

1964 Earthquake Subject Guide

Compiled by Sara Piasecki, Photo Archivist
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Updated by Heather McClain, November 2025

This guide is intended to assist researchers in locating archival materials pertaining to the 1964 Alaska Earthquake (also known as the Good Friday Earthquake), housed at the Anchorage Museum Archives and Library. It is not necessarily a complete listing of all earthquake-related holdings. This document will be updated as new collections are accessioned and relevant materials are found through research and review. Please note that our collections contain materials that are racist, sexist, and may be painful or traumatizing for researchers. Please contact archives staff at resourcecenter@anchagemuseum.org or 907-929-9235 for assistance in locating other collections of interest.

CIHS McCutcheon, B1964.x.006

Steve McCutcheon donated four of his earthquake images shortly after the event. The majority of his earthquake photographs can be found in the McCutcheon Collection, B1990.014 (see below). These four include images of an earthquake-damaged column in the Cordova Building; the Cordova Building rehabilitated after the earthquake; J.C. Penney Building, March 27, 1964; and Mac's Photo Shop.

Spotlight Anchorage 1964, B1969.006

This promotional slide show, produced by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce for the year 1964, includes 14 color images of both damage and reconstruction after the March earthquake.

.69-.82

AHFAM Earthquake Photographs, B1969.011

The collection consists of 39 photographs of earthquake damage in Anchorage collected by the Municipality. Included are images of Alley Cat Bar, Army Navy Surplus Store, D&D Bar & Café, Denali Theatre, Edmunds Apartments, Emporium Bowling, Findley's Shoes, Flowers by Bagoy, Four Seasons Apartments, Frisco Café, Government Hill School, Hunter Bar, Irene Griffin Samson, Kennedy's Store, Loussac Public Library, Mac's Photo, McKinley Apartments, McLain's Camera Center, Monty's Safari Hotel, Scandinavian Club, Union Leader Store, water tower, Westward Hotel, and West High School.

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Betty Bannon Collection, B1970.015

Betty Bannon donated 77 photographs of the damage from the 1964 earthquake in Anchorage, Portage, Seward, Seldovia, Homer, Kodiak, Kenai, Valdez, Whittier, and Cordova. The following list includes some of the businesses that are shown in the photographs: Alaska Native Service Hospital, Alaska Railroad, Alaska Sales and Service, Alco Towing Co., Anchor Book Shop, Arctic Plumbing & Heating, City Hall, Community Hospital, Corral Bar, D&D Bar & Café, Dalton and Co., Denali Theatre, Flowers by Bagoy, Four Seasons Apartments, Government Hill School, Inlet Hotel, J.C. Penney's, Knik Arms Apartments, Koslosky's, L Street Apartments, Mac's Photo, McKinley Apartments, McLain's Camera Center, National Bank of Alaska, Delaney Park Strip, Passage Canal Portage Inn, Providence Hospital, Safari Hotel, Scandinavian Club, Shimek's, Turnagain Arms Apartments, Union Leader Store, Warren Painting Co., and Westward Hotel.

Zappa Earthquake Papers, B1972.060

This collection includes copies of 14 KENI press releases and one letter pertaining to the earthquake in Anchorage, collected by Dorothy Zappa. Releases were sent to Kalamazoo Gazette, Kansas City Star, McGraw-Hill World News, Washington Post, Skagit Valley Herald, UPI, Haverhill Gazette, Evening Star (Washington D.C.), Newsweek, Time, New York Times, and Vancouver (B.C.). The letter is an excerpt, identifying neither sender nor receiver, but concerns earthquake damage in Anchorage.

Portage Earthquake Photographs, B1973.070

These four photo enlargements were donated by the Coxes, who owned and operated the Chevron station in Portage. The images show damage to the Seward Highway near Portage, the Twentymile Bridge, the Alaska Railroad tracks near Twentymile, and the Chevron station.

Patricia Mayo Earthquake Time Ticket, B1974.013

This is the time card for Municipal employee Patricia Mayo, who worked on "disaster control" during the weekend after the earthquake.

Bertha Buelow Collection, B1975.129

This slide collection contains 8 color slides showing damage to houses in the Turnagain subdivision, taken in the months after the earthquake.

.47, .50-.51, .55-.57, .60, .60a

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FIC Collection, B1975.134

This grouping of small collections includes two photographs of earthquake damage in Anchorage, at 2048 W. Marston Dr. (158a) and below Third and C (159).

.158a, .159

Kroninger Photograph Collection, B1976.118

The Kroningers donated 17 photographs and five news clippings pertaining to the earthquake. The images show damage in downtown Anchorage, the Turnagain subdivision, and at the Anchorage airport. Several of the photographs were taken by U.S. Army personnel.

Army Corps of Engineers 1964 Earthquake Photographs, B1977.118

This collection, donated by Lyman Woodman, includes 160 black-and-white photographs taken by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel after the earthquake. Many are aerial views of the Anchorage area. Subjects include damage, soil assessments, and clean up in the Turnagain subdivision; damage and clean up in downtown Anchorage; damage to schools, housing, businesses, and utilities; the Delaney Park Strip; the Port of Anchorage; and the Alaska Native Medical Center.

FIC Collection, 1979.001

This grouping of small donations includes 16 photos (54-69) of earthquake damage, including aerials of Seward, Anchorage, Gulkana, and the Glenn Highway.

Alaska Railroad Collection, B1979.002

The earthquake affected railroad track and facilities, and the Alaska Railroad made a photographic record of both damage and repairs. The collection includes folders for high tides (115), bridges (118), Whittier (117), Portage (119 and 335), Potter Hill (120), Anchorage (122), Seward (123 and 314), repairs (121), and miscellaneous (116).

Corps of Engineers 1964 Earthquake Photographs, B1979.038

This collection of 34 photographs taken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shows damage at Elmendorf in Anchorage, in Seldovia, Girdwood, Valdez, Whittier, Homer, Seward, and Kodiak.

Woodman Photograph Collection, B1980.027

Lyman Woodman donated these 14 photographs of earthquake damage in Seward, Homer, and Girdwood, including some aerials.

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U.S. Department of the Interior Photograph Collection, B1982.188

One photograph in this collection shows damage to the Cordova Building in Anchorage (18).

Ward Wells Collection, B1983.091

Ward Wells took photographs of the earthquake aftermath primarily in Anchorage, but also in Portage (4837.001), Turnagain Arm (4176.086, 4178.076) and Valdez (4251.001, .009, .022). A listing of Wells photo numbers by subject and location is available in the Resource Center.

Anchorage Public Information Office, B1986.096

This collection of photographic records from the Municipality's Public Information Office contains a folder of materials on the 1964 earthquake.

McDermott Collection, B1987.083

Edward McDermott was Director of the federal Office of Emergency Planning when he made an inspection trip to view earthquake damage, March 28-30, 1964. He donated 64 black-and-white photographs and 55 color slides of Anchorage, Seward, and Kodiak, along with a film, "Dateline Alaska," prepared by the U.S. Air Force Photographic Service, and an audio recording of a speech he made to the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and Bar Association.

Lu Liston Collection, B1989.016

Lu Liston was the last proprietor of Hewitt's Drug Store, which operated a commercial photography business offering film supplies and services as well as stock and commercial photography. The collection includes 23 images documenting earthquake damage and recovery. There are images of Liston's backyard in Turnagain, his Porsche parked in downtown Anchorage, and the interior of the store after the quake.

.2132.1-.2132.2, .2873-.2893

Steve McCutcheon Collection, B1990.014

Steve McCutcheon captured hundreds of images of earthquake damage around Alaska. The photos can mostly be found in his negative series B1990.014.5.EQ, and in his slides series (locations 99 and L144). The negative subseries are:

EQ 1 General	EQ 5 Anchorage Airport
EQ 2 Air Views of Anchorage	EQ 6 Anchorage Sand and Gravel
EQ 3 Alaska Native Service Hospital	EQ 7 Cordova Building
EQ 4 Alaska Railroad	EQ 8 Curiosities and Cracks

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EQ 9 Docks
EQ 10 East 5th Avenue (Alaska Sales and Service)
EQ 11 Fires
EQ 12 Fireweed Lane
EQ 13 L Street
EQ 14 Mac's and McCutcheon Family
EQ 15 Reconstruction
EQ 16 Central Business District
EQ 17 Central Business District Later

EQ 18 J.C. Penney's
EQ 19 Schools
EQ 20 Turnagain
EQ 21 Turnagain Later
EQ 22 Highway Damage
EQ 23 Whittier and Portage
EQ 24 Air views not Anchorage
EQ 25 Aleut Relocation
EQ 26 Turnagain Arm

Walter Blue Collection, B1991.003

This group of materials collected by historian Walter Blue includes six black-and-white prints of earthquake damage taken by USARAL in March and April of 1964. There are two images of Portage, one of a water purification unit in use in Seward, and three of damage to the Seward Highway.

.14-.19

Ron Aldrin Earthquake Slides, B1994.024

This collection contains of copies of 29 slides taken by Ron Aldrin, who was stationed at Elmendorf in Anchorage during 1964, along with audiocassettes and a videocassette of contemporary news accounts.

George E. Allen Collection, B1995.010

This large collection from accomplished amateur photographers George and Clarissa Allen includes 58 color 35mm slides (.4093-4147) of earthquake damage in Anchorage, including scenes from downtown and Turnagain. A few showing Turnagain homes with downtown Anchorage in the distance – from the site of the future Earthquake Park – are particularly nice.

.4093-.4147

John Bagoy Collection, B1996.032

This collection of photographs of Anchorage includes one of earthquake damage in the central business district (33).

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Opal Meyers Collection, B1997.007

Included in this collection are several black-and-white and color photographs (4-26) of earthquake damage in Anchorage, including Fourth Avenue, C Street, Wolfe's, First Federal Savings and Loan, Anchorage Hardware, and Mint Bar.

Though the Earth Be Moved, B1997.021

Produced by the U.S. Office of Civil Defense in 1965, this film documents the 1964 Alaska earthquake. A typescript note inside the carrying case reads in part: "Two mates, equipped with 8 m.m. moving cameras were about to take some movies as the ship was getting ready to depart and the quake hit—the film will illustrate how they hung on to the ship—but still got the shots of an earthquake in ACTION. Most of the film was secured from private citizens, some professional film has been integrated and the sound track is an added feature. The ship Chena was tied, at dock, in Valdez."

Sanborn Recording of 1964 Earthquake, B1997.023

Eugene Hallam was an inertial platform technician at Litton Industries in Woodland Hills, California when he was scheduled to assist testers on March 27, 1964. The testers thought the unusual activity was being caused by a "power bump," but Hallam convinced them to keep the equipment running, thus recording earth movements from the Alaska Earthquake. The collection consists of one Sanborn recording of the 1964 Alaska Earthquake.

FIC Collection, B1998.002

This grouping of small donations includes five photographs (73-77) of damage to homes and businesses in Anchorage, including Union Leader and Denali Theatre.

Vern Brickley Collection, B1998.014

Vern Brickley was an Alaska-based photographer from 1940 until his death in 1970. In 1958, Brickley 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. The Museum's collection includes hundreds of negatives of damage and post-earthquake recovery in Anchorage, numbered B1998.014.1.4338 to 4635.

.1.4338-.1.4589, .1.4590-.1.4635

Morris Reese Slides, B2000.017

Morris Reese was the owner of C Street Foodland grocery store. His collection of slides contains over a hundred images of damage in Anchorage, Valdez, and the Turnagain

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Arm area after the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake (.79-215, .275, .318). Most of the photos were taken by Reese, but there are three commercial slides of damage. Of note are two images of a large group of soldiers and civilians gathered outside the Ben Franklin five-and-dime store.

.79-.215, .275, .318

FIC Collection, B2001.002

This set of 128 negatives was donated anonymously to the Museum. It includes 89 images of earthquake damage in Anchorage, showing damage to homes and businesses on Fourth Avenue, Government Hill, Ship Creek, and other locations.

Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Collection, B2002.002

These 18 color photographs of the 1964 earthquake were donated to the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and then transferred to the Museum. Included are images of damage to apartment complexes and homes in the Anchorage area.

Charles Koppel 1964 Earthquake Collection, B2002.008

This is a small collection of 13 letters and 3 news clippings from the 1964 earthquake, collected by Charles Koppel of Charles Koppel Co., distributors, Seattle. Koppel sent and received correspondence with clients in Alaska in the wake of the earthquake.

Norman Campbell Photographs, B2005.041

This collection includes 18 black-and-white photographs of earthquake damage in Anchorage, primarily along Fourth and Fifth Avenues in the downtown area.

Bronitsky Letter, B2006.021

This letter, to Gordon from Ruth, March 30, 1964, discusses impact of the earthquake in Anchorage.

Joe Redington Sr. Family Collection, B2006.023

Among the thousands of photographs taken by Joe Redington Sr. and other members of his family are several color 35mm slides of earthquake damage in the Anchorage – Knik Arm area (709-7118). Damage to homes in the Turnagain subdivision is seen from land and from the Inlet (7117-7118). Images of damaged businesses include Koslosky's (7099).

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Opal Myers 1964 Earthquake Collection, B2007.003

The 16 photographs in this collection document the demolition of buildings in downtown Anchorage after the earthquake. Businesses include Anchorage Cold Storage, E & E Apartments, Hunter Bar, First Federal Savings and Loan, Wolfe's Hardware and Furniture, Montana Club, Mint Bar, McKay Building, and Four Seasons Apartments.

Christenson Slide Collection, B2007.016

This collection includes 161 slides of earthquake damage in Anchorage. Included are images of Government Hill, Turnagain, and downtown. A complete list of descriptions is available on the Museum web site.

Chester and Leah Peterson Collection, B2008.005

Chester and Leah Peterson were both working in the Anchorage School District during the time of the earthquake. This large collection includes 12 color slides (.308-.319) of destruction, primarily in Anchorage, with J.C. Penney, Anchorage Hardware, Fourth Avenue, and other structures, as well as damage to roads.

.308-.319

Henry M. deButts Slides, B2009.038

Henry M. deButts was assistant to the chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board when he traveled to Alaska in May and June of 1964. Slides 1-49 record earthquake damage that deButts saw, primarily in Anchorage.

.1-.49

Bangkok Embassy Teletype Collection, B2009.044

Twenty-four teletypes of news releases included in this collection give an international perspective on the earthquake.

Truth Coven Gray Earthquake Album, B2009.056

This spiral bound photo scrapbook contains 99 images of earthquake damage to homes and businesses in Anchorage. Businesses depicted include Anchorage Hardware, Mac's Photo, BJ's Pool Hall, Denali Theater, Bagoy's, Ellen's Jewelers, Hofbrau Restaurant, D & D Café, Inlet Hotel, J.C. Penney, Mehner's Restaurant, Pacific Finance Loans, Mary Lou's Café, Howard's Gift Shop, Book Cache, Alaska Sales and Service, Playboy Lounge, McLain's Camera Center, Anchorage Cold Storage, First Federal Savings and Loan, and Edgewater Motel.

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Kleihauer Slide Collection, B2010.004

This collection consists of 15 slides of earthquake damage to homes and businesses in Anchorage, including the Book Cache.

Johnny Sartor Collection, B2010.020

Included in this collection are 16 color slides of earthquake damage in Anchorage, primarily in the central business district. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.1-.16

Lankford-Ose Photograph Collection, B2011.002

These 18 color slides show earthquake damage on Government Hill and in downtown Anchorage including Fourth and Fifth Avenues, J.C. Penney, Monty's, Denali Theater, McKay Building, and Bagoy's. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Doris Rhodes Scrapbooks, B2011.011

A 2018 addendum to this collection of scrapbooks included the loose materials that Rhodes intended to assemble into a scrapbook of the 1964 earthquake. There are photographs, correspondence, ephemera, and manuscript accounts of the quake by Doris and her daughter Karen.

.107-.217, Box 2/Folders 1-3

William Jennings Bryan Swank, B2012.006

Swank was an electrician who worked on remote military installations but lived in Anchorage through the 1960s. This collection of 1107 images includes about forty that document damage in Anchorage after the earthquake, including Fourth Avenue, Government Hill, and Turnagain.

.380-.401, .514, .518, .562, .564, .600, .602, .978-.987

Kenneth C. Allen Earthquake Slides, B2012.027

The collection includes 28 35mm slides of damage from the 1964 Alaska Earthquake, taken in Anchorage and Seward by Kenneth C. Allen, including railroad facilities, homes, and businesses. Allen was a resident of Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. He was also reportedly one of the first people to travel to Seward after the quake, flying

there in his personal float plane to survey damage. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Hobart Hyatt Collection, B2012.030

Within this large collection of slides and other materials from surveyor Hobart Hyatt are nearly a hundred images (.3619-.3708) of the aftermath of the earthquake. The color photographs are primarily of downtown Anchorage from A to O Streets and the residential Turnagain area taken in the period March 28-May 23, 1964. Also included are sites along the Seward Highway such as Bird Creek and Girdwood, and one image of a damaged bridge on the Sterling Highway near Kenai Lake. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.2402, .2403, .2749, .3110, .3111, .3284, .3619-.3708

Jean Kaufman Earthquake Photographs, B2012.032

The collection consists of 29 black-and-white photographs of earthquake damage in Anchorage taken in March or April 1964. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

John Mull III Alaskan Earthquake Reflections, B2012.036

John P. Mull II was 17 years old and a junior at West Anchorage High School at the time of the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake. His father, John P. Mull, Jr., was Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent in Charge for the State of Alaska. In this memoir, accompanied by 5 copy prints and 23 35mm slides, Mull describes his experience of the earthquake and its aftermath, as well as the activities of the FBI in Anchorage in the days immediately following the disaster. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Sportsman's Club Earthquake Photographs, B2013.001

Cecil A. Poythress owned and operated the Sportsman's Club in Anchorage at the time of the 1964 Good Friday Alaska Earthquake. He and his son donated four black-and-white 8 x 10 photographic prints, one showing the club interior prior to the earthquake, and three showing damage to the building after the earthquake. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Harold and Malita Hitchen Collection, B2013.010

In this large collection compiled by longtime Anchorage residents, photographs .995-.1032 depict scenes of the aftermath of the earthquake, primarily in downtown Anchorage and the Turnagain area. Four images show snow slides along the Seward

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Highway, and one shows a damaged steel structure in Seward. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.995-.1032

Bill and Ellyn Frye letter regarding the 1964 Alaska Earthquake, B2013.011

Bill Frye was working at Alaska Sales and Service and Ellyn was a school teacher in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake, and this letter to Ellyn's mother in California, dated April 3, 1964, records their impressions of the event.

Milo Fritz Letter to Folks, 1964, B2013.046

Milo Fritz was a physician in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. The letter, dated July 2, 1964, recounts his experience of the earthquake and its aftermath, describing in particular many of the cases that came into the hospital in the moments following the disaster. Fritz also held medical clinics in Fairbanks and Sitka after the earthquake, and describes his experiences in those towns

Grace Tucker Letter to Folks, 1964, B2013.051

Grace Tucker was a property owner and landlord in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. The letter, dated April 17, April 30, and May 5, 1964, recounts her experience of the quake and talks in particular about her sister-in-law's experience of being inside the J.C. Penney store when the quake struck.

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

This 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. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

John Broostrom Photographs, B2013.064

John and Ethel Broostrom were longtime residents of Sand Lake. The collection includes 40 snapshots (.178-.217) and 11 commercial photographs (.218-.228) of earthquake damage to schools, homes, and businesses. All are color 35mm slides. Businesses documented include Anchorage Cold Storage, Dalton and Co., Dicy's House of Fabrics, Arthur's Jewelry Nugget Shop, Reeve Aleutian Airways, Mary Lou's Café, Howard's Gunshop, Mehner's Restaurant, Pacific Finance Loans, Rendezvous, J.C. Penney, Army/Navy Store, Scandinavian Club, Panhandle Bar, Hi Hat Club, Hunter Bar, Hotel Lane, Pioneer Loan Co., D & D Café, Sportsman's Club, Frisco Café, Mac's Foto, McLain's

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Camera Center, Alaska Sales & Service, and Anchorage Vacuum & Sewing Center. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.155, .178-.228

Joe Crusey Photographs, B2013.070

Joe Crusey was working as an insurance adjustor at the time of the 1964 earthquake. This collection includes one print and two contact sheets of images of earthquake damage in Anchorage and Kodiak (.148-200), including residential areas and Anchorage businesses such as J.C. Penney, D & D Café, Sportsman's Club, Frisco Café, McLain's Camera Center, Nerland's, Craig's, Singer, Book Cache, Igloo Native Arts and Crafts, Mac's Foto, Scandinavian Club, Sam's Liquor Store, Alaska Trading Post Loans, Safari Hotel, Sedalia Shine Parlor, Union Leader, Denali Grill, BJ's Billiards, Hobby Lobby, Koslosky's, First Federal Savings, Golden Horseshoe, Bagoy's, Green Dragon, Bowling Emporium, Turf Sport Center, HFC Loans, Mutual of New York, Mary Lou's Café, Howard's Gunshop, Mehner's Restaurant, Pacific Finance Loans, and Television Rendezvous. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.148-.200

Louise Gallop Collection, B2014.001

Anchorage teacher and gold miner Louise Gallop was working at Rabbit Creek Elementary School at the time of the earthquake. Her collection contains color 35mm slides (.447-475) showing scenes of damage to houses and businesses in Anchorage, primarily on Fourth Avenue, including Sedalia Shine Parlor, Denali Theatre, Scandinavian Club, Anchorage Hardware, McLain's Camera Center, Mac's Foto, J.C. Penney, Bowling Emporium, Monty's, and BJ's Billiards. Two images show a barricade on the Seward Highway prohibiting vehicle traffic. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.447-.475

Thomas "Cliff" Fuglestad Photographs, B2014.005

Cliff Fuglestad was an engineer with the Alaska Railroad at the time of the earthquake, and his collection includes approximately 60 black-and-white prints and 100 color 35mm slides of earthquake damage to railroad track and facilities from Seward to Hurricane Gulch, including Whittier. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

.39-.167

J. O. Anderson 1964 Earthquake Photographs, B2014.006

The Anderson family was living in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake, and took 77 black-and-white photographs of damage to residential and business areas. Locations include Fourth Avenue and other downtown streets, Government Hill, Elmendorf Air Force Base, and Turnagain. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Helen M. Bucy 1964 Earthquake Collection, B2014.008

After the earthquake, Anchorage resident Helen Bucy created a photograph album containing 106 black-and-white and color prints, and a clippings scrapbook of news stories she had collected. Her collection also contains several publications and loose clippings from national magazines, as well as the Anchorage Daily News, the Anchorage Daily Times, and the Fairbanks News-Miner. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Walter Deane 1964 Alaska Earthquake Photographs, B2014.011

Anchorage schoolteacher Walter Deane took 58 photographs of earthquake destruction in Anchorage and on the Seward Highway. The collection includes both black-and-white prints and the associated 35mm negatives. A complete list with descriptions is available on the Museum website.

Charles and Wiona Browning Collection, B2014.030

Charles "Brownie" and Wiona Browning came to Anchorage in 1946, where they owned and operated a welding business as well as Wiona's Gift Shop, a well-known Fourth Avenue store selling Native arts, crafts, and antiques. Their collection includes 21 black-and-white images of earthquake destruction primarily in Anchorage and Turnagain.

.56, .57

Seldovia Aerial Photographs, B2014.032

These two black-and-white aerial photographs of the town of Seldovia before and after the earthquake show the original waterfront area and the reconfigured site after urban renewal.

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Tam-Agosti Gisler Photographs, B2014.034

Tam Agosti-Gisler's family was living in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. Her small collection of family photographs includes one black-and-white image of the street sign at the corner of McCollie and Turnagain sunk into a fissure.

.4

Sara Elaine Atwood Collection, B2014.037

This collection of materials from the estate of Elaine Atwood contains a letter from her mother, Evangeline, to Elaine and her sister Marilyn. The sisters were in Washington, D.C., at the time of the earthquake; their mother writes on March 29 that "We are safe and sound at the Hilscher home, but our home is gone ..." The collection also includes a manuscript list of names titled "Calls after quake."

Joan Hurst Letter regarding the 1964 Alaska Earthquake, B2015.010

Joan Hurst was director of the Camp Fire Girls at the time of the earthquake. Her four-page letter, titled "Earthquake Express" and dated Thursday, April 2, 1964, describes the events of Friday March 27: she was in her office on Fourth Avenue when the quake hit; afterwards, she and a friend went to check on an acquaintance living at the L Street Apartments. She describes the devastation in Turnagain, and mentions many Camp Fire families by name. Hurst also discusses the communications problems hindering the location of individuals.

Col. John H. Sullivan 1964 Earthquake Slides, B2015.013

Then-Captain John H. Sullivan was working with the Corps of Engineers in Oklahoma at the time of the 1964 earthquake; he was immediately redeployed to Alaska and arrived in Anchorage on Easter Sunday. Sullivan was sent on to Seward to help establish a CE office there and to assist in the administration of contracts for debris removal and recovery/reconstruction operations. Corps officers were all instructed to take photographs of damage and return the images to Corps headquarters; upon his arrival back in the Lower 48, Sullivan realized he still had two rolls of film that had not been turned in. This collection includes 101 color 35mm slides of earthquake damage taken by Sullivan in Anchorage, Seward, Cordova, Valdez, and Whittier.

Ken Hinchey Collection, B2015.025

This large collection of photographs, clippings, personal papers, and ephemera collected by businessman and Anchorage mayor Ken Hinchey contains six images of earthquake-related damage to Alaska Aggregate Corporation's concrete plant and its dock at the Port of Anchorage.

.1025-.1058

Maj. William D. Wright 1964 Alaska Earthquake Collection, B2016.001

Materials collected by Elmendorf Intelligence Officer William Wright includes 18 transcripts of Associated Press stories filed by writers Ward Sims, Dale Nelson, William J. Tobin, Murlin Spencer, Saul Pett, Jules Loh, and Joe Rigert. One transcript is the text of Governor William Egan's address to a Joint Session of Congress in April of 1964. The transcripts are dated between April 1 and April 23, 1964. Also included is a mimeographed copy of an eyewitness account of the earthquake, possibly written by Howard or Mary Thew.

Colleen Ryan 1964 Alaska Earthquake Letter, B2016.003

Colleen Ryan, a single woman renting an apartment in Anchorage, wrote a two-page letter to her grandmother Ada Ryan, detailing her experiences during and immediately after the 1964 Alaska Earthquake.

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

This large collection of slides taken by longtime Anchorage residents Bill and Frances Ray contains 241 slides (.413-653) of damage to Anchorage houses, businesses, and landscape, dating from the immediate aftermath of the earthquake to 1966 buttress reconstruction to views of Earthquake Park in 1969. Notably, there are 15 images of the interior of the Ray residence post-quake, showing smashed dishes and toppled belongings. There are also 31 images (.704-734) of Seward, both in the immediate aftermath of the quake and in 1965 after some cleanup and reconstruction had begun. Similarly, there are 50 images of old and new Valdez taken in 1966 and 1969, showing the devastation of the earthquake as well as reconstruction efforts.

Lovell Letter to Chandlers and McGrews, 1964, B2016.015

U.S. Army Major Kell Lovell was stationed with a dental detachment in Anchorage at the time of the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake. His wife wrote a two-page typescript letter to their friends the Chandlers and McGrews, detailing her experiences on base during the quake.

Rose Kerfoot Slides, B2016.017

This collection consists of 29 35mm color slides of earthquake damage in Anchorage, including the interior of the donor's house.

.1-.29

Andrea Ramsey 1964 Earthquake Collection, B2017.003

Andrea Ramsey and her husband, Airman Third Class Lenon Ramsey, were living on Elmendorf Air Force Base at the time of the earthquake. The collection consists of one manuscript letter, dated March 29, 1964, written by Andrea to her mother; and two digital copy prints of photographs of Lenon and Andrea with their daughter Tracey.

Leonard and Geraldine Thomas Photographs, B2017.007

Leonard G. Thomas was working for J.B. Warrack Company on construction of the north tower of the Anchorage Westward Hotel at the time of the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake. An executive with the Alaska General Contractors Association, Thomas was tapped to lead AGCA and union workers in recovery and cleanup efforts. Leonard took his wife Geraldine to the top of the Westward's north tower on the day after the earthquake, and both took many photographs of Anchorage at that time and over the following months. Leonard was awarded the first Golden Hard Hat award from the AGCA for his work on earthquake recovery and reconstruction. The collection consists of 89 black-and-white prints, 388 black-and-white negatives, and 3 color negatives, primarily depicting earthquake damage in Anchorage and Seward.

.4, .43b, .44, .149a-.156, .157.1-.23, .158.1-.10, .163a-.217

Elanor Marie Johnston Collection, B2017.019

Elanor was working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Anchorage at the time of the 1964 earthquake. Included in her large collection are 135 photographs of the aftermath of the earthquake, including ten Polaroid images of damage to her house. Most of the remaining images are official Corps of Engineers photographs documenting damage in Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula, Cordova, and Valdez.

.626-.629, .2027-.2161

Kay McFarland Jackson Slides, B2017.029

The collection consists of 2991 35mm color slides taken by McFarland during her service with the city of Anchorage and during her travels throughout Alaska.

.129, .590, .591

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Dudley Westler Alaska Railroad Slides, B2017.033

The collection consists of 700 color 35mm slides taken by Westler, primarily depicting the equipment and operations of the Alaska Railroad. Westler arranged his images by equipment type or route location.

.377

1964 Earthquake Collection, B2018.010

The collection consists of six manuscript letters and three pencil sketches of the children of the letter writer, Joan. No last name or street address appears on any of the correspondence, all of which is signed from Joan, Dan, Dale, Kevin, and Karen. The letters are addressed to Mom, John, Henry and all, and date from March 28, March 29, April 2, April 19, May 9, 1964 and January 19, 1965. Joan describes the family's experiences during and after the Good Friday Earthquake. As of the writing of the last letter, the family is moving out of Anchorage, probably to Oregon or Washington State.

Paul Roseland Photographs, B2018.013

The original accession consists of one Christmas card, issued by Governor William Egan in 1961, and 21 photographs taken at the dedication of the John P. Bagoy Gate at the Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery in November 2002. An addendum received in 2019 consists of 23 loose scrapbook pages, containing 177 images including original and copy print photographs as well as postcards. The images are primarily of Roseland's family and friends.

.80, .81, .145

Charles Fletcher Album, B2018.014

Engineer Charles Fletcher compiled an album of 181 black-and-white photographs documenting his work on the repair of the Seward Highway after the earthquake, many with detailed captions.

.118-.125

Maj. Roy C. Wilkinson Slides, B2018.015

Major Roy C. Wilkinson was stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base from 1962-1965. His slide collection includes 19 color images showing the aftermath of the earthquake in Anchorage.

.5-.24

ANC M

Chauncey Cook Photographs, B2018.017

Chauncey Cook lived in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. This collection includes nine black-and-white prints showing damage to buildings in Anchorage.

.2-.10

Stewart's Photo Shop 1964 Earthquake Photographs, B2019.010

The collection consists of 15 black-and-white 8" x 10" commercial prints of earthquake damage in Anchorage, produced by Stewart's Photo Shop.

Gust Johnson 1964 Earthquake Album, B2019.013

Gustav T. Johnson was owner and operator of Johnson's Plumbing in Anchorage at the time of the earthquake. His album contains three clippings and 90 snapshots (both color and black-and-white) of earthquake damage in Anchorage.

Alice Puster Collection, B2019.017

Alice Jean Puster (1927-2011) was born to Otto and Loretta Puster in Pomona, California. As a young woman, Puster and her sister Florine traveled through 33 states, where she photographed the entire trip. In 1962, she moved to Anchorage, Alaska, with Martha Brewer and got a job as a photographer for The Anchorage Times. Her photographs of the 1964 earthquake were world-renowned, and she received a congratulatory letter from The Associated Press. This collection consists of negatives, slides, prints, proof sheets, videos, equipment, and ephemera related to Puster's career as a photographer.

Folder 12 – Folder 25

Cliff and Joan Fuglestad Collection, B2020.001

The collection consists of 351 35 mm slides depicting various Alaskan scenes from 1948 through 1957 and 1960 through 1971. Several images were taken aerially from the Fuglestad's plane, others were taken from road trips throughout the state. Some images have identified friends and family members, others in the collection are unidentified.

.177-.183

Samuel Fleming Collection, B2021.002

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

ANC M

Anchorage, Alaska in the 1950s and 1960s, also includes images of aftermath of 1964 earthquake in Anchorage.

.126-.129

Raymond Willard Sondenna, Jr. 1964 Earthquake Letter, B2021.003

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.

The letter entails the personal accounts Raymond had during the 1964 earthquake in Alaska. He describes the damage to the city of Anchorage, discussing locations, buildings that were destroyed, issues on Elmendorf Air Force Base, and other destructions across the city.

Ken L. Parker Family Photographs, B2024.001

This collection consists of 30 photographs, 870 photo slides, and one piece of ephemera depicting significant events and places primarily in the greater Anchorage area in the 1950s-1980s. There are many photographs of the aftermath of the 1964 Earthquake in Anchorage, dog sledding, outdoor recreation, and fishing. There are also a significant number of photographs of Anchorage neighborhoods and roads in the 1950s-1970s. There are a significant number of photographs from Romig Hill and Spenard Road. There are also photographs of Alaska Day Celebrations, including a parade highlighting the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Fur Rendezvous Celebrations, and the fight for and celebration of Alaskan Statehood.

.15, .16, .83-.89, .136-.181, .635-.638

Donna Deegan 1964 Earthquake Letter, B2025.001

The collection consists of a typescript letter, dated April 15, 1964, signed by Donna Deegan and sent to friends and/or family members outside of Alaska. The letter details Donna's experience in the earthquake with her two young children at home. She also describes the work in their stores over the next few days and the destruction around the city.