

# Foundation Seeks Land Claims Records

The Alaska Native Foundation has launched a project to locate and preserve records relating to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, particularly the campaign for its enactment. Persons and organizations who were involved in the development of the legislation will be asked to donate relevant records of Native associations and personal records to a special collection under the administration of the Foundation. The collection will serve as a means of preserving the records in a central location and thus will become a major resource for study of the Settlement Act as well as of the Native role in its enact-

ment.

According to Richard Janson, president of the Native Foundation, there is a real danger that the record of the unique role of Native leadership respecting the Act may be lost. Although the public record exists in published form, there has been no systematic effort by any group to locate or gather the full story of the development of the legislation, and particularly of the Native role. According to Janson, "We propose to take the first step to try to recover those invaluable records before they are lost entirely."

The Alaska Native Foundation has named Barbara S. Smith of Anchorage as project director.