

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Records of the Office of the Solicitor

RECORD GROUP 48

The Department of the Interior was created by an act of March 3, 1849. During more than 130 years of its existence some functions have been added and others removed so that its role has changed from that of general housekeeper for the federal government to that of custodian of the nation's natural resources. The Secretary of the Interior, as the head of an executive department,

reports directly to the President and is responsible for the direction and supervision of all activities of the department.

RECORDS DESCRIPTION

Dates: 1948-1982. Volume: 10 cu. ft.

These are records of the Alaska Field Office and consist of Directors' Correspondence Files, 1948-1951, alphabetically arranged by subject. There are field staff reports, copies of speeches, publicity materials, and other administrative files. The bulk of the material consists of Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA, Dec. 18, 1971) case files, which are made up of legal documents in the matter of eligibility of villages for benefits under ANCSA. Included are post hearing briefs, proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, other briefs and appeals, transcripts of hearings, affidavits, decisions, motions, and other documents. Land selection under ANCSA was often controversial and these files records the conflicting opinions of the Natives, the Federal government, and other parties. Other topics included are relations with other agencies such as the Arctic Health Institute and the Alaska Development Administration, fishing and fish traps, housing projects, harbors, ferries, the iron ore industry, stocking lakes with fish, synthetic fuels, and tourist facilities. There are 25 or more Native corporations referred to in the case files.

RELATED RECORDS: There are other ANCSA materials in RG-75

FINDING AIDS

Folder List