

**William O. Field Papers
1890-1994 [bulk]**

by
Wendi A. Lyons
January 2005

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**BIOGRAPHICAL OUTLINE
William Osgood Field**

Jan. 30, 1904	Born in New York City		
June 1922	Graduated Hotchkiss School	1954-57	Member, Technical Panel on Seismology and Gravity, USNC/IGY.
July 1924	First Ascent, South Twin, Canadian Rockies		
June 1926	B.S. Geology, Harvard University	1954-58	Consultant for the USNC/IGY Antarctic Committee
1926	First scientific trip to Glacier Bay	1957	Director, World Data Center A; Glaciology
April 4, 1929	Married Alice Steelman Withrow		
Dec. 30, 1930	Daughter Diane Sloane Field born	1959-60	Member, Panel on Heat and Water, CPR/NAS
Sep-Oct. 1931	First scientific trip to Prince William Sound	1959	Member, Special Committee on IGY Geographic Names in the Antarctic, NAS
1931-57	Member, Committee on Glaciers, Section of Hydrology, American Geophysical Union (AGU)	1960	Member, Panel on Arctic Research, Third Arctic Planning Session, Geophysics Research Directorate, Air Force Cambridge Research Labs.
June 13, 1940	Son John Osgood Field born		
Dec. 2, 1940	Joined staff of the American Geographical Society (AGS) as a research associate.	1960-63	Vice-President of Commission of Snow and Ice, International Association of Scientific Hydrology International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)
Oct. 1942-Jan. 1946	World War II service as photographic officer in U.S. Army Signal Corps. Assignments included: Training Film Production Laboratory, Wright Field; Signal Corps Photographic Center, NY; Air Force Cold Weather Test Detachment in Alaska, winter 1943; Signal Photo Company in India and Burma, 1944-45. Attained rank of major at severance. Received Bronze Star Medal.	1961-62	Committee of the British Glaciological Society
		1962-64	Vice-President of the International Glaciological Society (successor of the British Glaciological Society)
		Aug. 8, 1963	Married Mary Losey
1947	Appointed head of the Department of Exploration and Field Research at the AGS.	1964	Member of the Hydrology Panel of the NAS/NRC Committee of the Alaska Earthquake
		1969	Retired from the American Geographical Society
1948-54	Chairman, Committee on Glaciers, Section of Hydrology, American Geophysical Union	1975	Publication of Mountain Glaciers of the Northern Hemisphere
1955-58	Chairman of the Technical Panel for Glaciology of the USNC/IGY. Technical Panel became the Glaciological Panel of the Committee on Polar Research (CPR), National Academy of Science/National Research Council (NAS/NRC) at the close of the IGY, 1958.	June 16, 1994	Died at his home in Great Barrington, MA.

(from With a Camera in My Hands, University of Alaska Press, 2004, used with the permission of C. Suzanne Brown. Please refer to book for further biographical information)

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SCOPE AND CONTENTS

The William O. Field Collection represents a tremendous record of glacier observations throughout the world, with an emphasis on Alaska. The majority of glaciological activities throughout the twentieth century bore Field's fingerprints in some way and his collection reflects this, touching on his roles as observer, planner, coordinator, editor, liaison, consultant, mentor, and authority of all matters pertaining to North American glaciers.

The materials are arranged by format reflecting Field's process of collecting, compiling, analyzing, and disseminating the observations he and others made in their field work. Series I, *Expedition Files*, and II, *Images from Expeditions*, contain his diaries, notes, papers, photographs, and films documenting each of his expeditions to Alaska and the Canadian Rockies. Series VII consists of Field's papers and photos generated from his activities at the American Geographical Society where he was instrumental in creating glacier projects and programs that allowed the collection of data on a larger and systematic scale. Series VII contains his manuscripts, including his notes and drafts, as well as reprints of his published articles.

Researchers will find that one of the strengths of this collection lies in the information which Field compiled and organized for the purpose of future access. For example, in Series V, *Survey Station and Locations*, Field described the location and establishment of each survey station and prepared a history of when each had been occupied; one list is organized by glacier name, the other by year. Series VI, *Meteorological Data*, also represents this effort of gathering data as it contains Field's compilations of temperature and precipitation readings from a given area and time period as well as data on the firn lines and ablation rates of glaciers. Researchers looking for information collected on a particular glacier can find the survey data and calculations Field compiled in Series IV, Subseries C, *Glacier Working Papers* as well as maps on which Field illustrated the variations of a glacier's terminus over time in Series XI, *Maps*. For those interested specifically in the Glacier Bay area, Field compiled a comprehensive album for each inlet in the region, each including a description of the nomenclature, location, and a history of observations of the glaciers within the inlet as well as a bibliography of pertinent publications, photographs, and maps; these albums are located in Series IV, *Glacier Observations*. Field also created another tremendous resource for the Glacier Bay area: a file containing prints and copy negatives of seminal photographs of the same glacier over time, found in Series IX, *AGU-AGS Collection*. Series III, *Photo lists*, is another reflection of Field's understanding that the collection of data and images is virtually useless without a way to access them intellectually. This series contains Field's descriptions of each of the images he and others saved from their expeditions to Alaska, one file organized by year, the other by glacier or region, as well as what seems to be an exhaustive amount of captions describing his colleagues' photographs which were retained in the World Data Center Collection at the AGS.

Another valuable aspect of the collection is the correspondence generated from Field's collaboration in research, projects, and committees with other glaciologists as well as the scientific community at

large. Letters from virtually all prominent twentieth-century glaciologists seem to have crossed Field's desk at some point, if not regularly. But the vast amounts of correspondence, found in Series VII, *American Geographical Society Papers*, as well as Series VIII, *Correspondence*, speak to Field's enormous influence as notable scientists from numerous disciplines consulted him about overlapping interests.

An unexpected boon for researchers lies in the remains of the *American Geophysical Union/American Geographical Society Collection*, found in Series IX. This collection, serving as a repository for the papers, maps, and photos of the glaciological community from over the last century, was administered by Field while he was at the AGS. When the World Data Center was transferred to the Geological Survey Library in Tacoma, the glacier-related materials from the original AGU-AGS collection moved with it. The remaining materials consist largely of the manuscripts, diaries, and notes of H.F. Reid, Lawrence Martin, W.S. Cooper, Ralph S. Tarr, and Dora Keen as well as their photographs from their expeditions. The photographs either are copies of those moved with the WDC Collection or do not pertain to glaciers and therefore are deemed outside the scope of the collection. The resulting photo collection embodies a rich historical record of Alaska, from ca. 1890-1915, depicting native villages; totem poles; roadhouses; shots of downtown Juneau, Seward, and other settlements; various transportation routes such as the Valdez Trail and the Copper River Railroad. Also of note are G.K. Gilbert's photos from the Harriman Expedition as well as photos and maps from the survey work of the International Boundary Commission when they were establishing the Alaskan/Canadian border in the 1890's and early 1900's.

While, clearly, the focus of Field's papers is the glaciers, there are glimpses of other aspects of his life. Series XII, *Biographical Papers*, contains papers and photos from Field's time as a student at Harvard University, his service in the Army as a filmmaker in Alaska, India, and Burma during World War II, some personal travels, even the postcards he collected as a child. Even in these materials, however, glaciers occasionally present themselves-- in his papers written at Harvard, for example, or in the photos of his early family trips to the Canadian Rockies-- underscoring the fact that in order to understand Field, all roads lead through glaciers.

Keywords:

Alaska Earthquake, Alaska, 1964
American Geographical Society of New York
Canadian Rockies (B.C. and Alta.)--
Photographs
Field, William O. (William Osgood),
1904-
Harriman Alaska Expedition (1899)
Geology--Alaska

Glaciologists--Correspondence
Glaciology--Alaska--History--Sources
Glaciers--Alaska--Photographs
International Boundary Commission
International Geophysical Year, 1957-
1958
Juneau Icefield Research Project
(JIRP)
Meteorology--Alaska

Provenance of the Collection

Several accessions were integrated to form the William O. Field collection. In 1993, accessions 93-162 and 93-254 were donated by Field to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. These accessions were comprised of Field's personal papers and photographs as well as the World Data Center collection which is on a long-term loan from the WDC-A for Glaciology in Boulder, Colorado. After Field's death, his wife donated accession 95-035, an announcement of his death and in 2003, accession 2003-027 was donated by

Charles and Marie Morrison, containing a few memorial publications as well as papers from the Field Glaciological and Polar Research Foundation which Field established.

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Series Descriptions

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Series I Expedition Files, 1920s-1987, 16 cu. ft.

This series contains records generated from Field's many research trips to Alaska as well as Europe and Antarctica. Materials include Field's diaries, sketches, and notes while he was in the field, diaries of other expedition members, along with the subject file he kept from each trip. The series is divided into four subseries:

- a. *Typed diaries, 1926-1983.* Contains copies of Field's diaries, typed by his secretary, of his research trips to Alaska and Antarctica. The diaries give a daily record of Field's activities on the expedition along with observations of glaciers and survey stations. Arranged chronologically.
- b. *Original diaries, survey notes, and sketches, 1925-1987.* Contains Field's handwritten diaries as well as readings, observations, and sketches he recorded while conducting his surveys. His notes also include lists of photo coverage, supplies, expenses, etc. Arranged chronologically.
- c. *Diaries and notes of others on Expeditions, 1931-1966.* Contains typed diaries and survey notes of C.W. Wright, Marion Millett, and Charles Morrison, who each accompanied Field on several of his research trips.
- d. *Expedition Subject File, 1920-1987.* The subject file Field kept containing

documents pertaining to his travels and work on each expedition. Materials include correspondence, notes, postcards, brochures, receipts, equipment lists, progress reports, itineraries, diaries, and newsclippings. Materials are arranged chronologically by expedition.

Series II Images from Expeditions, 1920-1993, 48 cu. ft.

This series contains Field's photograph albums, slides, negatives, and films from his research expeditions to Alaska and Canada. Although the images are primarily those taken by Field, he also used photographs of others on the expeditions. The four subseries consist of the different mediums used by Field to document his work:

a. *Photograph Albums, 1926-1993*

- i. *Alaska Expeditions*** These photographs document each of Field's glacier expeditions to Alaska. Virtually all of the images have been provided with captions by Field. Albums are arranged chronologically.
- ii. *Canadian Rockies Expeditions, 1920-1963*** Contains photographs of glaciers from Field's trips to the Canadian Rockies. Albums are arranged chronologically.
- iii. *Comparative Photos*** These albums represent Field's efforts in compiling seminal photographs of a particular glacier or inlet from over a century of visual observations. This can serve as a valuable tool for researchers interested in fluctuations in a glacier's behavior over time. The albums cover Glacier Bay, Prince William Sound, the Coast Mountains, and St. Elias Mountains. Also included are Field's files generated from his ongoing work of creating more albums as well as his collection of copy negatives and prints of other scientists' photographs from Glacier Bay, arranged by inlet and station.

- b. *Slides, 1926-1987*** Slides, both lantern and 35 mm, made from selected images of Field's expeditions to Alaska.
- c. *Negatives, 1926-1987*** Photographic and glass plate negatives of Field's photographs taken during his expeditions to Alaska, the Canadian Rockies, and the Alps.
- d. *Films, 1925-1974*** Movie film reels shot during Field's expeditions to Alaska and the Canadian Rockies.. Also contains film pertaining to various AGS Projects such as Mint Julep, the Juneau Ice Field Research Project, and Antarctic Studies for the International Geophysical Year.

Series III Photo Lists, 1926-1988, 7 cu. ft.

This series contains photo lists which Field compiled for the purpose of future access to the photographs of his collection. There are three subseries:

- a. *Photo lists of W.O. Field, 1926-1988* This subseries consists of albums Field created which contain typed descriptions of his own photos, organized both by year and by glacier or region. It also includes Field's notes generated from his efforts in compiling and organizing comparative photo albums.
- b. *Aerial Photo lists, 1941-1957* Contains photo lists and some correspondence pertaining to aerial photographs taken in Alaska, Canada, and Chile.
- c. *Photo Lists of Others, 1931-1982* These are Field's files containing the photo lists he compiled of others who made glacier observations. For the most part, these are photographs he inventoried and described upon receiving them as a donation for the AGU/AGS or World Data Center Collection at the AGS.

Series IV Observations of Glacier Activity, 1925-1993, 13 cu. ft.

This series contains notes, correspondence, and reports which represent Field's synthesis and analysis of glacial data. The folders also contain maps, newsclippings, photographs, and other records Field collected pertaining to a specific region or glacier. There are three subseries:

- a. *Glacier Bay Observations, 1980-1993*
These materials represent the scope of Field's glacial monitoring of the Glacier Bay area. There are compilations of information which Field had housed in binders and organized by the particular inlet in Glacier Bay. Each binder contained a description of the nomenclature, location, and a history of observations of the glaciers within the inlet as well as a bibliography of pertinent publications, photographs, and maps. While most of the documents in the binders were created by Field, they appear to have been compiled by Dick Ragle in the 1980's. This subseries also contains Field's files representing his collaboration with the National Park Service and the Friends of Glacier Bay in the promotion of research in Glacier Bay including the administration of an ongoing glacier monitoring program.
- b. *Reports, 1925-83* This subseries consists of brief reports written by Field upon his return from each expedition. The reports generally include a description of the glacier's location, a history of surveys and observations of the glacier, as well as the recent glacier activity Field himself observed on his recent trip. The reports were stored by Field in three binders, one covering the years 1925-35, and the others, 1941-1964 and 1965-1983. They are typed and arranged in folders chronologically.
- c. *Glacier Working Files, 1926-1989* This subseries consists of notes, sketches, maps, reports, as well as correspondence Field retained for a glacier or glacial region. Many of the notes consist of compilations of survey data, calculations, and observations created in the process of assembling another document. The folders are arranged by region, reflecting Field's arrangement.

Series V Survey Station Locations and Histories, 1926-1976, 1 cu. ft.

The materials in this series pertain to the survey stations established during the glacial expeditions led by Field and others in Alaska and Canada. Included are descriptions of the location and establishment of the stations, lists organized by both year and glacier of when each station was occupied, as well as photographs of the stations themselves. Such information would be helpful to those attempting to reoccupy the stations or to help determine when a particular glacier was surveyed. The series covers the prominent glaciers of Glacier Bay, Prince William Sound, Chugach and Coast Mountains, while the photographs only refer to the stations in Glacier Bay.

Series VI Meteorological Data, 1880-1992, 3 cu. ft.

The materials in this series reflect Field's work in establishing a relationship between glacier behavior and climate change in Alaska and parts of Canada. They consist of compilations of temperature and precipitation figures for a given area and time period as well as data on the firn lines and ablation rates of glaciers. This series also includes Field's graphs and manuscripts which record the trends revealed by the data. There are two subseries:

- a. *General Meteorological and Glacier Data* A variety of tables, graphs, and figures compiling data on glacier and climate change in Alaska and Canada. Arranged by subject alphabetically.
- b. *Location Meteorological Data* Tables of temperature and precipitation figures for specific locations in Alaska over a given time. Arranged alphabetically by place name.

Series VII American Geographical Society Office Papers, 1931-1991, 32 cu. ft.

This series contains the files Field kept at his AGS office. The materials reflect the internal and external activities of the AGS as well as the programs, projects, and individuals with which Field was involved as director of the Department of Exploration and Field Research (DEFR). There are seven subseries:

- a. *AGS/DEFR General Office Files, 1938-1991* Contains publications regarding AGS lectures, exhibits, and annual dinners; AGS memoranda, minutes, annual reports, and financial reports; newsclippings pertaining to AGS; and correspondence, photographs, project proposals and contract reports generated from the activities of DEFR of which Field was head. While most of the materials are arranged chronologically, there is a portion, consisting of a subject file, which is arranged alphabetically.
- b. *Southwest Greenland Glaciology Project Files, "Project Mint Julep", 1951-1954* Contains conference minutes, maps, sketches, logbooks, correspondence, equipment inventories, budgets, invoices, reports, drafts, and personnel paperwork generated from Project Mint Julep. a study performed by the AGS under contract with the Arctic, Desert, Tropic Information Center of the Research Studies Institute Air University, U.S. Air Force. Field managed

these files as head of DEFR which administered the project. The folders are arranged according to Field's original order and categorization.

- c. *Juneau Ice Field Project Files, 1949-1981* The papers of the Juneau Ice Field Project, also administered by DEFR, include applications, correspondence, contracts, and vouchers of personnel; logbooks, photographs, progress reports containing the data collected in the field; correspondence with organizations providing logistical support as well as equipment lists and memos which reflect the operations of the project; and drafts, notes, reports, and articles communicating their findings. The bulk of the materials are arranged alphabetically by subject within each year, reflecting Field's original order.
- d. *Army Contracts, 1955-1973* These materials were generated out of the contracts AGS was awarded by the U.S. Army to compile a report on the Alpine glaciers of the Northern and Southern hemispheres. The papers include correspondence, notes, progress reports, drafts, conference agendas, and budget materials--all created in the preparation of the reports "Southern Hemisphere Glacier Atlas", "Compilation and Study of Ice Thicknesses in the Northern Hemisphere", and "Geographic Study of Mountain Glaciation in the Northern Hemisphere" as well as its revised edition "Mountain Glaciers of the Northern Hemisphere" a decade later. The folders are arranged alphabetically by subject within each contract.
- e. *International Geophysical Year Files, 1954-1963* These records represent both Field's and the American Geographical Society's involvement in the work of the IGY's Panel for Glaciology. The materials include research proposals, correspondence between Field and his colleagues, project outlines, progress and final reports, photographs and photo lists, and meeting minutes. Also included are records reflecting the planning and logistics of the projects such as equipment lists, itineraries, correspondence with businesses, memoranda to personnel, budgets, time sheets, and vouchers. Field's arrangement of the folders have been preserved with the first portion arranged chronologically, followed by subject files of Projects 4.2 and 4.11 arranged alphabetically.
- f. *Committee on Polar Research Files, 1957-1984* The Glaciology Panel of the National Academy of Science's Committee on Polar Research grew out of a desire to continue the activities of the IGY's Panel of Glaciology, developing long-range plans for research in polar regions. The materials include correspondence, notes, drafts of reports, final reports, proposals, conference minutes, resolutions, as well as correspondence, proposals, and reports generated from Field's work with UNESCO's International Hydrology Decade from 1965-1974. Arranged chronologically.
- g. *American Geophysical Union Committee on Glaciers, 1931-54* These records are created out of Field's work with the AGU, specifically, the Committee on Glaciers, Section of Hydrology which he chaired from 1948-1954. The bulk of the series is comprised of correspondence regarding annual and international IGU meetings, administrative matters of the committee and its subcommittees, and exchanges of glacier data between members. The subseries also includes memoranda and reports produced by the committee. While half of the subseries consists of an alphabetical

correspondence file, the other materials are arranged chronologically by type of document.

- h. *Committee on the Alaska Earthquake, Hydrology Panel, 1964-1973.*
Immediately after the Alaskan earthquake of 1964, the National Academy of Sciences formed a committee in order to ascertain the effects of the earthquake and to prepare a report of its findings. There were seven panels of specialty, each publishing a volume of studies pertaining to its particular field. The Panel of Hydrology, of which Field served as Co-Investigator, concerned itself with the effects of the earthquake on nearby glaciers and published its volume in 1968. This subseries contains minutes, correspondence, and newsclippings regarding the activities of the Panel as well as correspondence, drafts, and manuscripts pertaining to the final volume it published including Field's introductory statement, "Effects of Previous Earthquakes on Glaciers" and the paper he prepared with Tuthill and Clayton titled "Post-Earthquake Studies at Sherman and Sheridan Glaciers in Southcentral Alaska".
- i. *Other Professional Associations* Contains correspondence, by-laws, minutes, programs, and publications of other glaciological associations in which Field was active, including the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, Commission of Snow and Ice, the Glaciological Society, the Committee on International Programs in the Atmospheric Sciences and Hydrology for the National Academy of Sciences, as well as Field's own foundation, the Foundation for Snow and Ice Research.
- j. *Newsclippings* This subseries contains Field's subject file of the clippings he collected. The clippings are arranged alphabetically by subject with an additional subfile of clippings specific to the International Geophysical Year (IGY).

VIII. Correspondence, 1920-1991, 14 cu. ft.

This series contains Field's correspondence, reflecting both his professional and personal relationships. There are three subseries:

- a. *Individual correspondence* Letters written and received by Field from professional colleagues and personal friends. Arranged alphabetically by surname.
- b. *Institutional correspondence* Field's correspondence reflecting his collaboration with non-profit organizations as well as scientific and government institutions. Arranged alphabetically by the organization's name with several folders labelled by subject.
- c. *Recreational Clubs* Correspondence pertaining to Field's affiliations with mountaineering and travelling clubs. Contains mailings associated with membership as well as personal correspondence generating from his activities with the club.

IX. American Geophysical Union/American Geographical Society Collection, 1889-1987, 15 cu. ft.

This collection of glacier photos, maps, and documents, directed and funded by the American Geophysical Union Committee of Glaciers, was assembled in 1932 to serve the general interests of glaciologists throughout the country. In the 1940's, the collection moved to the American Geographical Society and became known as the AGU/AGS Collection. During the International Geophysical Year in 1957-58, the AGS was recognized for its burgeoning collection and named a World Data Center site for glaciology. The collection was transferred to the Project Office of Glaciology of the U.S. Geological Survey in Tacoma in 1970 and finally to the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research in Boulder, Colorado in 1976. This series is divided into two subseries: Field's files pertaining to the administration of the World Data Center collection and materials from the original AGU/AGS Collection which were deemed outside the scope of the World Data Center and therefore not transferred with the rest of the collection.

- a. *World Data Center Files, 1957-1987* Materials include correspondence, minutes, correspondence, budget materials, reports pertaining to the administration of the World Data Center collection. Arranged chronologically by subject.
- b. *AGS/AGU materials, 1889-1926* Contains photographs, negatives, correspondence, photo lists, periodicals, maps, newsclippings, and notebooks with diaries, sketches, and glacier data from a variety of glacier observers including Henry Fielding Reid, Lawrence Martin, Dora Keen Handy, Ralph S. Tarr, Grove K. Gilbert, Charles K. Wentworth, Louis L. Ray, Francoise E. Matthes, Henry G. Bryant, William S. Cooper, Kirk Stone, Walter Wood, Malcolm Greany, and Kenneth Loken. Most of the materials consist of photographs of Alaska which remained from the WDC move due to their non-glacier subject matter. Dating from 1890-1915, these photos depict native villages, totem poles; roadhouses; shots of cities, particularly in the Southeast; various transportation routes such as the Valdez Trail and the Copper River Railroad. Also of note are the photographs from the Harriman Expedition from G.K. Gilbert, the prints and negatives from Henry G. Bryant's 1891 expedition to Labrador, as well as copies of the International Boundary Commission photographs, taken during the establishment of the Alaska/Canada border in the 1890's and early 1900's. These materials were all donated to the AGU/AGS Collection.

Series X Publications, 1926-1991, 13 cu. ft.

This series contains reprints, notes, and drafts representing Field's contributions to glaciological literature as well as his collection of others' manuscripts. The series is divided into three subseries.

- a. *Reprints* Contains reprints of articles and reports Field wrote for scientific journals, conferences, projects, and books. Reprints are arranged chronologically.
- b. *Manuscripts* Contains original manuscripts and revised drafts of Field's

publications as well as those in which he collaborated with others. Also includes glacier data and correspondence pertaining to several of these publications. Arranged by publication chronologically.

- c. *Others' Manuscripts* Field's collection of theses, drafts, and manuscripts written by his colleagues as well his notes from others' manuscripts. Arranged chronologically.

Series XI Maps, 1909-1987, 62 cu. ft.

This series contains Field's collection of maps, both those he created as well as those used in his work at the AGS. Most of the maps reflect the activities and observations of Field and others before him, showing survey and photo stations and glacier terminus positions. These maps are especially useful for tracking glacier variations as many of them display a glacier terminus at different dates. There are three subseries:

- a. *Photo Album Maps* One of Field's projects entailed inserting maps into his photo albums. Field drew these maps to show the results of surveys he and others performed of glacier termini positions. These maps were intended to help future researchers interpret the photographs in the albums. The materials in this subseries consist of Field's notes during this project as well as a compilation of photocopies of the maps used which Field kept in a set of binders.
- b. *AGS Glacier Studies Maps* These maps were prepared by the AGS Cartography Department under the direction of Field in the 1960's. The maps indicate the locations of survey and photo stations as well as glacier termini variations. The folders are arranged alphabetically by glacier or region.
- c. *Original Maps and Sketches* This subseries contains Field's hand-drawn maps and sketches as well as maps which he has notated. The maps are arranged by region.

Series XII Biographical Papers, 1910-1993, 4 cu. ft.

This series contains records which document Field's activities outside his professional career of glacier monitoring. There are six subseries generated from from his family life, college, military service, and travels as well as awards and recognition given him throughout his life:

- a. *Harvard University, 1922-1927* Contains programs, notes, assignments, papers, correspondence, and financial documents from Field's years as a student at Harvard University.
- b. *U.S. Army, 1942-1946* Contains Field's notes, journals, photographs, military insignia, and recognition generated from his work as a filmmaker in Ohio, Alaska, Newfoundland, and India during World War II.

- c. *Travels, 1920-1988* Contains photographs, slides, notes, itineraries, journals, speeches, and correspondence which document Field's trips not specifically related to his glacier-monitoring expeditions. Also includes photographs and negatives not used in his glacier albums
- d. *Awards and Recognition, 1961-1983* Contains citations and plaques from the University of Alaska, the Explorers Club, the International Glaciological Society, and the Glacier Bay Symposium recognizing Field for his contributions to glaciology. Also includes a few of Field's acceptance speeches.
- e. *Field Collection* Field was very involved in the organization, preservation, and housing of his collection of glacier records. This subseries contains mounted photographs and watercolors from the walls of his office as well as correspondence pertaining to the destination and care of the materials and photographs in its move to University of Alaska.
- f. *Personal Papers, 1910-1993* Contains Field's postcard collection from his childhood as well as postcards he collected throughout life, a Christmas card album, as well as early family correspondence, blueprints, and photographs and watercolors purportedly hung on the walls of his office.

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Processing Description

The William O. Field Collection has had several processing periods. Starting in 1976, C. Suzanne Brown began to help Field organize and identify the materials at his house in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. When the collection was donated to the Alaska and Polar Regions Archives in 1993, inventorying began immediately. Processing continued for several years, involving frequent visits by Suzanne to identify, arrange, and describe the materials as well as manage the efforts of student workers in rehousing, numbering, and entering the information into a database. The processing was suspended for a few years and started anew for a time in 1999. In May 2004, processing was jumpstarted again with the emphasis on providing intellectual access to the materials. In January 2005, a finding aid was completed for the collection.

The materials which were given as a long-term loan from the World Data Center in Boulder, Colorado were separated out of the collection. Field's collection of reprints were also separated to the Keith B. Mather Library in the Geophysical Institute at University of Alaska Fairbanks. Other materials separated from the collection include: Field's postcards to the Curt Teich Postcard Archive, his materials pertaining to naval warships and aviation to the Nimitz Library at the U.S. Naval Academy, and his papers generated from his trips to the Caucasus and the USSR to the AGS Collection at the Golda Meir Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

**Related Collections
held by the Alaska and Polar Regions Department**

Archives and Manuscripts:

Alaska Aviation and Military Photographs, 1926-1964

Approximately 705 of the photographs were taken during the U. S. Navy Alaskan Aerial Survey, from 1926-1929. Images include ships and boats, airplanes, towns and villages, as well as many shots of landscape features including mountains, glaciers, islands, bays and inlets, and coastlines.

Alfred Hulse Brooks Papers, 1895-1923

Head of the USGS in Alaska; collection contains the original manuscript of his book Blazing Alaska's Trails, geological reports, miscellaneous

correspondence, photographs, and five scrapbooks with clippings about the political and geological controversies of the period.

Stephen Reid Capps, Jr. Papers, 1906-1980

Photographs, scrapbooks, and correspondence from his service with the USGS from 1910-1940.

Harriman Expedition Sketches, ca. 1900

The sketches were made from photographs taken on the Harriman Expedition and were used in the Harriman Expedition Report. The sketches include glaciers and geological formations.

Troy L. Pewe Papers, 1933-1961

Reports, bulletins, correspondence, and newsclippings from Pewe's time in the USGS and as a Professor of Geology for the University of Alaska.

Southeast Alaska Aerial Photographs, ca. 1970s (Geophysical Institute)

Consists of 29 aerial photographs of glaciers in southeastern Alaska, 4 aerial photographs of the Klawok region taken in 1970, and 2 unidentified aerial photographs. The aerial photographs of glaciers were made using the ERTS (Earth Resources Technology satellite). Using multi-spectral imagery, these photographs show silt and other deposits from glaciers flowing into the surrounding water.

Oral History:

Florence Weber, Alejandra Duk-Rodkin, and Rene Barendregt are interviewed by Dan O'Neill on June 23, 2001 in Fairbanks, Alaska [sound recording]

Florence Weber, Alejandra Duk-Rodkin, and Rene Barendregt talk about the geological history of the upper Yukon River area, extent of glaciation at various times, glaciers altering the courses of rivers, magnetic dating of rocks, and surface (?) mapping of geology in Alaska and Yukon Territory.

Related Collections held by other Institutions

American Geographical Society Collection. American Geographical Society Archives.

Glacier Photograph Collection. National Snow and Ice Data Center/World Data Center for Glaciology at Boulder (NSIDC/WDC).

William O. Field Fonds. Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies.

Manuscript Maps: William O Field Papers

MAPNBR	01676
TITLE	JOINT MAPS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND CANADA FROM CAPE MUZON TO MOUNT ST. ELIAS.
CREATOR	
CREATOR2	
PUB	
DATE	1951
PUBPL	OTTAWA
SCALE	1:250,000
SIZE	292 x 293 cm. on sheets 74 x 6
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Alaska, Southeast -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Boundaries -- Alaska -- Maps.
SUB1C	Boundaries -- Canada -- Maps.
NOTES	1 map on 13 sheets. Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights. Includes index map. "To accompany the commissioners' joint report dated November 16, 1951." "Contour interval 250 feet."

MAPNBR	01669
TITLE	ALASKA - CANADA BOUNDARY SURVEY : YAKUTAT BAY TO ALSEK RIVER.
CREATOR	Morse, Fremont
CREATOR2	
PUB	United States. Dept. of State
DATE	1906
PUBPL	WASHINTON, D.C.
SCALE	1:80,000
SIZE	98 x 209 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Yakutat (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	Alsek River -- Maps.
SUB1B	Boundaries -- Alaska -- Maps.
SUB1C	Boundaries -- Canada -- Maps.
NOTES	Relief shown by form lines and spot heights. Oriented with north to the upper right. Mounted on linen. Stamped in lower right corner: Photographed from original top sheet no 2846 in the Archives of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, surveyed in 1906, scale 1:80,000, Washington, D.C., Nov. 10, 1910.

MAPNBR	01670
TITLE	BAYS AND HARBORS IN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
DATE	1918
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	Scales differ
SIZE	39 x 21 cm. or smaller on heet
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Baranof Island (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	Lituya Bay (Alaska) -- Maps.
SUB1B	
SUB1C	
NOTES	4 maps on one sheet. Components: Port Conclusion, Baranof Island -- Redfish Bay, Baranof Island -- Lituya Bay Entrance -- Lituya Bay. Relief shown by hatchures and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Ancillary map: Index map. "C. & G.S. 8262."

MAPNBR	01671
TITLE	SOUTHEAST ALASKA, GLACIER BAY.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
CREATOR2	
PUB	
DATE	1916
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	1:60,000
SIZE	66 x 69 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Glacier Bay (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	Icy Strait (Alaska) -- Maps.
SUB1B	
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by form lines and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. "Surveys to 1907 and other sources." "U.S.C. & G.S. 8306"

MAPNBR	01672
TITLE	SOUTH COAST OF ALASKA, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	
DATE	1919
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D. C.
SCALE	1:200,000
SIZE	91 x 88 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. "Original surveys ... 1899 to 1917 with additions from other sources." "U.S.C. & G.S. 8550."

MAPNBR	01673
TITLE	ALASKA - SOUTH COAST, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, WESTERN PART.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
CREATOR2	
PUB	
DATE	1921
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	not given
SIZE	75 x 111 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by form lines and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. "Surveys 1905 to 1917 and other sources." "U.S.C. & G. S. 8517."

MAPNBR	01825
TITLE	GEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE MAP OF THE BONNIFIELD REGION, ALASKA.
CREATOR	Capps, Stephen R. (Stephen Reid), 1881-1949.
CREATOR2	Geological Survey (U.S.)
PUB	Geological Survey (U.S.)
DATE	1912
PUBPL	[WASHINGTON, D.C.]
SCALE	1:250,000
SIZE	35 x 78 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Nenana River Watershed (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	Delta River (Alaska) -- Maps.
SUB1B	Geology -- Alaska -- Nenana River Watershed -- Maps.
SUB1C	Geology -- Alaska -- Alaska Range -- Maps.
NOTES	Shows geological features from Tanana River east to Delta Dome and Donnelly Roadhouse, Alaska. Relief shown by contours, form lines and spot heights. Includes legend and geologic section. Bulletin 801, plate II.

MAPNBR	01826
TITLE	SITKA SOUND, ALASKA.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1917
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	1;80,000
SIZE	43 x 62 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Sitka Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Sitka Sound.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Published January 1905; reissued October 1917. Includes key, tides table and notes. No. 8240.

MAPNBR	01827
TITLE	SOUTHEAST ALASKA, GLACIER BAY.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1910
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	1;160,000
SIZE	66 x 69 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Glacier Bay (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Glacier Bay.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Polyconic projection. No. 8306.

MAPNBR	01828
TITLE	SOUTHEAST ALASKA, GLACIER BAY.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1910
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	1:160,000
SIZE	66 x 69 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Glacier Bay (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Glacier Bay.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Polyconic projection. No. 8306.

MAPNBR	01829
TITLE	ALASKA -- SOUTH COAST, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, PORT FIDALGO AND VALDEZ ARM.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1933
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	not given
SIZE	78 x 97 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Valdez (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Prince William Sound.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. No. 8519.

MAPNBR	01830
TITLE	ALASKA -- SOUTH COAST, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1935
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D.C.
SCALE	not given
SIZE	109 x 85 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Prince William Sound.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. No. 8551.

MAPNBR	01831
TITLE	ALASKA -- SOUTHEAST COAST, LITUYA BAY.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1929
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D. C.
SCALE	1:20,000
SIZE	61 x 84 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Lituya Bay (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Lituya Bay.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by hatchures, contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Inset: Lituya Bay entrance. No. 8505.

MAPNBR	01832
TITLE	ALASKA -- SOUTH COAST, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, WESTERN PART.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1921
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D. C.
SCALE	1:80,000
SIZE	75 x 111 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Prince William Sound -- Maps.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. No. 8517.

MAPNBR	01833
TITLE	ALASKA -- SOUTH COAST, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND, WESTERN PART.
CREATOR	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
CREATOR2	
PUB	U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
DATE	1930
PUBPL	WASHINGTON, D. C.
SCALE	[1:80,000]
SIZE	75 x 111 cm.
COL	FIELD
PLACE1	Prince William Sound (Alaska) -- Maps.
PLACE2	
SUB1B	Nautical charts -- Alaska -- Prince William Sound.
SUB1C	
NOTES	Relief shown by contours and spot heights; depths shown by soundings. Published January 1921; reissued November 1930. No. 8517.