

New Alaska Gallery opens at Anchorage Museum of History, Art

At long last the new Alaska Gallery in the Anchorage Museum of History and Art is scheduled to open on July 13, 1986. The patience and understanding of the public has been greatly appreciated during the long, much delayed construction period of this new gallery which will "tell the story of Alaska" and be of great interest to Anchorage residents and visitors from around the country and the world.

In the Alaska Gallery the museum visitor will be able to view the history of Alaska from the peopling of the new world to the present and will be able to explore, through artifacts, dioramas, models, photographs and graphics, such topics as transportation, housing, clothing, subsistence, use of natural resources, the political and social history of Alaska. The gallery cost \$2 million to complete. One million dollars was allocated from the Municipality of Anchorage construction budget for this purpose and the second million was raised from private

contributions to a capital fund drive.

Five more galleries featuring art from the museum's permanent collection will open at the same time. Opening on July 13 will be the premiere of a major traveling exhibition, *Ancient Eskimo Ivories of the Bering Strait*, sponsored by Exxon and organized by the American Federation of Arts. Also on view will be *John Sloan, A Printmaker*, organized and circulated by the International Exhibitions Foundation.

The new public underground parking garage will be available July 13 as will offices, collection storage space and workshops in the newly renovated old museum building be available for occupancy by the museum staff. The Museum Cafe, located in the northwest corner of the Mary Louise Rasmuson Atrium, will also be open in mid July, featuring a luncheon menu and pastries and sandwiches throughout the museum's public hours.