

Anchorage museum archives receives collections of photos

The Archives of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art has recently received several collections of historical photographs, including materials brought back to Alaska by returning visitors.

Arnie and Marion Nelsen visited the museum, bringing items of interest from Nelsen's childhood days on the Alaska Railroad at Chickaloon and Anchorage and from his summers in Bristol Bay.

The Nelsens also brought a related collection from Ruth Johnson of Bellevue, Wash. Mrs. Johnson's father, William Robert (Christy) Mathewson, was a timekeeper for the railroad. His collection of photographs contains several unique views of Anchorage taken by Sidney Laurence.

Edward A. McDermott of Washington, D.C., returned to Anchorage with his collection of photos and a film of the Alaska Earthquake. As director of the Office of Emergency Planning during the Johnson administration, McDermott flew with Alaska's Sens. Bob Bartlett and Ernest Gruening to Anchorage to survey

damage.

A small anonymous donation of photographs includes images of Chignik, a village on the Alaska Peninsula, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

Books of note include: *The Effect of Education Upon the Life of the Alaskan Eskimo*, a master's thesis (1929) by Howard H. Burkher, a gift of Pauline Burkher; *Qajaq: Kayaks of Siberia and Alaska*, by David W. Zimmerly, a publication and gift of the Alaska State Museum; *Pioneering Spirit: The Sisters of Providence in Alaska*, a gift of the research firm Futurepast; and the collection catalog *American Furniture, 1680-1880* from the Baltimore Museum of Art.