

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Resource Center
625 C Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-929-9235
Fax: 907-929-9233
Email: resourcecenter@anchagemuseum.org

Guide prepared by: Heather McClain, Archivist

TITLE: Evarts Whipple Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B2020.008

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1944-1945

Extent: 2 boxes (80 photographs, 54 negatives)

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Evarts Whipple

Administrative/Biographical History:

Evarts Wooster Whipple was born in Seattle, Washington on November 1, 1919. He graduated high school in 1938 and joined the US Navy Seabees as part of the 2nd Construction Battalion in the South Pacific. He was stationed at Adak Island, Alaska during World War II from October 1944 to October 1945 where he performed surveys, designed, and directed construction of the aircraft runways and associated structures. He was honorably discharged in October 1945.

Whipple attended the University of Washington School of Engineering and began his 28-year career with the Washington State Department of Highways. As a registered, professional engineer and land surveyor, he was instrumental in laying the foundation of Washington's early freeway system including the 520 Floating bridge and North Cascades Highway. Whipple met his wife Anne at a Mountaineers Club hike at Mount Rainier and they married on August 5, 1950. Whipple resided in Bellevue, Washington with his family until he passed May 27, 2012.

Scope and Content Description:

The collection consists of 80 black-and-white photographs and 54 negatives that were taken on Adak Island while Evarts Whipple was stationed there with the US Navy Seabees, 124th Construction Battalion. The images primarily depict military life on Adak Island during World War II from October 1944 to October 1945. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

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.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation: Evarts Whipple Collection, Anchorage Museum, B2020.008

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by daughter Carol Whipple in November 2020.

Processing Note

Several photographs were not retained because they were duplicates. Possible nitrate negatives are stored in the freezer.

SUBJECTS

Whipple, Evarts W., 1919-2012

World War, 1939-1945 – Campaigns – Aleutian Islands

World War, 1939-1945 – Alaska

United States – Armed Forces – Military Life

Aleutian Islands (Alaska)
Adak Island (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

B1

Prints

- .001 – L-R, Evarts Whipple, US Navy Seabees #5 - other men are currently unidentified, # 1 [six men posed in front of sign the reads, “124th Naval Construction Battalion Public Works”]
- .002 - # 2 [six men posed in front of sign the reads, “124th Naval Construction Battalion Public Works.” Whipple third from left]
- .003 – L-R Evarts Whipple (front) – other men are currently unidentified, #3 [three men sitting at desks inside a building]
- .004 - #4 [four men sitting at desks inside a building]
- .005 - #5 [three men sitting at desks inside a building]
- .006 – #6 [scenic view of valley with a road and mountains]
- .007 - #7 [two men leaning against a vehicle parked on the side of a road]
- .008 - #10 [three men sitting on dock]
- .009 - #11 [man standing and looking through a surveyor tool on a tripod with a wooden stake that has writing, “Home plate”]
- .010 – #14 [scenic view of valley with buildings and mountain]
- .011 - #15 [three men sitting and standing next to a waterfall]
- .012 – Aleut. Is. 1945, Passed by Naval Censor, Mak, 16 [scenic view of valley and mountain]
- .013 - #17 [scenic view of mountain and water]
- .014 - #19 [one man standing next to a creek holding a fishing pole, valley with telephone poles in the background]
- .015 - #20 [scenic view of valley with snow and possibly metal drums at center]
- .016 - Aleut. Is. 1945, Passed by Naval Censor, Mak, 21 [landscape view of valley and mountain]
- .017 - #22 [man squatting next to water holding a fishing pole and hills in the background]
- .018 - #23 [interior view of bunk bed with jacket hanging at left, storage unit at left, pin-ups and books at center]
- .019 - #24 [interior view of bunk beds, storage units with clothes, a desk with a bench]
- .020 – [man sitting on a bed with a clipboard and paper, photos on a shelf to the left]
- .021 - #27 [two men standing in grass on a hillside]
- .022 - #28 [one man standing on next to water with a fishing pole, one man sitting on rocks behind him, two men next to water in the background at center]
- .023 - #29 [six men, man at center holding an anchor]
- .024 – 30 [three men inside a vehicle or boat]
- .025 – 31 [man looking through a telescope on a tripod]
- .026 - #33 [scenic view of waterfall]
- .027 - #35 [scenic view of rocks and hillside]
- .028 - #37 [two men sitting on a rock with fishing poles]

.029 – #40 [two men standing next to the base of a waterfall with fishing poles]
.030 - #41 [scenic view of waterfall and wildflowers]
.031 – L-R, Evarts Whipple (L) – other man is currently unidentified [two men sitting on a rock with fishing poles]
.032 - #42 [scenic view of waterfall]
.033 - #43 [two men standing at the base of a waterfall with fishing poles in hand]
.034 - #44 [scenic view of waterfall from the top of a hill]
.035 – 46 [two men squatting outside of a tent next to a campfire with cooking materials and utensils on the ground]
.036 – Front, “*Evarts Whipple”; back, L-R, Evarts Whipple, US Navy Seabees – other man in photo is currently unidentified, 48 [two men standing with arms over each other’s shoulders and packs on front and back]
.037 - #52 [scenic view of water and mountains]
.038 – 53 [man standing in hip waders and holding a fish in each hand]
.039 - #54 [man standing and holding a fish in each hand]
.040 - #55 [man standing in hip waders and holding a fish in each hand]
.041 - #56 [man sitting on dock with hip waders]
.042 - #57 [man standing and leaning against a deck]
.043 - #58 [six men posed outside of a building]
.044 - #59 [two men standing in doorway and three men sitting on deck]
.045 - #62 [scenic view of beach with hills]
.046 - #63 [abandoned wooden building]
.047 - #64 [scenic view of buildings, ships in water, and mountains]
.048 – [four men posed, three standing and one squatting, with wooden building in the background]
.049 - 276-2-VII [five men standing outside Quonset hut in winter clothes]
.050 - [two men squatting on a hill with wildflowers possibly holding fishing poles]
.051 – [two men standing behind a small tree]
.052 – x [four men, three standing and one sitting, with fishing poles at the top of a fall]
.053 – J-4 [two men sitting and holding fishing poles]
.054 – L218 [aerial view of mountains covered with snow and airplane wing to the right]
.055 – [scenic view of a waterfall]
.056 - [scenic view of valley with snow and possibly metal drums at center]
.057 – y [scenic view of waterfall]
.058 – [scenic view of water and mountains]
.059 – [aerial view of water, island, and mountains]
.060 – [aerial view of water, road, and mountain]
.061 – [scenic view of water and mountains]
.062 – J-14 [one man sitting at a desk with maps and paper on the wall behind him]
.063 – 6 [one man kneeling next to a tree in the snow]
.064 – J-1 [one man sitting with wildflowers]
.065 – A [one man standing next to a vehicle with his left foot on the runner, tents in the background]

- .066 – Z [one man standing next to river or creek with fishing pole in hand, hill behind him]
- .067 – J-2 [one man sitting with wildflowers]
- .068 – [one man standing next to a wooden building with sign that reads, “771”]
- .069 – [one man standing in a dugout hole holding a large bone, possibly a whale vertebrae]
- .070 – [one man sitting in a cot with his left leg crossed over his right, possibly on a dock or boat]
- .071 – [one man sitting with a husky puppy, possibly on a dock or boat]
- .072 – [one man standing on dock holding a fish on a line]
- .073 – [one man standing next to building with sign that reads, “The North Star,” two mops leaning against building and other buildings in the background]
- .074 – 124th Naval Construction Battalion, Adak, Alaska, Seabees July 1944, Evarts W. Whipple 2nd Row 1st [nine men posed inside a building with storage and bunk bed]
- .075 – [Quonset huts and building with a sign that reads, “Helmet Creek Tavern”]
- .076 – [view of Quonset huts and buildings with water and mountains in background]
- .077 – [view of Quonset huts and boardwalks, possibly parked vehicles in top right corner]
- .078 – [view of road and telephone pole with water and hills in the background]
- .079 – Pass[ed by Nav]al Cen[sor], Mak [view of conveyor belt, poles, hills, and mountain covered in snow in the background]
- .080 – Passed by Naval Censor, Mak [scenic view of hill and mountain covered in snow]

B2

Negatives

- .081 - [six men, man at center holding an anchor. Same as .023]
- .082 – [exterior view of Quonset hut]
- .083 – [scenic view of valley and mountain. Same as .012]
- .084 – [scenic view of rocks and hillside. Same as .027]
- .085 – [three men sitting and standing next to a waterfall. Same as .011]
- .086 – [exterior view of buildings. Sign on building at center reads, “Village Gymnasium.” Quonset huts in background]
- .087 – [scenic view of water and mountain]
- .088 – [scenic view of beach with hills. Same as .045]
- .089 – [abandoned wooden building. Same as .046]
- .090 – [scenic view of waterfall from the top of a hill. Same as .034]
- .091 – [two men standing at the base of a waterfall with fishing poles in hand. Same as .033]
- .092 – [scenic view of river and hills]
- .093 – [man squatting next to water holding a fishing pole and hills in the background. Same as .017]
- .094 – [scenic view of waterfall and wildflowers. Same as .030]
- .095 – [two men standing next to the base of a waterfall with fishing poles. Same as .029]
- .096 – [two men standing with packs on front and back]
- .097 – [scenic view of shoreline with mountains in the background]
- .098 – [six men posed outside of a building. Same as .043]
- .099 – [scenic view of water and mountains. Same as .013]

- .100 – [scenic view of valley with buildings and mountain. Same as .010]
- .101 – [two men squatting outside of a tent next to a campfire with cooking materials and utensils on the ground. Same as .035]
- .102 – [three men inside a vehicle or boat. Same as .024]
- .103 – [interior view of bunk bed with jacket hanging at left, storage unit at left, pin-ups and books at center. Same as .018]
- .104 – [interior view of bunk beds, storage units with clothes, a desk with a bench. Same as .019]
- .105 – [two men squatting on a hill with wildflowers possibly holding fishing poles. Same as .050]
- .106 – [scenic view of buildings, ships in water, and mountains. Same as .047]
- .107 – [church with mountains behind]
- .108 – [aerial view of military base]
- .109 – [scenic view of wildflowers and mountains in the background]
- .110 – [dugout pit with bucket]
- .111 – [scenic view of structures on shoreline and mountain]
- .112 – [one man standing on dock holding a fish on a line. Same as .072]
- .113 – [scenic view of shoreline with nine military ships in the water offshore]
- .114 – [scenic view of structures on shoreline and mountains]
- .115 – [scenic view of shoreline with road and mountains]
- .116 – [scenic view of structures, including a dock and warehouse, on shoreline and mountains]
- .117 – [one man standing next to a wooden building with sign the reads, “771.” Same as .068]
- .118 – [Quonset hut with telephone poles to the right]
- .119 – [scenic view facing downhill toward fenced off field. Military ships in background]
- .120 – [scenic view of river, riverbank, and mountains]
- .121 – [scenic view of shoreline with structures and mountains in background]
- .122 – [nine men on a beach with possible campfire]
- .123 – [scenic view of tree, wildflowers, and grasses]
- .124 – [Quonset huts, road, and telephone lines]
- .125 – [view of Quonset huts and boardwalks, possibly parked vehicles in top right corner. Same as .077]
- .126 – [Quonset huts and building with a sign the reads, “Helmet Creek Tavern.” Same as .075]
- .127 – [two men standing and one man squatting in front of sign. All in uniform. Left sign reads, “Whiting Blvd. Com-17, Finger Bay, Tuxedo Park, Hammerhead Lodge, Nob Hospital, Happy Valley, Village, Nob Administration.” Right sign reads, “Amulet Rd. Helmet Creek, Transient Bks., Material Recovery, Valley Road, 86th Maint. Btn., Fire Fighters School.”]
- .128 – [one man standing in a dugout hole holding a large bone, possibly a whale vertebrae. Same as .069]
- .129 – [one man sitting with a husky puppy, possibly on a dock or boat. Same as .071]
- .130 – [one man wearing shirt and tie sitting on a bench putting on shoes. Chain-link fence behind him]

- .131 – [one man sitting in a cot with his left leg crossed over his right, possibly on a dock or boat. Same as .070]
- .132 – [scenic view of water and mountains. Same as .058]
- .133 – [scenic view of water and mountains. Same as .061]
- .134 – [scenic view of structures on shoreline and mountains]

Guide written: October 6, 2021