

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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Guide prepared by: Heather McClain, Senior Archivist

TITLE: Richard L. Hofmann Slides

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2024.005

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1953-1955

Extent: 132 items; 1 box

Language and Scripts: English

Name of creator(s): Richard L. Hofmann

Administrative/Biographical History:

Richard "Dick" L. Hofmann was born on June 7, 1930, in Erie, Pennsylvania to Raymond and Katherine Ernst Hofmann. In 1953, Hofmann enlisted in the United States Army and following training at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland, he was shipped "overseas" to Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska. He was stationed at Fort Richardson from 1953-1955. According to his daughter, Jacqueline A. Hofmann, he loved his tour in Alaska and spent his free time hiking the area and visiting the glacial fields nearby with his camera in hand. Dick's wife, Fran, joined him in Alaska in 1954. They were married for sixty-six years.

After leaving Fort Richardson, Sergeant Hofmann moved from active duty to United States Army Reserves and returned to Erie where he served with two different units in western Pennsylvania. Hofmann was recognized for his efforts in initiating a new hospital unit in Erie where he established an N.C.O. corps that formed the standards for the 382nd C.S.H. Hofmann retired from the military after 32 years of service.

While serving in the US Army Reserves, Hofmann and his wife raised three children and built a specialty business, Richard's Gifts, then FM Hofmann Religious Gifts, then Hofmann's Church

and Religious Goods Inc., that served customers throughout Erie and the tri-state region. The business closed permanently in 2022.

Hofmann died on May 7, 2019 and is buried in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Content Description:

This collection consists of 132 35mm slides taken by Richard Hofmann when he was stationed at Fort Richardson from 1953-1955. The slides include images of life on base and at home, as well as Anchorage, Dgheyay Kaq' (Ship Creek), Nuti (Knik Arm), Eklutna, Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, Idu Bena (Eklutna Lake), Idlughetnu (Eklutna River), Chugach Mountains, Ch'atanhtnu (Dena'ina) or Ts'itonhna' (Ahtna)(Matanuska River), Matanuska Glacier, Skilak Lake, Skitnu (Dena'ina) or Scitna' (Ahtna)(Knik River), and Portage Glacier.

Arrangement: Original order maintained.

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. A lightbox may be used to view transparencies.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Richard L. Hofmann Slides, Anchorage Museum, B2024.5

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by Jacqueline A. Hofmann in November 2024.

Processing Note

Slides that depicted sensitive content were discarded.

RELATED MATERIALS

B2012.001 David Willow Photographs

B2015.029 John E. "Pat" Ryan Collection
B2016.021 Ronald Hahn Slides

SUBJECTS

Hofmann, Richard "Dick" L., 1930-2019
Hofmann, Frances Bules, 1931-2017
Anchorage (Alaska)
Dena'ina
Eklutna (Alaska)
Fort Richardson (Alaska)
Glaciers – Alaska
Military bases – Alaska
Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
Recreation—Alaska
United States. Army – Military life

Detailed Description of the Collection

- .1 – [scenic view with the Chugach Mountains in the background. Sign reads, "U.S. Army, Alaska, Fort Richardson"]
- .2 – [scenic street view on Fort Richardson]
- .3 – [scenic view with the Chugach Mountains in the background. Sign reads, "U.S. Army, Alaska, Fort Richardson." Similar to .1]
- .4 – [scenic street view on Fort Richardson]
- .5 – [scenic street view on Fort Richardson]
- .6 – [scenic view of a field on Fort Richardson]
- .7 – [two individuals in uniform posed in front of a stone pillar on Fort Richardson]
- .8 – [one individual in uniform posed in front of a stone pillar on Fort Richardson]
- .9 – [view of a building with an airplane flying overhead on Fort Richardson]
- .10 – [view of a building with a United States flag in the foreground on Fort Richardson]
- .11 – [one individual in uniform posed laying on a pile of wood, possible railroad ties, on Fort Richardson]
- .12 – [on individual in uniform standing in snow with birch trees and a building in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .13 – [view of a road with automobiles on Fort Richardson]
- .14 – [street view with powerline and buildings in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .15 – [scenic view of Chugach Mountains from Fort Richardson]
- .16 – [street view of road with buildings and Chugach Mountains in the background from Fort Richardson]
- .17 – [street view with Chugach Mountains in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .18 – [street view with Quonset huts and building in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .19 – [a view of the airport and parked airplanes on Fort Richardson with Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .20 – [view of airplane with powerlines in for foreground on Fort Richardson]

- .21 – [wedding procession in a church on Fort Richardson]
- .22 – [couple from .21 exiting the church on Fort Richardson]
- .23 – [couple and wedding guests outside of church on Fort Richardson]
- .24 – [two individuals posing with building in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .25 – [street view with buildings on Fort Richardson]
- .26 – [view of buildings on Fort Richardson with Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .27 – [one individual in uniform posed in front of a tank on Fort Richardson]
- .28 – [troops in formation on Fort Richardson]
- .29 – [view of buildings on Fort Richardson with Chugach Mountains in the background. Similar to .26]
- .30 – [one individual in uniform posed beside a tank on Fort Richardson]
- .31 – [view of buildings in the foreground with Chugach Mountains in the background from Fort Richardson]
- .32 – [street view with cars and pedestrians walking on Fort Richardson]
- .33 – [troops in formation on Fort Richardson]
- .34 – [troops in formation on Fort Richardson]
- .35 – [view of possible target range on Fort Richardson]
- .36 – [troops in formation on Fort Richardson]
- .37 – [tents in a field on Fort Richardson]
- .38 – [one individual in uniform posed next to a structure that may be a target at the range on Fort Richardson. Similar to .35]
- .39 – [view of possible target range on Fort Richardson. Similar to .35]
- .40 – [one individual posed kneeling in the snow on Fort Richardson]
- .41 – [one individual standing next to red automobile with Quonset hut or hangar in the background, likely on Fort Richardson]
- .42 – [view of buildings with Chugach Mountains in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .43 – [one individual posed standing in the snow on Fort Richardson]
- .44 – [street view with automobile and sign on Fort Richardson]
- .45 – [view of buildings with Chugach Mountains in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .46 – [parked automobiles on Fort Richardson]
- .47 – [two individuals posed outside of buildings on Fort Richardson]
- .48 – [two individuals posed in front of a sign on Fort Richardson. Sign reads: “Ordnance Depot Company, Alaska General Depot”]
- .49 – [two individuals posed in front of a sign on Fort Richardson. Sign reads: “Ordnance Depot Company, Alaska General Depot.” Similar to .48]
- .50 – [three individuals standing at street corner with buildings in the background on Fort Richardson]
- .51 – Sunsets [scenic view of sunset, likely from Fort Richardson]
- .52 – Sunset over Ft. Rich [view of buildings on Fort Richardson and Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .53 – Sunsets over Ft. Rich [view of buildings on Fort Richardson and Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .54 – Sunsets over Ft. Rich [view of buildings on Fort Richardson and Chugach Mountains in the background]

- . 55 – Sunset [scenic view of sunset, likely from Fort Richardson]
- .56 – Rainbow [scenic view of a rainbow]
- .57 – Rainbow [scenic view of a rainbow]
- .58 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, wearing a plaid jacket and posed in front of a log cabin]
- .59 – Homelife [street view, possibly in Government Hill off base]
- .60 – Homelife [street view with one individual posed]
- .61 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, posed with buildings and Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .62 – Homelife [view of houses and parked camper trailer]
- .63 – Homelife [one individual, Richard L. Hofmann, posed with buildings and the Chugach Mountains in the background]
- .64 – Homelife [view of road with automobiles and road to the right]
- .65 – Homelife [one individual, Richard L. Hofmann, seated at a table with a cup and saucer, and plaid curtains around the window]
- .66 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, standing at a sink in a kitchen]
- .67 – Homelife [one individual, Richard L. Hofmann, in uniform standing in an entryway]
- .68 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, seated on a couch wearing a blue blouse and black skirt]
- .69 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, standing in a kitchen wearing a red sweater and floral print skirt or apron]
- .70 – Homelife [one individual, Frances Bules Hofmann, sitting at a table with a cup and saucer and two plates, and a white cabinet and wooden chair in the background]
- .71 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [crowd with airplane, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .72 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [view of airplane, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .73 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [crowd with helicopter taking off, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .74 – Armed Forces Day- 54 [crowd with fighter jet, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .75 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [view of airplane, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .76 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [view of airplanes, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .77 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [two individuals in uniform holding a flag, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]]
- .78 – Armed Forces Day – 54 [one individual in uniform holding a flag, possibly Fort Richardson, Armed Forces Day, 1954]
- .79 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of trees and Chugach Mountains at Idu Bena (Eklutna Lake)]
- .80 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of Idu Bena (Eklutna Lake) and Chugach Mountains]
- .81 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of Idu Bena (Eklutna Lake) and Chugach Mountains with fall foliage]

- .82 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of Idu Bena (Eklutna Lake) and Chugach Mountains with fall foliage]
- .83 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of river and trees with fall foliage, likely Idughetnu (Eklutna River)]
- .84 – Eklutna Lake [scenic view of river and trees with fall foliage, likely Idughetnu (Eklutna River)]
- .85 – [view of building and street at Cordova Street in downtown Anchorage]
- .86 – [view of Dgheyay Kaq' (Ship Creek) and Nuti (Knik Arm)]
- .87 – [view of Dgheyay Kaq' (Ship Creek) and Nuti (Knik Arm) with Alaska Railroad train yards]
- .88 – [street view of Northern Commercial Company building in downtown Anchorage with automobiles parked on the road]
- .89 – [street view of Federal Building on 4th Avenue in downtown Anchorage]
- .90 – [view of a glacier, possibly Matanuska Glacier]
- .91 – [view of dirt road with powerlines along the top of the image and mountains in the background]
- .92 – [view of Ch'atanhtnu (Dena'ina) or Ts'itonhna' (Ahtna)(Matanuska River) with mountains in the background]
- .93 – [Old Knik River bridge with automobiles and powerlines, Skitnu (Dena'ina) or Scitna' (Ahtna)(Knik River)]
- .94 – [view of glacier and mountains with brush in the foreground]
- .95 – [view of dirt road and mountains]
- .96 – [group of six individuals gathered around a possible camp stove at a campsite]
- .97 – [view of tent at a campsite]
- .98 – [group of individuals at a campsite]
- .99 – [possibly a squirrel sitting on top of the hood of a military vehicle, with lettering, "U.S.A. 4118447?"]
- .100 – [view of a glacier, possibly Matanuska Glacier]
- .101 – Skilak Lake [one individual at camp stove on a beach]
- .102 – Gerry cooking [one individual emptying a pot of food on a plate on the ground with a sleeping back on the beach to the left and a mountain in the background]
- .103 – One of many islands on the lake [view of Skilak Lake and an island at center]
- .104 – Campsite [view of sleeping bags and equipment on a beach]
- .105 – Island on lake [view of Skilak Lake and an island at center]
- .106 – Campsite [view of sleeping bags and equipment on a beach and mountains in the background]
- .107 – Chopping axe [axe left in the trunk of a tree]
- .108 – Portage Glacier [view of road with Portage Glacier in the background]
- .109 – "Alert" [four individuals sitting on the ground with their backs to a wall and holding guns]
- .110 – Alert Area [white and Black individuals in uniforms standing in the foreground with packs, helmets, and guns sitting on the ground and other supplies visible in the background]
- .111 – Alert Area [white and black individuals in uniform standing in the foreground with packs, helmets, and guns sitting on the ground and other supplies in front of a hangar visible in the background]

- .112 – Alert Area [one white individual, possibly Richard L. Hofmann, and nine Black individuals in uniform standing in the foreground with packs, helmets, and guns sitting on the ground and other supplies visible in the background]
- .113 – Alert Area [a group of individuals in uniform standing and sitting with Quonset huts and supplies in the background]
- .114 – Packing up [one individual in uniform with a pack]
- .115 – All set to go [one individual in uniform posed with a pack]
- .116 – Alert Area [view of military equipment and trees]
- .117 – Ready to move out [at least three military automobiles parked on the shoulder of a road]
- .118 – Loading [a group of individuals in uniform sitting and standing near military automobiles]
- .119 – Old Russian Orthodox Church [view of Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church with at least two individuals in the foreground and one individual in uniform to the right of the church, Eklutna]
- .120 – Old Russian Orthodox Church [view of Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church obscured by a tree with at least four individuals walking in front of the church, Eklutna]
- .121 – Old Russian Orthodox Church [side view of Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church with at least five individuals in the foreground, Eklutna]
- .122 – Old Russian Orthodox Church [view of Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, Eklutna]
- .123 – [view of Chugach Mountains from Eklutna with three parked automobiles in the foreground and a building to the right]
- .124 – Old Russian Orthodox Church [view of Old St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church with individual walking through the gate, Eklutna]
- .125 – Care takers house [view of building and parked automobiles, Eklutna]
- .126 – [Indigenous] house [view of a building and parked automobile, Eklutna]
- .127 – Thunderbird Falls [view of sign that reads: “Thunderbird Falls, Picnic Ground, US Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management”]
- .128 – Waterfalls [Thunderbird Falls]
- .129 – Thunderbird River [view of bridge and road]
- .130 – River scenes [view of river from the side of a bridge]
- .131 – River scenes [view of river, likely from a bridge. Similar to .130]
- .132 – Old Sourdough [one individual posed by a tree]

Guide written: February 24, 2025