

WWII Evacuation and Internment of Unangâ in Southeast Alaska

A Subject Bibliography

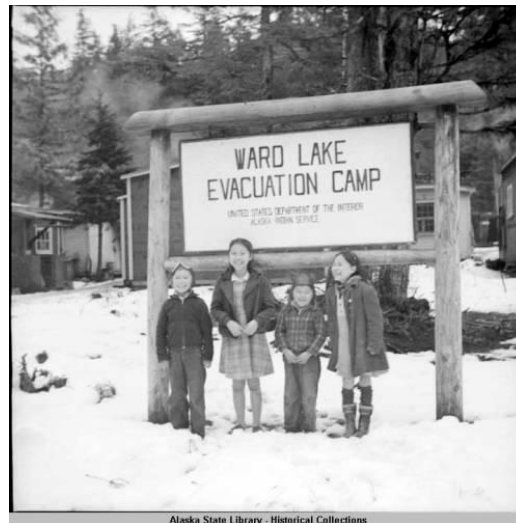
Background

Following the Japanese attack on Unalaska in 1942, government officials forced Unangan civilians to evacuate their villages in the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands and transported them to inadequate living quarters in locations across Southeast Alaska. They lived in these camps for two to three years without adequate food, shelter, or medical care.

Need

In 2019 the Juneau-Douglas City Museum set out to curate an immersive exhibit focusing on one of the camp locations at Funter Bay near Juneau, AK. This exhibit was slated to go on display in the summer of 2020. Relatively little has been written on the topic and few physical artifacts remain from the camp sites. The resources that exist are scattered in libraries, museums, and private collections across the country. In order to aid in the research for this exhibit, I gathered available primary and secondary resources and organized them into a subject bibliography.

By Maggie Thompson-Johnston
Sponsored by the Juneau-Douglas City Museum



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections

Process

I began by searching the catalogs of libraries, archives, and special collections across the state of Alaska and beyond for relevant resources. Some collections were not available online. I reached out to archivists, museum curators, and librarians at these locations to learn whether their collections should be included in the bibliography. After gathering the relevant citations, I organized them by material type and included notes regarding access. I had three copies of the bibliography printed as a booklet. These were cataloged and added to the reference collections at the Juneau-Douglas City Museum, the Alaska State Library, and the Juneau Public Library.

Impact

My sponsors at the Juneau- Douglas City Museum and I hope that by making the subject bibliography available to the public, it will go beyond aiding in the curation of the Museum's exhibit and help further future research into this important chapter of Alaskan history.