

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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Guide prepared by: Amy Valentine, Archivist

TITLE: Alice Butler Photograph Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1971.071

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1889-1940

Extent: 99 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Bay Trading Co., Blankenberg, Edward H. Mitchell, F. Matheson, Hunt Grocery Co., J.E. Thwaites, L. King, Leonhard Seppala, Leopold David, Lowman & Hanford S. & P. Co. Pub., Ryus Drug Co., Sydney Lawrence, Winter & Pond Co.

Administrative/Biographical History:

Anna Caroline *David* Butler was born December 20, 1913, in a log cabin in Knik, Alaska. She was the daughter of Leopold David, Anchorage's first mayor, and Anna *Karasek* David. She married Bernard James Butler and died in Seattle, Washington, in 2021.

Anna Caroline's father, Leopold David (b. 1881, d. 1924), was an early Anchorage civil leader and served as doctor, lawyer, mayor, and judge at different times in southcentral Alaska. While working in Seward, he met Anna Karasek (b. 1883, d. 1971) whom he married in 1909. Karasek was a teacher who lived in Ketchikan, Alaska, prior to marriage where she taught in the Grammar Department at the public school. In 1910, she taught in Seward. The couple had two children, Anna Caroline, and Leopold, Jr.

Scope and Content Description:

The collection consists of 99 items, including photographic prints, commercially produced photographic postcards, ephemeral materials, and one panorama with negatives. The photographic prints depict the David family and some of the various locations where Leopold

worked. Several postcards are addressed to Miss Anna Karasek and show various towns in southeast Alaska including Tlingit and Haida communities with totem poles. The collection also includes several photographic postcards of shipwrecks. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

Arrangement: Collection arranged when inventoried in 1973 and cataloged in 1978.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use. Restricted item noted below under Notes and Detailed Description of Collection. Please contact ARC staff for details.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation:

Alice Butler Photograph Collection, Anchorage Museum, B1971.071

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by Anna Caroline Butler in August 1971.

Processing Note

The collection was inventoried by Ola M. Hughes in March and April 1973. The collection was catalogued in 1978 by Jeanine Felker (Archival volunteer) and MDB. The inventory lists 94 unique collection items, but did not include several items including one photograph, one memorabilia item, and some duplicate images. The duplicate images were assigned identification numbers in 1978, the unnumbered photo was assigned number B1971.071.73a in 2024, and the unnumbered memorabilia item is listed under Ephemera on the Finding Aid. In total, there are 99 items in the collection.

Item .65 was misnumbered as .66 when catalogued in 1978 but was corrected to .65 in July 2024.

Items .13, .58, .59, and .67 were missing at 1978 cataloging. In July 2024, item .13 was located.

Separated Materials

Panorama .84 stored with oversized materials in map case. Panorama negatives with collection.

Notes

Image .34 is restricted.

The Ketchikan Public Schools Graduation Program does not have an identification number and is described on the Finding Aid under Ephemera.

RELATED MATERIALS

B1964.017 Herning Potter Collection

B1967.001 O.G. Herning Collection

B1986.001 Jews in Alaska/Bernice Bloomfield Collection

B2004.011 John Bagoy Pioneer Files

B2017.004 Cook Inlet Historical Society Legends & Legacies, Anchorage, 1910-1940 Project Research Files

SUBJECTS

Alaska Railroad

Anchorage (Alaska)

Boats and Boating

Butler, Anna Caroline *David*

Canneries - Alaska

Cemeteries

Cook Inlet (Alaska)

Cordova (Alaska)

Crossen, Joe

David, Anna *Karasek*

David, Leopold

Dogsledding

Fort William H. Seward (Haines, Alaska)

Frame, Arthur

Freight and Freightling

Gold mine and Mining – Alaska – Juneau

Haida

Haines (Alaska)

Houses and Homes

Howkan Island (Alaska)

Juneau (Alaska)

Kasaan (Alaska)

Kelly, Milo

Kenai Peninsula (Alaska)

Ketchikan (Alaska)

Knik (Alaska)

Musical Instruments
Orthodox Eastern Church (Russian)
Post, Wiley
Roadhouses
Rogers, Will
Seppala, Leonhard
Seward (Alaska)
Seward Peninsula (Alaska)
Ship Creek (Anchorage, Alaska)
Ships (Alaska)
Shipwrecks
Sitka (Alaska)
Sunrise (Alaska)
Skis and Skiing
Sled dogs
Sleds
Susitna (Alaska)
Tent City (Anchorage, Alaska)
Tlingit
Totem poles
Tyonek (Alaska)
Valdez (Alaska)
Wrangell (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

F1

- .1 – Postcard. Interior of David home in Knik. [1913. Small Christmas tree with toys and boxes, near piano. Similar B1971.071.02]
- .2 – Postcard. Interior of David home in Knik. 1913. [Blurry. Small Christmas tree with toys and boxes, near piano. Similar B1971.071.01]
- .3 – Postcard. Mrs. [Anna Karasek] Leopold David and Alice David outside their home in Knik in 1914. [Anna kneeling next to baby in carriage]
- .4 – Postcard. Caroline David, Mrs. Butler. Alice David's baby sled outside their home in Knik. [wooden sled with Hills Bros. crate and umbrella]
- .5 – Postcard. Mrs. Butler's baby, Alice David in her sled outside her home in Knik.
- .6 – Postcard. "From the dock to the town, Cordova, Alaska." Thwaites 4313. [verso:] Juneau postmark, Mar 22, 1921. Addressed to Mrs. S. David. "Dear family, Just Arrived and boat only stays [4?] hours. Fairly good trip. Love to all, Daddy" [automobiles at end of boat dock]
- .7 – Postcard. Treadwell mill and mines – largest stamp mill in the world – 240 stamps.
- .8 – Postcard. Elwell mining camp. Cache Creek District. [snowy mountainside, person and buildings at midground]
- .9 – Postcard. Pack dog carrying camping gear. Dated March 20, 1915, Susitna, Alaska. "Andrews? Roadhouse, March 13th" [message illegible]

- .10 – Postcard. Exterior David home [probably business also] in Knik. [log building]
- .11 – Postcard. 159 Baranoff [sic] Castle, Sitka, Alaska. WPCo. 1889. [St. Michaels' Cathedral at right]
- .12 – Postcard. St. Michaels' Cathedral in Sitka. "183 WPCo. Russian Church, Sitka."
- .13 – Note from Governor's House, Juneau. Reads: "Dear Judge and Mrs. David: Just another word of appreciation of the beautiful dinner in our honor that last evening in Anchorage. It was a most happy finale to an unusually pleasant little visit. We trust you will not fail to come and see us when you pass through Juneau. Best wishes to our gracious hosts and our good mutual friends. Cordially yours, Mary Worth-Bone" May 22, 1924.
- .14 – Postcard. Men and sled dogs at Johnson Creek Summit. [verso:] "Sunrise, Alaska, [postmarked] Apr. 2, 1909. Sunrise, Alaska, March 27, 09. The reverse is a scene along the trail we came over." Addressed to Mrs. Anna Karasek.
- .15 – Postcard. Valdez Harbor. Thwaites 4092. [scenic]
- .16 – Postcard. Fort William H. Seward. "Mail boat goes to Seattle tonight. Postmarked Haines, Alaska, Dec. 21, 1907." Addressed to Anna Karasek, Ketchikan. [verso:] "Dear Anna, The King's wish you a very Merry Christmas. Please remember us to Miss Redding and I'll see her when I visit Ketchikan. Mrs. L. King." [Blankenberg]
- .17 – Postcard. [Young woman posed near totem poles in Wrangell] [verso:] postmarked Aug 31, 1907, Ketchikan. Addressed to Miss A. Karasek, Tacoma, WA. [F. Matheson. Tlingit territory, *K̄aach̄x̄ana.áak'w* (Wrangell)]
- .18 – Postcard. Totem in Wrangell. Thwaites 1908. [Tlingit territory, *K̄aach̄x̄ana.áak'w* (Wrangell)]
- .19 – Postcard. Gas boat Alaska in the ice of the Knik Arm. "Piano brought in on ship uncovered. Gas Boat 'Alaska' later owned by The Alaska Railroad." Message to Miss F. Karasek, postmarked Knik, October 30, [year illegible]
- .20 – Postcard. David home [at center] in Knik. [same photo at B1971.071.21, .21a]
- .21 – Postcard. David home [at center] in Knik. [same photo at B1971.071.20, .21a]
- .21a – Postcard. David home [at center] in Knik. [same photo at B1971.071.20, .21]
- .22 – Postcard. Mr. [Leopold] David [fifth from left] and Commissioners in front of the Pioneer Roadhouse. [verso:] Knik Commercial Club. May 22, 1912. See Herning diary [Pioneer Hotel, Knik. Same as B1971.071.23]
- .23 – Postcard. Mr. [Leopold] David [fifth from left] and Commissioners in front of the Pioneer Roadhouse. [verso:] Knik Commercial Club. May 22, 1912. See Herning diary. "Back in ½ hour, R.R.R.L." [Pioneer Hotel, Knik. Same as B1971.071.22]
- .24 – Postcard. Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David sitting in a dog sled, people nearby. [Knik. Same photo as B1971.071.25]
- .25 – Postcard. Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David sitting in a dog sled, people nearby. [Knik. Same photo as B1971.071.24]

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- .26 – Postcard. Men standing beside dog sled in Knik. Freighters. Cottonwood Road House [sic].
- .27 – Postcard. Exterior of Pioneer Roadhouse in Knik. Postmarked March 14, 1913 (or 1918). "Dear Folks. A traveller [sic] going thru [sic] so a line. Do hope you have all been feeling well.

Mail carrier goes to Seward in about a week so will write. Don't want to burden anyone even if it is only a few letters so will wait for carrier till he goes thru [sic] as it is a job at the best. Say Fan kindly get Will a birthday remembrance from us. I will settle with you. Mail communications are so few – this is the first chance to send a line. No travel over the trail this year. The channel is breaking fast so expect a boat soon. Best love to all from us both. A.D.”

[Pioneer Hotel]

.28 – Postcard. Dog sled standing in front of the Pioneer Roadhouse in Knik. [Pioneer Hotel]

.29 – Postcard. Ketchikan “The first city in Alaska.” [verso:] Aug 29, 1908. To Miss A. Karasek.

.29A – Postcard. Ketchikan, Alaska, from the steamer.

.30 – Postcard. Totem poles (Haida) in Old Kasaan [Indigenous] Village, on Prince of Wales Island, near Ketchikan, Alaska. [verso:] Postmarked May 6, 1907. Addressed to Miss A. Karasek. “Dear Sister, Received all [string?] OK. Will write [thoughts?] more fully. A.K.” [Same photo as B1971.071.31] [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]

.31 – Postcard. Totem poles (Haida) in the old Kasaan [Indigenous] Village on Prince of Wales Island near Ketchikan. [Postmarked 1907. Same photo as B1971.071.30] [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]

.32 – Postcard. Totem poles (Haida) in Kasaan Village. 5011 Kasaan, Alaska. [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]

.33 – Postcard. People posed with Chief Totem Kian [sic] in Ketchikan. [Tlingit Chief George Kyan’s totem pole. Tlingit territory, Kichxáan (Ketchikan)]

.34 – [RESTRICTED]

.35 – Postcard. A portion of Ketchikan, Alaska. Published by Ryus Drug Co.

.36 – Postcard. 2150. Ketchikan and Tongass Narrows, Alaska, looking North. 1905 [same photo as B1971.071.37]

.37 – Postcard. 2150. Ketchikan and Tongass Narrows, Alaska, looking North. [verso:] Postmarked July 10, 1906. To Miss Anna Karasek. “Miss Karasek, Received your postal. Will start for Seattle in about ten days. Will come see you. [Ma?]” [same photo as B1971.071.36]

.38 – Postcard. Fire Department, Ketchikan, Alaska --- Ryus Drug Co. 1909 [group of men posed with firefighting equipment outside building]

.39 – Postcard. Two Chilkat (Tlingit) Chiefs in dancing [regalia, tunics]. [verso:] Postmarked Ketchikan, Aug 16, 1905. Winter & Pond. To Miss Anna Karasek. “Aug. 15, 1905. Hello! I just dropped Miss Henry a postal. Do you recognize our two friends? Ha! Ha! Will be very glad when you return. The S.S. Gifferson is due tonight. A number of people are going away. A.B.” [Tlingit territory, Kichxáan (Ketchikan)]

.40 – Postcard. Securing provisions from wreck. S.S. Farallon, Cooks Inlet, January 5, 1910. J.E. T.

.41 – Postcard. Wreck of the S.S. Farallon at low tide. Taken 4 weeks after wreck – Cooks Inlet, Alaska. Jan. 5, 1910. Copyright J.E. Thwaites. [Ship iced over]

.42 – Postcard. Sailing ship at anchor in Cook Inlet. (Two masted, of equal height) tended by small tug. Fishing boat “CHA__” in background. At Knik before 1915.

.43 – Postcard. Gas boat “Traveler” [abandoned up Little Susitna River about 1930]

.44 – Postcard. S.S. Alameda. In Alaska. Thwaites 4167.

.45 – Postcard. 394. S.S. Princess May wrecked on Sentinel Island, Alaska – August 5, 1910. Winter & Pond. [Steamship run aground on rocks]

- .46 – Postcard. Three men with grounded gas boat “Traveler” on shore, winter.
- .47 – Postcard. Wreck of the S.S. Mariposa. Winter & Pond. [partially submerged steamship]
- .48 – Postcard. S.S. Islander and S.S. Griffson. Winter & Pond.
- .49 – Postcard. Wreck of the S.S. Mariechen at False Bay. Winter & Pond. [partially submerged steamship, small (tug?) boat at right]
- .50 – Postcard. Wreck of the S.S. Yucatan. Mrs. Davis married on this ship Nov. 1911. [partially submerged steamship]

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- .51 – Postcard. The wreck of the S.S. Al-Ki. Winter & Pond. Wrecked Pt. Augusta 1917. [tilted ship]
- .52 – Postcard. The wreck of the S.S. Alaska at Elliot Island, B.C. 10-27-40. [ship run aground]
- .53 – Postcard. 12. “Al-Ki” wrecked on Point Augusta. 11-1-17. Winter & Pond. [partially submerged ship]
- .54 – Postcard [steamship, possible shipwreck]
- .55 – Postcard. The gas boat “Alaska” among ice floes.
- .56 – Postcard. S.S. Northwestern ashore at Eagle River, Alaska. 7-25-33. Winter & Pond Co., Juneau.
- .57 – Chief Johnson’s (Kadjuk) Totem pole and the community house in Ketchikan. [verso:] 1905. Ketchikan, Alaska. Chief Johnson’s (Kadjuk) Totem pole of the Kadjuk house of the Raven clan, carved and erected in 1901 by Chief Johnson. Community house with crest whale design later built. From top down: two birds, Gitsanuk & Gitsoquq, slaves of Raven; Raven; fog woman with her salmon children. From Garfield, Viola, *The Wolf and the Raven*. P. 57-60. [Chief George Johnson of the Gaanax̄adi clan of the Tongass tribe. Tlingit territory, Kichx̄áan (Ketchikan)]
- .58 – Barta B.C. [or B.S.?] fish processing. [Missing when cataloged, 12/78]
- .59 – Chief S.H. Barta Bay. [Missing when cataloged, 12/78]
- .60 – Mr. [Leopold] David with a group of men and young woman in Tyonek in May 1906. Fitzsimmons; Nagley; Shumacker?; Ferguson; Hussy; Burkhardt; Tyler; Curenly; Davis; Ferguson; Captain Shaw; Martin; ; Purser Tyonic [sic] [21 people in group photo outside building. Dena’ina Territory, Qaggeyshlat (Tyonek)]
- .61 – Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David and Caroline [David Butler] stand in the doorway of Mr. [Leopold] Davids’ first law office (Commissioners) located at 5th and E Street in Anchorage. 1917. 1916. [Same photo as B1971.071.64]
- .62 – S.S. Olympia wrecked on Bly Island Dec. 1910. Photo taken August 25, 1917 from the S.S. Alaska. [ship at distance]
- .63 – Interior view of the David [Butler] home in Knik. [bookshelf and piano]
- .64 – Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David and Caroline [David Butler] stand in the doorway of Mr. [Leopold] Davids’ first law office (Commissioners) located at 5th and E Street in Anchorage. 1917. 1916. [Same photo as B1971.071.61]. “Commissioner’s office in 1920s, corner of 5th and E Street, now bank buildings, NB of Alaska. Leopold David, also town doctor, switched to lawyer because no one paid doctor bills (Wash. State). (He) was district judge and 1st mayor of Anchorage. Picture shows office, Mrs. Anna David and Caroline (Mrs. Butler). [verso:] “home of Leopold David.” [Notary public]

- .65 – Judge Leopold [David, 5th from left] at banquet, 1923. [2nd from left, standing]
- .66 – Certificate for One Share Western of the Capital Stock for the Western Alaska Fair Association, Inc. Issued to Caroline David, September 15, 1926.
- .67 – Last picture of L. [Leonhard] Seppala – Will Rogers – Wiley Post – Joe Crossen [Missing when cataloged, 12/78]
- .68 – Totem pole near building, Old Kasaan. [verso:] “Sukwan?” [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]
- .69 – © L. Seppala 1935. [verso:] Last photo taken before crash. Taken at Fairbanks – Chena River. Will Rogers, Leonard [sic] Seppala, Wiley Post, Will Rogers, Joe Crossen. [Leonhard “Sepp” Seppala. Four men posed on dock, floatplane at left.]
- .69a – Haida, Howkan [Island], Alaska. Klinkwan. Prince of Wales Island. [Haida Gwaii, village on shoreline, totem poles and buildings.]
- .70 – Old Kasaan, Alaska. Haida village around 1910. Chief Skowels’ (Chief Skowl) [Chief Skáwaal] totem poles on Prince of Wales Island. Far left pole – from top down, Creator, young Raven carrying men up to the sky at the time of the flood, and the mother of the young Raven. Main center pole – a fabled bird of the mountains, mosquito and bear. Second pole from right – carving of man in whose memory totem was erected, the Raven, and the strong men rending the sea lions. [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]
- .71 – Three totems in front of building at Old Kasaan Haida Village on Prince of Wales Island. [Tlingit territory, Gasá’áan (Kasaan)]
- .72 – Interior of David home. Knik. [piano, guitar, and furniture]
- .73 – Turnagain Arm, Cook’s Inlet, Alaska – Feb. 10, 1906. [Leopold David posed with rifle and snowshoes at camp]
- .73a – [L-R] Milo Kelly (?), and Leopold David. [two men outside tent at Turnagain Arm campsite, Cook Inlet. Likely 1906.]
- .74 – Ketchikan view, taken from the docks.
- .75 – Cannery at Kasaan [Prince of Wales Island]

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- .76 – Haida group fishing from shore in Karta Bay, Prince of Wales Island. [Haida Gwaii]
- .77 – S.S. Yucatan
- .78 – Unidentified steamship shipwrecked. [8 letters in bow name, illegible. Possibly the S.S. Portland, see B1971.071.81] [partially submerged ship, smaller boat at right]
- .79 – Sailboat (Probably called a Sloop, with 1 mast and two sails in front of the mast, one behind) near Ketchikan. [person in rowboat at left]
- .80 –Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David in front of the schoolhouse in Seward where she was a schoolteacher in 1910. [five people on schoolhouse steps]
- .81 – S.S. Portland shipwrecked [steamship partially submerged, lifeboat deployed]
- .82 – Ketchikan [shorefront buildings]
- .83 – Haida totems poles at Howkan, Alaska around 1900. Dall Island. Kluiquan. [Buildings and totem poles along the shoreline, canoes at left. Haida Gwaii.]
- .84 – Panorama view of Tent City, Anchorage, 1915. Ship Creek. Sydney Lawrence. [negatives with collection, photographic print stored with oversized materials in map case]

- .85 – Postcard. Thwaites 4300. In the residence district. Anchorage, Alaska. [verso:] Government housing for railroad employees. Corner of 2nd and Christensen Road. About 1916.
- .86 – Postcard. Thwaites 4407. Some of the R.R. Bldgs. Anchorage, Alaska. [Railroad buildings and tracks. Looking north from C St?]
- .87 – Postcard. Residence Section. Anchorage, Alaska. [verso:] Judge [Leopold] David's home - white house in center on 2nd and Christensen Road. [circa 1910-1919]
- .88 – Postcard. [verso:] Masonic Hall southwest corner of 4th and F Street. Lasky H., Pioneer Tailor. Frame, Arthur. 1920.
- .89 – Postcard. [verso:] Tent City on Railroad flats, Anchorage, 1915. [same photo as B1971.071.90]
- .90 – Postcard. [verso:] Tent City on Railroad flats, Anchorage, 1915. Message to Mrs. [Anna] Karasek reads "On the move. Will write when we get a bit settled. Address us Anchorage, Alaska." [same photo as B1971.071.89]
- .91 – Postcard. [verso:] Marshalls' office and jail at 4th and F Streets, Anchorage [circa 1910-1919] [group or people standing around a pile of possibly frozen sides of meat]
- .92 – Postcard. Mr. [Leopold] and Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David at Ship Creek. [verso:] Postmarked Oct. 23, 1911. Mrs. David is fourth from left. Message reads: "On the trail last spring, On the Summit." [same photo as B1971.071.93]
- .93 – Postcard. Mr. [Leopold] and Mrs. [Anna Karasek] David at Ship Creek. [verso:] Postmarked from Seldovia, May 22, 1911. Mrs. David is fourth from left. Addressed to Miss W. Karasek. Message reads: "On our way out over the trail. Taken at Ship Creek. Back at Knik. Arriv. last wk. Will write later. Hope all are well. A.D." [same photo as B1971.071.92]
- .94 – Thwaites 4305. Anchorage, Alaska. [Empress Theatre (Fourth Avenue between G & H, So. Side). Also shown, Law Office and Strye Photo Studio]

Ephemera

- First Annual Graduation Exercises of the Ketchikan Public Schools, 6/13/1907.
Instructors: Miss [Anna] Karasek, Grammar Department

Guide written: July 2024