

## JOHN S. HOLM / Key Words

Roseau, Minnesota  
 LaSierra College, California  
 Pepperdine University, California

Miriam Dickey, Cap Lathrop's secretary  
 Dr. George Gasser, University of Alaska agriculture professor  
 Driving the Alaska Highway, summer 1946  
 Lacey Street Hotel (southwest corner Third and Lacey)  
 Ed and Dot Hudson  
 Dr. Charles Bunnell, University of Alaska president

## Homesteading:

Lynn Funk, homesteader  
 Homesteading requirements  
 Raspberry crop  
 Emil Vilak, homesteader (Steese and Chena)  
 Extreme (record continuous) cold, winter 1946-47  
 Al Bramstead, KFOR announcer  
 Pan American flights canceled during cold; no mail  
 Dr. R.G. Fitz, Nazarene Church minister, China missionary  
 Fire dangers  
 Carbon monoxide dangers  
 Holm homestead: 3.2 Mile Steele Creek Road  
 Rudy Hill, builder of the Polaris building  
 Harry (Panek) (Pannick), Eskimo family  
 Joe Kruger, homesteader  
 Kellitat?????  
 Henry and Tilly Brockman, homesteaders, chicken ranch  
 Hernings  
 Old Chena Hot Springs Trail, parallel on north side  
 of Chena River, used as winter trail  
 Eldridge Bennett (oldtimer), cabin still exists, north of  
 (Steese Volunteer) fire station, near Steele Creek and  
 Bennett roads intersection  
 Gilmore Trail, trail to (flooded) gold mine  
 Japanese family, abandoned home and property after Pearl  
 Harbor attack and left area  
 Medical crises: multiple bee stings, stitching head wound  
 Electricity: Rural Electrification Administration (?)  
 Ray Alger, homesteader  
 Holm house fire, rebuilding  
 Ed Davis, homesteader  
 Military antiaircraft sites: one 20-acre site south of  
 Holm property  
 Les Loud, homesteader  
 Meat cache, Holm property, 5-by-5 building  
 (Incident, drunk soldier with frozen feet, attempted to cross  
 overflowing Columbia Creek; Holm started his car with  
 a blowtorch, drove soldier to the military site)  
 Military installs emergency phone line to Holm homestead;  
 first civilian telephone in homestead area

Raspberries: pick-your-own crop  
Lindy's Grocery Store  
Raspberry varieties  
Vegetables, sold door-to-door  
Growing trees and shrubs, including ornamental, beginning  
in 1949 as experiments  
Root cellar  
Gareth Root, musher  
Bobby Mitchell, Ghemm Corporation  
Holm: one year had 450 vegetable varieties  
University of Alaska agriculture experimental stations  
Ted Knapp, Portland, Oregon, supplier  
First transplanting machine in Alaska  
Largest private vegetable storage facility in Alaska, built  
by Holm  
Henry Gettinger, homesteader and farmer  
Ray Gross, grocery store owner (Northward Building)  
Ed Russing, bakery owner and bank vice president  
(Gross and Russing bought Holm homestead; later selling  
to Henry Gettinger)  
Vegetable sales to Ladd Field  
Hiring military personnel to harvest crops  
Vegetable storage in late 1940s, early 1950s  
Northern Commercial Company: garden store featuring Holm's  
trees and shrubs (located in NC parking lot near  
present-day Key Bank building)  
Holm opens Northern Light Nursery, 1960, on College Road  
Experimentations in tomato varieties  
John Wallace Beane Lodge Experiment Station, Canada  
Sub-Arctic-25 variety  
Denali Seed Company, Anchorage (bought rights)  
Siberian variety tomatoes  
Holm tomato varieties: Polar Baby, Polar Gem, Polar Beauty,  
Alpha, Beta, Denali  
Variety in process: Polar Star  
Plant Materials Center, Palmer  
Charlie Creamer, Creamer's Dairy property  
Joy Elementary School property  
Holm opens first private nursery in Alaska, introducing  
a number of plant varieties new to this area  
Chokecherry trees (European birdcherry): some 600 trees  
sold to University of Alaska in mid-1950s  
Bill Stroeker, First National Bank president (his father  
had spurred planting of birch trees). Stroeker promotes  
bank giveaway of 500 chokecherry trees raised by Holm.  
(Demand so strong that some people saw the line and  
feared a run on the bank)  
Kiwanis Club planted Fairbanks chokecherry trees in  
Mo-I-Rana, Norway, in an exchange of trees by Sister  
Cities  
Northern Lights Farm and Nursery, renamed Northern Lights  
Nursery, renamed Northern Lights Garden Center

Conflict over Northern Lights name with Wasilla operator

University of Alaska carpenter's helper job

Arctic Contractors

Ladd Field carpenter's job, 1947

Civilian workers: barracks, commissary privileges, APO  
mailing privileges

Easter Sunday, 1948, blizzard

Planes damaged at Weeks Field

Holm's homestead snowed in for 21 days

Ladd Field underground utilidor

Alaska Road Commission, Superintendent Frank Nash

Snow plowing

Ladd Field carpentry work (building crates, coffins)

Ladd Field Commissary fire (1951?), salvaging canned goods

Spring breakup, 1948, flooding: entrepreneur offered boat  
rides from Graehl to downtown Fairbanks

South Fairbanks flooded

Bob Hoops, service station

River crossings

Old Cushman Street bridge: six-inch divider, narrow lanes

Description of stalemate between Joe Vogler and a bus driver  
employed by Paul Greimann: each refused to back off the  
bridge

Winter sledding parties; social life

John and Edith Holm: met at college; participated in  
traveling choral group. Courtship and marriage.

Alaska State Legislature

Holm is candidate for House of Representatives, 1962  
Campaigning and election

Democratic sweep in 1964 (Barry Goldwater, Republican  
presidential candidate)

Holm re-elected in 1966

Edith Holm, active in Republican Party; served as national  
committeewoman 14 years, including four years as  
vice chairman

Alaska state budget

Governor William Egan

Divided House of Representatives: 20 Republicans,  
20 Democrats

Mandatory Borough Act: public opposition to organizing  
boroughs; constitutional mandate; unorganized boroughs

Rep. Edgar Baggen, Fairbanks (dentist)

Fairbanks North Star Borough, creation as second-class  
borough

Prudhoe Bay, oil discovery

U.S. Census, 1960 (Holm was head of census in Alaska)

Sen. Clem Tillion

Alaska Permanent Fund, beginnings  
Longevity bonus, senior citizens  
Pesticide Control Act (Holm, sponsor)  
Creamer's Field, purchase by state for Alaska Department  
of Fish and Game preserve; bills sponsored by Holm in  
the House and Sen. John Butrovich, Fairbanks, in  
the Senate  
Political coalitions in legislature: Interior and Southeast  
battling Anchorage interests  
Interior legislators: Paul Haggland, William Waugaman, Maury  
Smith, James Binkley, Terry Miller  
Interior delegation meetings  
Ed Orbeck, business agent  
Ed McComb, Chicken, Alaska  
Ada Wien, Republican legislator  
Governor Walter Hickel  
Dixie Hall, legislator  
C.W. "Bill" Snedden, publisher Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Tom Downs, Northern Commercial Company manager  
Constituent contact, public opinions

Traveling abroad

(John and Edith Holm have visited 106 countries)

Alaska image abroad (misconceptions continue)

Alaska lynx

Alaska Linck

(Anecdote about the time Edith Holm shot a lynx on  
homestead property; rumor circulated she had shot  
Alaska Linck, well-known local resident)