

Retha Young Collection

Finding Aid prepared by Regina A. Johanos

July 30th, 2017

Repository: Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center

Creator: Young, Retha

Title: Retha Young Collection

Dates: 1944-1995

Quantity: .209 Linear Feet

Abstract: Retha Young served as Postmistress of Haines, Alaska from 1944-1983. These materials document aspects of her personal life, as well as her role as Postmistress.

Collection ID: 2013.018

Biographical History

Retha Mary Pirrie was born on July 27th, 1909 in Billings, Montana. On April 18th, 1940, she married Forest H. Young, Jr., a civil engineer for the U.S. War Department. Shortly after their marriage, the couple moved to Chicago, Illinois. In 1943, Forest was sent to Excursion Inlet, Alaska. Retha remained behind in Chicago to care for Forest's ailing father until he passed away in March of 1944. Retha moved to Haines in April, 1944, where she served as Postmistress from 1944-1983. In addition to her duties as Postmistress, Retha was very active in the community. She served as Treasurer for the Haines Women's club, and was active with the Library and Historical Society. She died in Montana in 1995.

Collection Scope and Notes

The Retha Young Collection is comprised of documents pertaining to Retha Young and her husband Forest Herber T Young, documents related to Retha Young's duties as Postmistress of Haines, as well as documents about the town of Haines in general. The collection also contains newspaper articles, a guidebook, and postal service related photographs.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into the following series

Series 0001 - Documents

Series 0002 – Newspapers

Series 0003 – Books

Series 0004 – Magazines

Series 0005 – Photographs

Photographs have been moved to Photo collection Storage. Books and magazines have been separated to the research library. All dates are in American format – mm/dd/yyyy.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on this collection

Subject Terms

Young, Forrest

Young, Retha

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated by Retha Young in 1993.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and catalogued by Regina Johanos in 2017.

Container List

Series 0001 – Documents, 6 folders

Box	Folder	
001	001	Personal Documents
001	002	Personal Correspondence
001	003	Postal Work
001	004	Haines Material
001	005	Educational Manuals
001	006	Clippings and Articles

Series 0002 – Newspapers

Box	
002	Juneau Empire
002	Juneau Independent
002	Lynn Canal News
002	Lynn Canal Weekly
002	Southeastern Log
002	Fairbanks Daily News Miner
002	Daily Alaska Empire

Series 0003 – Books

Lou Jacobin's Guide to Alaska and the Yukon – 12th edition

Series 0004 – Magazines

Holiday, August 1959
The Pilot Guide to Scenic Southeast Alaska and Northern British Columbia
Alaska Life: The Territorial Magazine, April 1948
The Alaskan Magazine Fall '52, Annual Travel Issue.

Series 0005 – Photographs

2013.018.0005.0001 – Company Christmas card from the Alaska District Office U.S. Postal Service. Color photograph.
2013.018.0005.0002 – Black and white photograph of two men and a seated woman on a beach, with a view of a bluff in the background.
2013.018.0005.0003 – Black and white photograph of ten people (standing on snowy ground, with a view of a bluff and tractors in background).
2013.018.0005.0004 – Black and white headshot of an unidentified man wearing horn-rimmed glasses and a tweed suit.
2013.018.0005.0005 – Headshot of woman, Nancy Reagan. Color photograph.
2013.018.0005.0006 – Color photograph of two men standing. Men are Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.