock image library.

This collection includes images of Black spectators at Fur Rendezvous sled dog races, as well as Black soldiers in parades and marching band, Filipino cannery workers, and IBM employees.

.708.1, .1880.14, .1880.18, .1880.20, .1880.25, .1881.6, .1882.16, .1940.3, .2029.4, .2065.2-.3, .2069.1, .2069.4, .2074.8-.10, .2074.17, .2074.19, .2077.7, .2078.2-.7, .2078.10, .2177.10, .2246.1, .2246.3, .2246.10, .2246.15-.17, .2246.20, .2269.7, .2269.12

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Bristol Bay (Alaska); Cannery workers; Filipino Americans – Alaska; Fur Rendezvous (Anchorage, Alaska); International Business Machines Corporation—Employees

### Jasper Wyman Collection, B1989.024 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes an image of a Black and possibly Japanese sailor on a ship in Seattle heading to Alaska in 1898, and a group of prospectors in Bergman, Alaska, in April 1899.

.011, .300

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Sailors, Black

## Clarence L. Olson Collection, B1990.008

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence L. Olson lived on St. Paul Island from 1945 until about 1952. Mr. Olson was Assistant Manager, then Manager, of the fur-Seal Administration for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Images from the village of St. Paul include buildings, docks and boats, activities, village children, people, seals and sea lions, and aircraft. Images from other Alaska locations include villages, animals and birds, boats, fishing, people, airplanes, scenery, and Olson family photographs.

This collection includes boat workers and a dinner guest of possible Asian descent.

.116, .186

Keywords: Northern fur seal – Alaska – Pribilof Islands; Saint Paul Island (Alaska)

## Steve McCutcheon Collection, B1990.014

Stephen Douglas McCutcheon (1911-1998) was born in Cordova, Alaska. He owned and operated Mac's Foto shop in downtown Anchorage and worked as a commercial photographer throughout the state, documenting the history of Alaska during a time when few gave any thought to the epic transformations going on around them. In the process, he documented various Indigenous groups, Euro-American settlements, natural scenery, and the changing landscape of a northern region impacted by climate change. In McCutcheon's photographs are lessons for any who would study the history of America's pioneering spirit, the traditions and accommodations of Alaska Native peoples, the history of technology in extreme climates, the dominance of oil in modern society, or the effects of climate on man and nature.

This collection includes materials related to daily life and work, including sports and recreation, school, grocery stores, the arts, earthquake repairs, pipeline construction, studio portraits, and other activities.

.3.102

.4.3897, .4.Jul73.womaninyellowjumpsuit .5.AKNative.7.73-74, .5.AKNative.38.68.1A - .6, .5.AKNative.38.68.10A-.12A, .5.Anc.5.035, .5.Anc.06.1-.8, .5.Anc.8.10-.11, . 5.Anc.8.21, . 5.Anc.8.25, .5.Anc.Air.6.9.10, .5.Anc.Air.6.135, .5.Anc.Air.18.21.18, .5.Anc.Air.19.1.65, .5.Anc.Air.19.3.1-.8, .5.Anc.Air.6.9.10, .5.Anc.Air.19.6.8, .5.Anc.Air.20.99.14, .5.Anc.Hous.3.330.2, .5.Anc.Hous.3.331.2, .5.Anc.Hous.3.335. .5.Anc.Sch.1.12-.15, .5.Anc.Sch.1.77-.78, .5.Anc.Sch.1.86a, .5.Anc.Sch.1.92, .5.Anc.Sch.1.117, .5.Anc.Sch.4.8, .5.ARR.1.121-.122.6, .5.ARR.2.162, .5.ARR.3.4, .5.ARR.3.29B, .5.ARR.5.6, .5.Cat.1.15, .5.Cat.1.145.7-.8, .5.Cat.1.161.1, .5.Cat.1.161.3, .5.Cat.2.35.5, .5.Cat.2.38.2, 5.Cent.1.2, .5.ConConv.1.1A, .5.ConConv.1.3, .5.ConConv.10.18, .5.ConConv.14.4-.5, .5.ConConv.14.8, .5.ConConv.15.2-.4B, .5.ConConv.16.13, .5.ConConv.16.22, .5.ConConv.21.8, .5.Ed.2.13, .5.Ed.2.43, .5.EQ.5.3.20, .5.EQ.5.3.51, .5.EQ.7.3.1-.4, .5.EQ.7.3.7-.10, .5.EQ.16.7, .5.EQ.16.76, .5.EQ.1.1.18.5, .5.EQ.1.9.2, .5.EQ.1.9.4, .5.EQ.1.9.9, .5.EQ.1.9.25, .5.EQ.7.1.2-.3, .5.EQ.7.9, .5.EQ.7.22, .5.EQ.7.24-.25, .5.EQ.18.2, .5.EQ.18.8, .5.EQ.18.16.18-.19, .5.EQ.18-.19, .5.EQ.18.16.22, .5.EQ.18.16.28, .5.EQ.18.17-.18, .5.EQ.18.25, .5.EQ.18.66, .5.EQ.19.16.4, .5.EQ.19.18.1-.2, .5.P.1.121, .5.P.1.123-.127, .5.P.2.24, .5.P.2.25D.3A, .5.P.12.180, .5.P.27.69.12, .5.People.12.42, .5.People.13.18, .5.People.14.390, .5.Pol.1.17, .5.Pol.1.56, .5.Pol.1.58.7-.8, .5.Pol.4.391, .5.Pol.4.395-.396, .5.Pol.4.404, .5.Pol.4.409, .5.Pol.4.415, .5.Pol.4.553-.554, .5.Pol.4.648, .5.Pol.4.780, .5.Pol.4.792, .5.Pol.4.812, .5.Pol.4.857, .5.Pol.4.860, .5.Pol.5.10, .5.Pol.5.17, .5.Pol.6.3, .5.Pol.6.5-.7, .5.Pol.6.25-.28, .5.Pol.6.77, .5.Pol.6.80-.81, .5.Pol.6.87A, .5.Pol.9.1-.7, .5.Pol.12.3, .5.Pol.12.36B, .5.Pol.12.68, .5.Pol.12.77, .5.Pol.12.82, .5.Pol.12.85.3B-.6B, .5.Pol.13.117, .5.Pol.13.124, .5.Pol.14.1-.9, .5.Pol.4.16.62, .5.Pol.16.221, .5.Pol.18.57, .5.Pol.22.77A, .5.Sports.1.2, .5.StateBattle.1.3, 5.StateBattle.2.14.1, 5.StateBattle.6.1, 5.StateBattle.7.7, 5.StateBattle.9.1-.3, .5.TV.1.18A, .5.TV.45.23, .5.TV.45.35, .5.TV.45.37, .5.TV.68.49, .5.TV.68.66B-.67, .5.TV.68.70-.71, .5.TV.83.71.7-.8, .5.TV.83.71.10-.11, .5.TV.83.71.13, .5.TV.93.69, .5.TV.93.71-.73, .5.TV.94.329-.330, .5.TV.95.2.4A, .5.TV.95.4.54, .5.TV.95.4.59, .5.TV.95.63, .5.TV.128.8.3, .5.TV.128.8.8-.10, .5.TV.128.8.12-.15, .5.TV.128.8.22-.27, .5.TV.129.24, .5.TV.129.28, .5.TV.144.71, .5.TV.154.1, .5.TV.154.5-.8, .5.TV.154,13-22, .5.TV.154.53.5-.8, .5.TV.154.53.31-.34, .5.TV.154.53.44, .5.TV.154.53.50, .5.TV.154.55.1, .5.TV.154.55.4, .5.TV.154.56.1, .5.TV.154.59.5-.12, .5.TV.154.59.18, .5.TV.154.59.21, .5.TV.154.60.2, .5.TV.154.60.4, .5.TV.166.58.6.2, .5.TV.166.58.6.3B, .5.TV.166.58.6.6B, .5.TV.166.58.14.4, .5.TV.166.61 .2018.001, .2018.1.14.005, .2018.1.159.002-.006, .2018.1.160.001-.006, .2018.1.161.001-.009

Keywords: McCutcheon, Steve (1911-1998); Alaska – Photographs; Anchorage (Alaska)

#### Lamp Collection, B1993.018

This collection includes images of Japanese men arriving at the Valdez jail dated September 26, 1908 (accused of seal poaching), and Black crew members onboard a ship watching boat races in Valdez dated July 4, 1907.

.47, .74a-b

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Japanese American – Alaska; Valdez (Alaska)

#### Doris Rhodes Slides, B1993.020

Doris Nye Rhodes and Glen Rhodes co-owned a sawmill on the Oregon coast for eight years, then shipped the mill to Anchorage in 1955. In Alaska, they opened Bird Creek Sawmill on Turnagain Arm with Thurston Nye. Doris worked for the Bureau of Land Management for many years. The Rhodes traveled around the state to communities both on and off the road system.

This collection includes images of people at parades, concerts, walking in downtown Anchorage, playing softball on Delaney Park Strip, visiting to the Alaska Zoo, and crowds during the visit of the Pope John Paul II in 1981.

.519, .661b, .823-.824, .828, .833-.834, .838, .873, .1082, .1145, .2291-.2292, .2463, .2470, .2483, .2990-.2991, .3392, .3597-.3598, .3693

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Zoo; Anchorage (Alaska)

#### Paul Steucke Collection, B1994.008 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes an image of a Black sport fishermen at Willow Creek.

.196

Keywords: Fishing; Willow Creek (Alaska)

#### FIC Collection, B1995.011

This collection includes an image of a Black sailor on a ship.

.11

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Sailors, Black

#### Eugene Tetinek Photographs, B1995.014

Eugene Joseph Tetinek was born June 27, 1905, in Bern, Switzerland. He immigrated to Ohio in 1912, and in 1932 he traveled to Alaska in search of work. He spent two years in Fort Yukon, then moved to the Marshall area to work in the mining industry, mostly with the Fairbanks Exploration Company in the Willow Creek area. He briefly lived in Mountain Village and worked as a janitor at the hospital there. From 1946-1956 he lived in Russian Mission. During World War II, he served with the 10th Air Force Rescue Squadron. In 1956, he again moved to Marshall where he operated a grocery store. In 1980, he relocated to Anchorage. Tetinek died March 8, 1996.

This collection includes four images of Black soldiers.

.49.3, 49.4, .69.10, .70.5

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Sailors, Black

### Adak Historical Society, B1996.035

The collection consists of materials collected by the Adak Historical Society and originally housed at the Adak Museum. There are approximately 2570 black and white photos, 2084 color photos, 268 color 35mm slides, 170 black and white negatives, 32 color negatives, 12 VHS videotapes, and 5 audio cassette tapes.

This collection includes one image of a Black soldier with group of Marines hiking uphill, sunny day on Adak.

.3.204

Keywords: Adak (Alaska); African Americans - Alaska; Military

### Rev. Andrew F. Forrest Collection, B1997.013

Andrew F. Forrest was a United Presbyterian minister from Glasgow, Scotland, who travelled on the *S.S. St. Croix* through southeast Alaska in July and August 1909. Forrest was ordained in 1876 and from 1885 was minister of Renfield Street United Presbyterian Church in Glasgow. He

published an article titled "The Life of Young Men in Glasgow" in 1902. The accompanying notebook consists of pasted-in items including a typed lecture script, "Alaska: The Enchanted Land-1909" keyed to the slides, prints of some of the images, illustrations cut from books or magazines, fifty-five commercial postcards, sermon notes, and railway/steamship tickets.

The collection includes one image of a Black miner.

.065

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Steam shovels; White Pass and Yukon Route (Firm)

#### August Cohn Collection, B1997.022

This collection contains 298 black and white photos taken by August Cohn during his work with the Alaska Engineering Commission, 1915-1917. The photos focus on the Anchorage town site area, including images of construction, railroad buildings and equipment, anchorage residents and their families, houses, cabins, and local businesses.

This collection includes two images of a Black man in camp, possibly a cook.

.175, 199

Keywords: African American – Alaska; Alaska Engineering Commission

### Vern Brickley Collection, B1998.014

Vern Brickley (1909-1970) moved to Valdez, Alaska, from Tacoma, Washington, in 1936 to work on a movie set. Before WWII, he moved to Fairbanks, was drafted into the Army as a photographer, and moved to Anchorage in 1940. 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. At that time the family moved to Moose Pass, and Brickley worked at the military rehab center in Seward, teaching dark room techniques. 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.

The collection includes materials related to Black troops during World War II as well as students in a classroom.

.1.404, .1.1466-1469, .1.1533, .1.1554, .1.2179, .1.2184 Box 2, Unnumbered Prints, Folder 8

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Elmendorf Air Force Base (Alaska); Alaska Center for Children and Adults

### Candy Waugaman Collection, B1998.025

This collection consists of 1,063 photographs from World War II, dating from 1940-1945. The collection includes photographs of the Attu Campaign of 1943, Fort Richardson, Japanese prisoners, scenes of men at work and play, airplanes, and USO entertainers.

The image in this collection depicts Black troops during World War II.

.192

Keywords: African Americans - Military; Soldiers

### Arthur Watrous Collection, B1998.027

The collection consists of 77 glass lantern slides (all but two hand-tinted), 684 nitrate negatives, and 184 black-and-white prints (one real photo postcard) depicting Point Hope, King Island, Akutan, Little Diomede, and other villages in western Alaska, circa 1930-1940. Included are many images of subsistence hunting, traditional boats, dwellings, and social activities, including a funeral at Point Hope.

This collection includes two images of a Black Indigenous youth processing a hide.

.2.603-.604

Keywords: Inupiat – Alaska; Hunting – Alaska

## Anchorage Pioneer Family Album Negatives Collection, B2000.003

The Anchorage Pioneer Album was developed and assembled by John Bagoy of Anchorage. The project was sponsored by the Cook Inlet Historical Society and led to the creation of the *Anchorage Pioneer Families Exhibition* (1994-2000) at the Anchorage Museum.

This collection includes copy negatives and biographical information for two Japanese American families, the Kimura family and the Mikami family.

.389-.396, .552-.560

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Japanese American families – Alaska – Anchorage; Kimura family; Mikami family

## Malina Collection, B2000.014 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes one image of a Black man standing next to a horse with a cart.

.336

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska

## Martha Quimby Photographs, B2001.036

The collection consists of 3874 color photographs and negatives taken by Quimby during her years as a traveling public health nurse in rural Alaska. Many of the photos are of residents who have come to clinics for treatment. Also included are images of clinic facilities and other village buildings.

This collection includes one image of a Black man at the Point Hope graduation in May 1982.

.1304

Keywords: Point Hope (Alaska)

## O.D. Goetze Collection, B2001.041

Otto Daniel Goetze was born in Missouri in 1871, one of twelve children born to German immigrant parents. After working in Washington and Oregon, Goetze and his brother moved to Alaska in 1898 for the Gold Rush. Goetze lived in Southeast Alaska for two years before moving

to Nome, where he established the Alaska Photo Company on Kester Way. For seven years, Goetze photographed western Alaska and Siberia. In 1909, the Goetze brothers sold their Nome studio to the Lomen Brothers. Otto Goetze moved to Seattle, where he opened with Paul Dinison, a studio called Scenograph. Goetze was proprietor of the Alaska Photo Studio in Seattle from 1909-1912.

This collection includes materials related to Black miners in Nome in the early 1900s.

.81, .84 .121, .127, .186, .225, .410.22

Keywords: Gold mines and mining – Alaska; Nome (Alaska); Ships – Alaska; Shipping – Alaska

#### Goodwin Glass Plate Negatives, B2004.022 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes one image of a Black man at the start of the First-Annual All-Alaska Sweepstakes Dog Race, April 1908.

.27

Keywords: All Alaska Sweepstakes (Nome, Alaska); Nome (Alaska); Sled Dogs – Alaska

#### Schneider Collection, B2005.009 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes one image of a Black man driving the vehicle with Pope John Paul II during his visit to Alaska in February 1981.

.10

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska)

#### Joe Redington Sr. Family Collection, B2006.023 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes images of Black basketball players in a dog sled and children at a carnival and parade.

.1723, .1725, .1727, .2127, .5711, .6937, .7565

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Sled Dogs – Alaska; Wasilla (Alaska)

#### Richard Maximus Bjorkman Photographs, B2008.004

Richard Maximus Bjorkman was born in Sweden on November 18, 1859, to Marie Liedholm and Hampus Bjorkman. In 1875, he ran away from home to join the Swedish Navy. Upon discharge in 1882, he set out for San Francisco, and joined the crew of the clipper M.P. Grace. In 1884, he joined the United States Navy and served on the presidential yacht Dispatch as well as the Thetis. He left the service in 1890 but reenlisted in 1898 and served in the Spanish American War on the Newark. After the war, he settled in Nebraska and remained there until his death in 1949.

This collection includes one image of a Black sailor.

.031

Keywords: African American – Military; Sailors, Black

#### Candy Waugaman Collection, B2008.024

Nothing was known about the provenance of the images at the time of processing. Some of the prints might have come from the collection of Joe de la Cerda, Sr., who served with the armed forces in Alaska in the early 1950s. The collection consists of 81 black-and-white photographs of Anchorage and rural Alaska villages, most taken during or shortly after World War II.

This collection includes images of Black construction workers and soldiers in marching band during a parade.

.37, .39, .41, .43-.44, .50, .52-.55, .58, .62, .70, .72-.75

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska); United States Army; World War, 1939-1940

#### Heldstab Photographs, B2008.029 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes an image of Black deckhands on the dock and ship while an automobile is being loaded.

.10-.11

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Transportation

#### Monroe B. Goldberg Collection, B2009.001

This collection consists of 523 photographs and postcards that were taken or collected by Monroe Goldberg while serving in the U.S. Army. The majority of the images are of Alaska although there are a few that depict a base in California, as well as a number of images of British Columbia, Canada.

This collection includes a large group of soldiers in uniform stand in front of open hangar.

.326

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; United States Army; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

#### Etta Jones Collection, B2011.007

The collection consists of correspondence, manuscripts, records, certificates, photographs, and ephemera pertaining to Etta Jones and C. Foster Jones. Materials were created or collected by Etta Jones or by Mary Breu.

This collection includes one image of Japanese soldiers raising national flag following invasion of Attu, Alaska, June 7, 1942.

.8.128

**Keywords:** Attu (Alaska); Soldiers – Japan; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

### John N. Rupp Collection, B2011.012

The collection consists of a large scrapbook, a small binder of cartoons from *The Adakian* (a newspaper produced by American servicemen stationed in Adak, Alaska, during World War II), photographs, documents, correspondence, and an autobiography. Most of the materials pertain to Rupp's service with the U.S. Navy in World War II.

This collection includes one image of Japanese Lt. Cor. pointing out anchorages and mine fields in harbor during at the end of World War II, September 7, 1945.

.1.147

Keywords: Soldiers – Japan; World War, 1939-1945 – Naval operations, American

### Hobart Hyatt Collection, B2012.030

The collection consists of 3,803 35mm color slides, along with three colored photographic prints, publications pertaining to cadastral surveying, and other ephemera. The majority of the photographs were taken by Hobart Hyatt and Marion Hyatt, though some were probably taken by colleagues and/or friends.

This collection includes one image of a Black soldier in a band marching down Fourth Avenue, Fur Rendezvous parade, Anchorage, February 23, 1957.

.1216

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Fur Rendezvous (Anchorage, Alaska)

## Marcus V. Tyler Album, B2013.007

The collection consists of one album measuring 11 x 7 ¼" containing 153 images (black-andwhite photographs and both black-and-white and colored postcards), clippings, and ephemera. Images are of Alaskan towns, primarily Interior locations, as well as of Alaska Railroad construction.

This collection includes one image dated September 30, 1911, of a Japanese woman and man in aprons standing next to a walled tent with sign "Restaurant, Bakery and Coffee House."

.7

Keywords: Japanese Americans – Alaska; Japanese restaurants – Alaska

### Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, Panorama, B2013.038

One black-and-white panoramic group portrait measuring 38" x 10" and labeled "Lt. Col. H.C. Slusser, Com'd'r, T.C. Duran, 1st Sgt. Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, June 29, 1962.

Keywords: Elmendorf Air Force Base (Alaska); United States—Air Force—Airmen

### Col. Paul W. Stephens 1964 Alaska Earthquake Photographs, B2013.061

The collection consists of 136 black-and-white photographs used to illustrate a report on damage from the 1964 Alaska Earthquake on Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, compiled by Col. Paul W. Stephens.

This collection includes one image of a Black soldier inspecting earthquake damage at ABW Headquarters, #10471, on 20<sup>th</sup> St between Luke and Mundy Aves on Elmendorf Air Force Base.

.111

**Keywords:** Alaska Earthquake, Alaska, 1964; Earthquake damage--Alaska—Anchorage; Elmendorf Air Force Base (Alaska); Soldiers, Black

## Mayor's Office Photographs, B2013.074

The City of Anchorage and the Greater Anchorage Area Borough merged in 1975 to form the Municipality of Anchorage, and in 1978 "Project 80s" was begun to improve infrastructure and spur urban development. In general, the slides mostly represent the day-to-day activities, many construction- and development-oriented, that occur in the life of a city government. These include pictures of often unidentified road construction, utility work, or other construction activities. Numerous slides show various ground-breaking ceremonies or public outdoor commemorations of various functions and activities, these being from the administrations of Mayors George Sullivan and Tony Knowles. There are other slides of unidentified natural scenes including various lakes around the city, and areas of the hillside with the Chugach Mountains in the background (some of these appear to be documenting beginning or on-going residential growth in these areas). Similarly, there are a number of aerial perspectives mostly of downtown Anchorage and environs (Ship Creek, Government Hill, Elmendorf, etc.), probably from the late 1970s and early 1980s.

This collection includes materials related to activities and official business conducted through the Mayor's Office, such as events and celebrations, Black employees, recreation, and arts.

.411, .529, .531, .533, .534, .555-.566, .572-.583, .603-607, .635-638, .654, .672, .674, .676-.678, .814, .815, .978-.980, .1008, .1010, .1145, .1146, .1210, .1248, .1293, .1295, .1297-.1300, .1302

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Knowles, Tony, 1943-; Refuse collectors; Sullivan, George M., 1922-2009

### Walter Deane Slides, B2014.002

The collection consists of 1541 color 35mm slides, the bulk spanning the approximate dates of 1964 (post-earthquake) through most of 1977. Large collections of pictures, particularly the earlier ones, consist of numerous road and ferry trips through Canada and Alaska. Many later pictures into the 1970s are focused on school classrooms, mostly at Romig Junior High School.

This collection includes one image of a Black soldier in the Army color guard on Fourth Avenue passing Woolworth's and 4th Avenue Theatre, Fur Rendezvous, March 1965.

.45

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska), Fur Rendezvous (Anchorage, Alaska)

#### Darrell G. Wood Album, B2014.020

Darrell Wood served on the U.S.S. Citrus as a non-commissioned officer in the United States Coast Guard. The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Citrus was a Cactus (A)-class seagoing buoy tender. During World War II, the ship helped build LORAN stations on the Aleutian Islands. Beginning in November 1943, men and materials were transported to Sitka, Amchitka, and Attu. The Citrus also transported Coast Guard construction crews to erect Quonset huts for Construction Detachment "A" at Massacre Bay, Attu, and at Baxter Cove, Adak. In February 1944, the Citrus was stationed at Ketchikan. The ship spent the remainder of the war conducting aids to navigation, logistics, and vessel escort duties in Alaskan waters. From 1945 to 1979, the Citrus continued to maintain aids to navigation in Alaskan waters. Included are photographs of sailors serving on the Citrus as well as photos of the various ports of call.

The image in this collection depicts Black troops during World War II.

.506

**Keywords:** African American – Military; Citrus (Ship); United States. Coast Guard – Alaska; United States. Navy – Military life; Warships-Alaska; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska

### William R. Gore Collection, B2014.031

William "Billy" R. Gore was born in 1915 in Tacoma Park, Maryland. Gore enlisted with the U.S. Army in January 1941 and was assigned to the Medical Detachment, 39th Infantry, 9th Division.

From September to November 1942, he attended the Medical Army Corps Officer Candidate Course at Carlisle Barracks in Pennsylvania. He served as administrative officer with the 179th Station Hospital on Adak from January 1943 through February 1944. He was then transferred to the 42nd Station Hospital on Amchitka and served primarily as Mess Officer. He was discharged from the service in December 1945. Gore worked as a professional musician in Florida after the war. He died in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1995.

The collection includes a letter related to Black troops during World War II and segregation.

Letter. To Folks, April 9, 1945. Availability of chicken, radio program "Amos 'n' Andy," African American officers, segregation

**Keywords:** African American – Military; Soldiers – Alaska – Aleutian Islands – History; United States. Army Alaskan Dept. – Military life; United States. Army. Medical Corps; World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Alaska – Aleutian Islands

#### Anchorage Newspaper Photographs, B2015.001

The collection consists of three 8 x 10" black-and-white press photographs from the Anchorage Times and the Anchorage Daily News.

This collection includes one image of a Black man celebrating the Anchorage bid for the Winter Olympics.

.3

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska); Winter Olympics

#### Kimura Family Photographs, B2015.005

Yusuke "Harry" Kimura left Japan in 1904 and settled in Anchorage in 1914 with his wife, Katsuyo Yamasaki Kimura. The couple ran several businesses, including Snow White Laundry and Chop Suey House. The Kimuras had five children: Frank, born 1914; George, born 1916; Louise, born 1918; Bill, born 1920; and Sam, born 1928.

The collection consists of one color postcard of the interior of the Nikko Garden restaurant, published by Ward W. Wells; and one black-and-white studio portrait of George Yoshito Kimura, Louise Kimura Wood, William "Bill" Kimura, and Sam Kimura.

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Japanese American families—Alaska—Anchorage; Japanese restaurants; Kimura family; Kimura, Frank, 1914-1954; Kimura, George Yoshito, 1916-1998; Kimura, Sam, 1928-1966; Kimura, William "Bill," 1920-1991; Kimura, Yusuke "Harry," 1880-1957; Kimura Wood, Louise, 1918-2003

#### Dora Keen Collection, B2015.008

Dora Keen was born June 24, 1871, in Philadelphia, a daughter of the surgeon William Williams Keen. She was educated at Bryn Mawr College, graduating in 1896. Her interest in mountaineering began during a trip to the Alps in 1909-1910. She traveled to Alaska in 1911 "merely to see the wonderful scenery of the southwest coast," but shortly after arriving developed her plan to summit Mount Blackburn. Her first attempt failed; she returned and successfully reached the top on May 19, 1912. Keen's 1911 expedition to Mt. Blackburn was the first expedition to use dogs on a mountain, the first to succeed without Swiss guides, the first to camp in snow caves, and the first to make a prolonged night ascent. The collection consists of 1350 photographic prints (including one cyanotype, proof prints, panoramas, enlargements, and micrographs), 54 nitrate negatives, news clippings and other ephemera created or collected by Dora Keen, circa 1895-1940.

This collection includes images of Dr. Sarah Mu Jin Ching and Vaung Tsien Bang, likely in Vermont.

.480, .490-.491

**Keywords:** Bang, Vaung Tsien; Bryn Mawr College; Chinese American; Ching, Dr. Sarah Mu Jin; Hartford (Vermont); Keen, Dora, 1871-1963

#### James D. and Patricia Bourbonnais Collection, B2015.026

James D. Bourbonnais was born in 1934 in Bakersfield, California. He served with the United States Navy from 1951-1957. After discharge, he married Patricia Riley of Fresno and enrolled in the Aeronautical Engineering Program at California Polytechnic State University. In 1962, the couple moved to Alaska. In 1966, Jim opened the Shade Tree, a small engine repair shop on Spenard Road. He also worked at the Fort Richardson maintenance shop. Patty worked as a bookkeeper for Ken Johnson Insurance, Alaska Sausage Company, Kurani Inc., and other businesses. Jim and Patty enjoyed snowmachining, hunting, fishing, motorcycling, and sailing their boat Solitude. Patty died in February 2014; Jim died in March 2015. The collection consists

of 2178 photographs in 35mm slide, negative, and print formats. Images document the couple's time in Anchorage, including their domestic life and outdoor recreation, especially in their 37-foot sailboat Solitude.

The collection includes materials related to Chinese Americans at a restaurant, possibly during Lunar New Year celebrations.

.600-.605

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska); Chinese Americans families; Chinese restaurants -- Alaska

#### Cora Horton Kendall Collection, B2015.032

Cora Tonnetta Horton was born in 1911 in Williston, North Dakota. She taught music and other subjects in Haines from 1940-1944, and at Anchorage High School, West High School, and Bartlett High School in Anchorage from 1945-1974. After her retirement, she directed several community choirs. During World War II, she spent some time as a secretary in Nome. She married architect Charles Kendall in 1961. Cora died in 1998. The collection consists of 82 photographic prints (three color), 53 black-and-white negatives,

and one color 35mm slide, as well as ephemera collected or created by Cora Horton Kendall during her years in Alaska, primarily as a teacher in the Anchorage School District.

The collection includes an image of a Black man standing at front of lecture hall speaking to students reading sheet music but is identified as non-Alaska.

.80

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska); Kendall, Cora Horton, 1911-1998; Music – Instruction and study

### U.G. and Agnes Hastings Album, B2016.002

According to the donor, "Ulysses Grant Hastings (b. 1868) arrived in Alaska via the Chilkoot Trail from his home in California when the Gold Rush began. He staked a claim near Cleary Creek and established a fairly successful mine. His wife Agnes (b. 1875) joined him in 1904. Their daughter Norma was born there the following year and was the first child born in the Cleary Creek mining settlement. In addition to a cabin in Cleary Creek, they also had a home in Fairbanks," where Agnes' younger sister, Olive, also lived. Most of the photographs depict life at the Grants' mining claim at Cleary Creek, and daily life and activities in Cleary Creek, Fairbanks, Circle, and localities along the Yukon River.

The collection includes a photo of a man of Asian or Indigenous descent standing outside Northern Commercial Co. and McQuesten & Co., Circle.

.94

Keywords: Circle (Alaska)

#### Fran Durner Collection, B2016.004

Award-winning photojournalist Fran Durner came to Alaska in 1973. She worked for the *Anchorage Times* from 1976-1979 and the *Anchorage Daily News* from 1979-2010. She did freelance work for numerous publications including *Life, National Geographic, Time* and *Der Spiegel*.

The collection includes materials related to a variety of professional and daily life activities, such as cannery workers at work and on break, a Black woman berry picking, a gathering for the International Women's Year in 1977, jury selection, and a portrait of Mahala Ashley Dickerson.

.38.6, 38.7, 38.10, 38.11, 38.14-.17, 38.21-.29, 38.30, .40.1-5, .40.26-.29, 40.30, .41.13-16, .42.56-76, .45.28, .54.23-26, .74.38, 82.21-.26, 82.68-.71, .127.30-32, .1004, .1021, .1121, .1122, .prisendam

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Dickerson, Mahala Ashely, 1912-2007; Fur Rendezvous (Anchorage, Alaska); Fur Rendezvous World Championship Sled Dog Race; Glenn Highway; Harvest; Jury – Alaska; Photojournalists – Alaska; Prinsendam (Ship)

#### William C. and Frances P. Ray Slides, B2016.006

Frances E. Ray (née Pickolick) was born on 16 February 1921 in Grangeville, Idaho, to Elizabeth and Frank Pickolick. She relocated to Alaska in 1944 and worked at Fort Richardson as a secretary for Bill Ray. They were married on 20 May 1945. Frances went on to teach at Anchorage High School (later West High School) and retired in 1976. William "Bill" C. Ray was born in Gough, Texas, on 3 November 1916 to Nason and Fern Cornelius Ray. Bill moved to Alaska in 1939 and served as a civilian employee in the Depot Supply at Fort Richardson during World War II. He joined the U.S. Air Force Civil Service and worked as a property administrator for the White Alice project from its beginning until his retirement in 1973.

The collection includes an image of Miss Black Heritage riding in an automobile in a parade.

.2019

Keywords: Alaska – Description and travel; Festivals – Alaska

#### Andrea Ramsey 1964 Earthquake Collection, B2017.003

Andrea and Lenon Ramsey were living in Anchorage at the time of the 1964 Alaska Earthquake. Lenon was serving with the U.S. Air Force at Elmendorf Air Force Base.

The collection consists of one manuscript letter, dated March 29, 1964, written by Andrea to her mother; and two digital copy prints of photographs. One photograph is an Air Force portrait of Airman Third Class Lenon Ramsey, dated 1962; and one is of Andrea and her daughter Tracey standing outdoors in winter in 1964, with Anchorage in the background.

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Alaska Earthquake, Alaska, 1964; Anchorage (Alaska); Soldiers, Black

### Boyer Photography Collection, B2017.006

Robert Harold Boyer (1935-2014) was born in East Berlin, Pennsylvania. He moved to Alaska in 1957, where he worked for the Air National Guard at Kulis for 20 years. With Marianne, his wife of 40 years, they opened Boyer Photography, which was in business 1971-2005. Robert "was the first Certified Professional Photographer in Alaska and was president of the Alaska chapter. He was awarded lifetime membership from the Professional Photographers of America, and one of three fellowship medals from the Washington Professional Photographers."

Marianna Elizabeth Boyer (1939-2021) was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She moved to Alaska in 1963 where she worked as a schoolteacher for the Anchorage School District. At Boyer Photography, Marianne "was the essential glue that led to the business' success and becoming well known in the Anchorage community."

This collection consists of negatives, proofs, associated paperwork, and some CDs of photoshoots taken at Boyer Photography, and includes individual and family portraits as well as sports and company events related to Black people and People of Color. Due to the size of the collection, the Finding Aid will be updated periodically with an updated list of names as the collection is processed. To inquire about individual or family shoots, please contact the Atwood Resource Center.

**Keywords:** Commercial photography; Families; High school seniors; Portrait photography; Wedding photography

## Tom C. Sun Slides, B2017.020

Some of the slide boxes bore the name and Mountain View address of Tom C. Sun. Telephone directories confirm that Tom Sun resided in Spenard in 1950, Roosevelt Park in 1951, and in Mountain View from 1952-1958. One box bore a label from The Janan Co. Ltd. Camera Dept., Kowloon. Nothing else was known about Mr. Sun at the time of processing.

This collection includes materials related to daily life of Chinese Americans in Alaska in the 1950s.

.41, .56, .57, .60, .61, .83, .96, .108, .117, .123-.127, .130-.132, .138, .140

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Chinese Americans – Alaska – Anchorage; Fairbanks (Alaska); Homer (Alaska); Hunting – Alaska; Kenai (Alaska); Seward (Alaska)

### Mary Langdon Photographs, B2017.022

Mary Langdon has lived in Alaska in two shifts. She first came to Alaska with her family prestatehood in 1958. She left in 1975 after graduating high school to pursue medical education and subsequently practice in Colorado and New Zealand. She managed to avoid the pipeline boom of the 70's, the economic bust of the 80's, and the Exxon Valdez oil spill. She returned to Alaska in 2001. She enjoys exploring the vastness of Alaska with her husband. The collection consists of 383 35mm color slides and 648 color strip negatives in various formats, taken by Mary Langdon during her time in Alaska.

This collection includes images of Trajan Langdon and basketball camps at Northway Mall.

.412.13-.15, .412.22-.24

**Keywords:** African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Basketball – Alaska; Langdon, Trajan, 1976-

#### Kay McFarland Jackson Slides, B2017.029

Kathryn (Kay) Audrey McFarland Jackson (1918-2008) came to Anchorage in 1967 and worked as Recreation Director for the city's Parks and Recreation Department until her retirement in the 1980s. She served as Ambassador to Anchorage's Sister City of Incheon, South Korea, and was director of the Anchorage Pleasure Faire (later known as the 3 Barons Renaissance Fair). She founded the Alaskanette Baton Corps and was an active member of the Alaskan Prospectors Society.

The collection includes materials related to outdoor events and recreations such as Black soldiers at 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and Asian Americans in a food booth at the Anchorage Pleasure Faire.

.138, .147, .148, .150, .159, .160, .189, .190-.192, .206, .223, .265, .289, .290, .916

**Keywords:** African American – Military; Asian Americans – Alaska; Outdoor recreation – Alaska – Anchorage; Parks – Alaska – Anchorage; Tourism – Alaska – Anchorage

### Wallace J. Wellenstein Photographs, B2018.021

Wally Wellenstein (1921-2012) was born in Albany, Minnesota. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the Army Transportation Office in Juneau from 1942 to 1945. After the war, he obtained his degree in architecture from the University of Minnesota and returned to Alaska in 1949 to work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In 1952, he left the service of the Corps of Engineers to work in the private sector; in 1962, he opened his own architectural firm. He was very active with the Anchorage Ski Club (ASC) and designed the ski lodge the club erected at Arctic Valley in 1952.

The collection consists of 690 35mm slides, 19 black-and-white photo prints, 2 digital photo prints, and one news clipping created or collected by Wally Wellenstein. The images mostly depict outdoor recreation in Alaska, including skiing, hunting, fishing, and bush flying, as well as various towns and villages that Wellenstein visited during the 1950s and 1960s.

The collection incudes one image of an Asian American man at a Fur Rendezvous event in 1954.

.245

Keywords: Anchorage (Alaska)

#### Doug Ogden Slides, B2019.007

Doug Ogden resided in Alaska in the 1980s and 1990s. At one time, he worked for the Alaska Community Development Corporation, and provided weatherization services to residents of Bristol Bay villages. From the late 1980s to the late 1990s, Ogden and his wife Nancy were partners in the McCarthy Lodge. Ogden subsequently relocated to Washington State, where he operates Doug Ogden Photography.

The collection consists of 1851 color 35mm slides taken by Doug Ogden. Many of the images depict landscape and subsistence activities in Western coastal areas of Alaska from Bristol Bay to Goodnews Bay.

This collection includes three images of a Black and Yup'ik youth playing in front of a building and whale jawbone.

.538-.540

Keywords: Togiak (Alaska)

### Peggy Farmer Mullins Slides, B2019.008

Peggy Farmer Mullins (1907-1993) came to Alaska in 1939. During her time in the state, she was involved in a number of businesses, including the Tatalina Lodge and Farmer Trucking in Fairbanks. After the death of her husband Arlie, Peggy moved to Anchorage, where she operated Ace Realty until her retirement in 1975.

The collection includes materials related to everyday life of Black and Asian Americans in Alaska.

.77, .79, .81, .144

Keywords: Roadhouses – Alaska; White Alice Communications System

### Alice Puster Collection, B2019.017 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes images of Black and People of Color during events and meetings documented by the photographer.

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Archie Moore, Edith Head, Jesse Owens, Sonny Liston

#### Joshua A. Branstetter Anchorage Protest March Photograph Collection, B2021.001

Joshua Albeza Branstetter is a Filipino-American filmmaker, writer, and photographer who has received international acclaim for his directorial work including collaborations with 100Stone, the University of Aberdeen, the Rasmuson Foundation, and the Alutiiq Museum and the award-winning films *Children of the Dig* (2018) and *Pinguat* (2020). He owns and operates Branstetter Films with his partner, Rachelle Branstetter, in Anchorage, Alaska.

The collection consists of 203 born-digital images showcasing the summer/fall 2020 Black Lives Matter and other protests and marches across Anchorage, Alaska.

Keywords: African Americans; Anchorage (Alaska); Black Lives Matter Protest

### Samuel Fleming Collection, B2021.002

Samuel Fleming was born on August 21, 1931, in Delaware, Ohio, the youngest of seven children. He attended Howard University for one year before deciding to enlist in the military, three months before his 18th birthday. He served in the Air Force from 1949 to 1952 and was stationed in Fairbanks, Alaska, and Washington, D.C., where he met Margret L. Stutely. Samuel and Margret were married May 15th, 1952, in Fairbanks, Alaska. They moved back to the Lower 48 in 1965, after an earthquake that measured 9.2 on the rector scale. Fleming was one of the few African Americans who worked for the Federal Aviation Administration in the late 60's as a small airplane crash inspector. His family settled in Decatur, Georgia, in 1975 with his 4 children Greg, Randal, Sheldon, and Kelly. Kelly was murdered in 1987, and Fleming's wife of 35 years died in her sleep in 1989. Fleming retired in 1985 to live on 10 acres with a private lake in Decatur, Georgia.

This collection consists of photographs, slides, and films with images of the Fleming Family, Samuel Fleming's fellow U.S. Army members, and others in the Black communities of Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska in the 1950s and 1960s, also includes images of aftermath of 1964 earthquake in Anchorage.

**Keywords:** African Americans – 1950-1990; African American families; African Americans – Military service; Anchorage (Alaska); Fairbanks (Alaska); Fleming, Gregory; Fleming, Kelly; Fleming, Margaret; Fleming, Randal; Fleming, Samuel; Fleming, Sheldon

#### Raymond Willard Sondenaa, Jr. 1964 Earthquake Letter, B2021.003

Ray Willard Sondenaa, Jr. was born on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1944, in Toledo, Oregon, to parents Raymond and Viola (Logan) Sondenaa. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1962 which is how he came to be in Alaska during the 1964 earthquake. He completed his military service by July 1966 after attaining the rank of SSGT E5. Ray went on to marry and father three children. He became a custom cabinet maker and an elder in the Jehovah's Witness church. As of 2022, he is retired and living in Hawaii with his wife, Lynn.

This collection is comprised of one six-paged typed letter, and one envelope mailed to "Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Sondenaa" in Siletz, OR, from their son, "Ray Sondenaa, Jr." from Anchorage, Alaska on April 1, 1964.

**Keywords:** 1964 Earthquake; Correspondence; Downtown Anchorage (Alaska); Elmendorf Air Force Base; Homer (Alaska); US Military (Air Force)

#### Ed Wesley Collection, B2021.004

Ed Wesley was born in 1951, in Bolivar County, Mississippi. He graduated from Pace Elementary in 1965 and then his family moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he attend Forestville High school. In 1972, he was drafted into the United States Army stationed at Fort Greely, Alaska, as a military police officer. He attained the rank of Specialist 4 and his general equivalency diploma (GED) from the State of Illinois and was honored twice as Ft. Greely's post soldier of the month. He separated from the military in 1974 with an honorable discharge. Wesley served as President of the Anchorage NAACP and led the creation of the historic thirteen-point, two-page agreement with the Anchorage Police Department on the use of deadly force and related issues against the citizens of the Municipality of Anchorage in 1981. In 1988, he was also credited with helping presidential candidate Jesse Jackson win the Alaska Democratic Presidential Caucus, and served as whip for the Alaska Jesse Jackson delegation at the Democratic convention in Atlanta, GA. In 2016, Wesley was elected as National Committeeman for the Alaska Democratic Party and ran an unsuccessful bid as a Democratic candidate for district J of the Alaska State Senate.

This collection contains photographs and ephemera documenting Ed Wesley's personal life, and civic and community actions and activities seeking to improve and celebrate the lives of Black people in Alaska.

**Keywords:** African Americans—Alaska; African American families; African Americans—Military service; Anchorage (Alaska); Delta Junction (Alaska); NAACP – Anchorage (Alaska); Prince Hall Masonic Lodge – Anchorage (Alaska); Wesley, Chairita; Wesley, Ed; Wesley, Frances

### Gordon Romriell Collection, B2021.005

Gordon Romriell was gifted the black-and-white photos from Shell Oil Company after working on the rigs for offshore exploration in Cook Inlet. Shell drilled the first offshore oil field in Alaska, the Middle Ground Shoal No. 1 discovery well in 1963. In 1964, Shell installed a permanent offshore drilling and production structure in Middle Shoal Ground in Cook Inlet, the first of sixteen offshore platforms, and began drilling in 1965. The collection consists of 5 blackand-white photographs and two receipt books collected by Gordon Romriell. The prints are undated but stamped as property of Shell Oil Company. The receipt books are carbon copies of receipts issued to customers of Empress Grocery in Anchorage, from five days in September of 1929. Several of the names also have towns associated with them; presumably, those without these addresses are Anchorage residents.

This collection includes receipts with names of Japanese customers.

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska) – Economic conditions; Business – Alaska – Anchorage; Empress Grocery (Anchorage, Alaska); Grocery trade – Alaska – Anchorage; Oil fields – Alaska – Cook Inlet; Petroleum industry and trade – Alaska – Cook Inlet

#### Judge Larry Card Collection, B2021.006 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes personal photographic prints and ephemera related to the life and work of Judge Larry Card

**Keywords:** Alaska Judicial Council; Anchorage (Alaska); Card, Judge Larry; State of Alaska Superior Court

#### Eleanor Andrews Collection, B2021.009

Eleanor Louise Andrews (née Poole) was born April 12, 1944 in Los Angeles, California to Jimmie Williams and Muriel Williams Poole. She grew up in the Compton neighborhood and graduated from Compton Senior High School in 1962. She completed courses at California State University, Los Angeles before she married Franklin Andrews and gave birth to her son, Franklin Andrews,

Jr. and her daughter, Marti Andrews. In 1965, she traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska to visit her biological father and decided to move there with her family. They lived in Fairbanks for three years before moving to Anchorage in 1968 where Andrews began working as a counselor at McLoughlin Youth Center for the State of Alaska. During her career, she also worked for the Alaska Public Employees Association, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and served as the Director of Human Resources for the Municipality of Anchorage. In 1982 she was appointed to work for the State of Alaska as a deputy and then commissioner of the Alaska Department of Administration. In 1987, she moved from the public to the private sector when she started her own business, the Andrews Group. The Andrews Group was a management services company, which engaged primarily in U.S. government service contracting in Alaska and across the United States. The company started with only Andrews and grew to employ thousands as an award winning business for its excellence and support of the community. Throughout her career, Andrews assisted numerous women-owned and Indigenous-owned businesses with guidance and partnerships to bid and fulfill federal government service contracts through what became the 8(a) procurement program of the government's Small Business Administration. Andrews retired in 2007, but she continues to be actively involved in her community and to give back to Alaska.

Andrews built her life and career in Anchorage, working in both the public and private sectors. Andrews has been giving back to Alaska in a multitude of ways. She served on the Alaska Judicial Council from 2001 to 2007 where she gave her time to review and deliberate the application of all judges applying to serve in the Alaska court system. She has also served on boards that initiated the Foraker Group, the ATHENA program of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, and the Anchorage Urban League. Andrews raised and contributed funds for organizations in order to build the Dr. Etheldra Davis Fairview Elementary school, to strengthen the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Clinic, and develop affordable housing programs in the state. Additionally, Andrews has served on advisory boards for the University of Alaska Anchorage, Providence Alaska Foundation, and Commonwealth North, the Anchorage Parks Foundation Board, and the Providence Alaska Region Ministry Board.

Andrews is regarded as a successful Black businesswoman and civic entrepreneur, who is a person who inspires institutions, businesses, and individuals to excel in their work and at the same time to invest in the community. She leads others in the understanding that it is good business to develop quality schools, affordable housing, accessible economic opportunities, safe neighborhoods, and a just and fair city and state. She has given her own time, money, and talents for decades, but has also inspired others to participate in advancing our communities. She is a gifted and fair public servant, a volunteer, a philanthropist, a mentor, a board member,

a loyal friend, and a loving mother and grandmother. Andrews credits Alaska with providing opportunities for women and "anyone with curiosity" to succeed.

**Keywords:** African American – businesspeople; African American women civic leaders; African American families; Alaska Judicial Council; Anchorage (Alaska); The Andrews Group; Business – awards; Compton (California); Fairbanks (Alaska); Juneau (Alaska); State of Alaska; Women Entrepreneurs

#### Mayfield Evans Collection, B2022.001

Mayfield Evans was born on November 17, 1935, in Greensboro, Alabama to Murphey and Alice Evans. After graduating from Hale County Training School in 1955, Evans enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he served as a chef.

From 1967 to 1968, Evans worked as an assistant meat market manager and accounting clerk at Grand Fork Air Force Base in North Dakota. Evans then served as an assistant meat market manager and warehouse supervisor at San Vito dei Normani Air Station in Italy. From 1970 to 1974, Evans worked as a warehouse supervisor and meat department manager at the Royal Air Force Chicksands Commissary in Bedfordshire, England. He then worked as an assistant store manager at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth, Texas until 1976, when he became chief of human services at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage. From 1977 to 1979, Evans also served as Alaska Air Command Superintendent. In 1978, he founded E&S Diversified Services, Inc., an organization that provided custodial services, warehouse management services, commissary management, and food service in Anchorage. Evans retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1983, with the rank of senior master sergeant. From 1998 to 2015, Evans served as the executive director of MQC Enterprises, Inc.

Evans was named outstanding volunteer in philanthropy by the Alaska Chapter of the National Society of Fund-Raising Executives in 1996. He also served on the Alaska Veteran's Advisory Council, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board, the advisory commission for the Anchorage Police Department, and the Mountain View Task Force. He was vice president of the NAACP Anchorage chapter and served as a member of Alaskan Governor Tony Knowles' transition team as well as Alaskan Governor Frank Murkowski's transition team. Evans was a member of the Committee on Employment and Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities from 2003 to 2008. For his service in the military, he received the Air Force Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, and the meritorious service medal.

**Keywords:** African American families; DeBarr Quality Cleaners and Laundry; E & S Diversified Services; Evans, Mayfield; Mayfield's Quality Cleaners

## Cal Williams Collection, B2022.002

Community activist Cal Williams was born on November 30, 1941, in Monroe, Louisiana. Seven days after his birth, Pearl Harbor was attacked, and Williams' father left to fight in the war. Williams' upbringing was left to his mother, who worked in a factory, and his paternal grandmother, a house cleaner.

Williams' mother and grandmother sang at home and at the Baptist church the family attended, and they encouraged their son and grandson to entertain company with singing, dancing, and poetry he memorized. Like at home, the nuns who taught Williams at Little Flower Academy from Kindergarten through 12th grade involved him in singing, poetry readings, and performances.

In 1965, Williams moved to Alaska, seeking job opportunities, racial integration, and a better life. In Alaska, Williams practiced political and civic activism, working with the Ad Hoc Democrats organization in Alaska. He was named President of the Alaska Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He also served as a member of the Alaska Delegation at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado. In 2012, Williams ran for the Alaska House of Representatives District 17-serving the Anchorage communities Mountain View, Airport Heights, and Russian Jack. He was defeated by opponent Geran Tarr in the Democratic primary.

He continued performing and spent time in Hollywood. Determined to become a movie star, Williams passed out his head shots and resume on the streets and was in two films before becoming disenchanted with the movie industry and returned to Alaska.

In Anchorage, Williams served as the Filipino choir director at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, and as the Chappie James American Legion Post 34 chaplain in Anchorage. He worked as a photographer and helped to exhibit the collection of the late Alaskan historian George Harper, who documented the history of African Americans in Alaska, including the Black U.S. Army troops who worked on the Alaska Highway. Williams was elected to the board of directors for Anchorage Senior Activity Center in 2016.

Williams was named in the Anchorage Municipal Assembly for his contributions to the growth and strength to the State of Alaska. In 2017, Williams was the recipient of the St. Francis of Assisi Award. Williams has served as Grand Knight of the Council of Knights of Columbus at St.

Patrick's Church in Anchorage, as well as in 2018, he served as the District 22 Chair for the Alaska Democratic Party. In 2022, Williams was named Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters by the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The collection consists of black & white and color photographs, copies of photographs, papers, legal and other documents, and award plaques.

Keywords: African Americans – Alaska; Anchorage (Alaska); Williams, Cal

#### Polynesian Association of Alaska Collection, B2023.001 (guide coming soon)

This collection includes photographs taken during events held by the Polynesian Association of Alaska.

**Keywords:** Anchorage (Alaska); Polynesian Association of Alaska (Anchorage, Alaska); Polynesians—America

#### **MUSEUM RECORDS**

Ascots to Zoot Suits (1989) Wrapped in Pride (1999) *Tibet* (2004) Blacks in Alaska (2005) Black Churches (2007) Ainu Ramati: Soul of the Ainu (2007) Northwest Black Pioneers (2009) Baseball in the Far North (2015) *Centennial for Anchorage* (2015) Librería Donceles (September 2018 – January 2019) Thomas Chung: Everything is Sacred, Solo Exhibition (September 2018 – January 2019) What Why How We Eat (February 2019 – January 2020) Extra Tough: Women of the North (November 2020 – September 2021) Black Lives in Alaska: Journey, Justice, Joy (April 2021 - February 2022) Jovell Rennie: The Place I Call Home (April 2022 – January 2023) Black in Alaska (May 2022 – February 2023)

## **VERTICAL FILES**

Alaska – State Department of Military & Veterans Affairs Blacks in Alaska Black Lives Matter Movement (BLM), Anchorage Chinese in Alaska Filipino Americans -- Alaska Japanese in Alaska Japanese in Alaska -- Internment Korean in Alaska People – Kimura, Harry Thais in Alaska

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