

YUKON ARCHIVES PHOTO CAPTION LIST

Caption information comes from Dick North who collected the photographs for the Yukon Historical and Museum Association 1992 Alaska Highway Family Album Project.

Information in square brackets [] provided by Archivist.

Further details about these photographs are available in the Yukon Archives Descriptive Database at www.yukonarchives.ca

PHO 180

YA#	Description:
92/35 #1	Blondie Keenan and Ned Stevens at Alaska Highway camp in the 1940s. [One man is in the back of a truck holding a sack. The other man is standing next to it. The licence plate on the truck reads] 451 Yukon TY 19[??] [Partially visible in the background are another truck and buildings.] - ca.
92/35 #2	The cooks line up at the Mile 710 mess hall on the Alaska Highway, circa 1943.
92/35 #3	Swift River camp circa 1945. L to R: Sid Stanlake, the Watson Lake postman, Len Thompson and Dave Bolger of the RCMP.
92/35 #4	The old Swift River bridge, 1945.
92/35 #5	The government nurse, Minnie Hackett, (right) at Lower Post in the early days of the Alaska Highway. Nurses still do make calls along the highway (1992).
92/35 #6	FWDs (four wheel drive) were workhorses during the building of the Alaska Highway. Orval Couch stands next to one of the many he kept running as one of the Alaska Highway project's chief mechanics.
92/35 #7	Five thousand men were once stationed at Swift River. Photo of U.S. Army men was taken in 1945.
92/35 #8	The first female crew at Swift River: Top: Betty Lucas holding Wally Venechuk; Middle L to R, Ida Thompson, Lorna Venechuk, and Toots Smoler; Bottom row L to R, Rose Lucas, Helen Couch, and Eva Epton.
92/35 #9	Homemade motorcycle proved to be efficient in toting around batteries for its maker, Orval Couch at Swift River in 1945.
92/35 #10	Obstacle course in the form of mud between living quarters up the street and the mess hall at Dawson Creek in 1942.
92/35 #11	The Dead Line - "Sick" vehicles stacked up waiting for repair by the mechanics at Dawson Creek in 1943-44.
92/35 #12	Flat tires. When a tire went limp on the road, its weight of 420 pounds meant it was left on the highway's shoulders until picked up by a hoist.
92/35 #13	Mud was a problem in Dawson Creek. The "gumbo" was a real nuisance as is shown here in 1943.

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92/35 #14	Numbers on these trucks helped identify the contractor they were with. This was taken at 2:30 a.m. in Dawson Creek, 1943.
92/35 #15	GM truck coded for ease of identification.
92/35 #16	Flood dumped rocks onto the Alaska Highway near Mile 716. Orval Couch on the Cat.
92/35 #17	Work horses on the Alaska Highway in 1944. At left a D-4 and, right, a D-8 at Mile 710.
92/35 #18	Orval Couch's travelling machine shop. Taken somewhere along the Alaska Highway in the 1940s.
92/35 #19	Tent camp takes to the trail on skids. Alaska Highway, 1942.
92/35 #20	Flash flood strands a highway crew in 1943 between Summit and Muncho Lake.
92/35 #21	Snow-Go takes a rest along the Alaska Highway, circa 1944.
92/35 #22	Barge loaded with equipment gets pushed across the Peace River, circa 1942-43.
92/35 #23	Piling bridge across the bay at Teslin in 1944. [View from shore. A boy is standing next to an upturned canoe in the foreground.] - 1944.
92/35 #24	Building the Peace River bridge.
92/35 #25	Mile Zero - Dawson Creek, B.C. in 1942.
92/35 #26	Longer than a football field. Repair shops at Dawson Creek in 1943. This garage was 367 feet in length.
92/35 #27	The water man at Dawson Creek in 1942.
92/35 #28	The Peace River suspension bridge as it nears completion in 1943.
92/35 #29	Load being pushed across the Peace River in 1943.
92/35 #30	The old and the new. Workers pause to watch a pack train as it makes its way along cleared sections of the Alaska Highway. Photo was purchased by Orval Couch.

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92/35 #31	First school at Swift River. Matthew Thom at extreme left, and Marlene Stady at right in the 1940s. [Children playing with two dogs. One boy on porch of school. Sign over door reads] Swift River School Established Sept. 194[?] - 194-.
92/35 #32	Problem: It took 2 1/2 shifts to take the engine out of the front of FWDs such as this. Chief mechanic Orval Couch reduced take out time to 45 minutes by removing the engine through the left seat. Taken at Dawson Creek in 1942.