

Museum announces acquisition of Alaskan Art Items

A recent addition to the permanent collection of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art is a small Russian watercolor believed to depict the Aleksandr Kashevarov expedition exploring the Arctic coast of Alaska in 1838. Purchased with a donation from the Anderson Gallery of Juneau, this painting by an unknown artist is the oldest original work in the museum's collection from the Russian period. Other recent gifts include sketches by Karl Fortess from his trip to Alaska with the WPA in 1937, donated by Lillian Fortess; and a sketch of Sydney Laurence by Martin Ernestos, together with an autographed photograph of Laurence, given by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reed, Sr.

Purchased for the museum by the Anchorage Fine Arts Museum Association were Sandra Harrington's "4-Square," an acrylic,

pastel collage and monoprint on canvas, from her one-person show in January; James Kuiper's "Mountain no. 17," which received the painting award in the 1985 All Alaska Juried Art Exhibition; a metal belt buckle by Glen Simpson and a metal pendant by Ron Senungetuk, both from the University of Alaska Faculty Show last month; and an untitled wall piece by Fred Anderson. Additional contemporary acquisitions are two color photographs, "Reflecting" and "Balloons, Anchorage, 1984," by Kenneth R. Foley and Myron Rosenberg respectively, and Chongun Hoffman's watercolor, "Low Tide, Amalga Harbor," all purchased from the All Alaska Juried Art Exhibition; and three works given by the artists: "Transfer of Alaska to the United States, 1867," by V.V. Ushanoff, "Fishes no. 6," and

ink drawing by Arturo Nicoldi, and "First Light," a painting by Lynn Wiley.

Historical and Alaskan Native items include a collection of Athabascan clothing acquired by the Fisler family of Rampart between 1943 and 1947, given by

Ann Fisler; an Eskimo parka made in Nome before 1944, given by Georgia Alexander; a brass teapot made in India and later used in Russia, given by Judge and Mrs. James A. von der Heydt; a signed print, "Heritage of Alaska," by Fred Machetanz, given by the Anchorage Silver

Anniversary Task Force; a very large Eskimo ceramic pot found near Shishmaref, given by the Anchorage Fine Arts Museum Association; a pair of Eskimo mukluks given by Ralph and Charlotte Nelson; and a pair of World War II military flying boots, given by Bert Hoak.