

## Romaine Hardcastle Photo Collection and Donor Honored at Reception

On a stormy night in November 2005, most in Sitka stayed indoors sheltered from the blustery weather. Some two dozen determined Sitkans braved the conditions, then settled cozily in the Totem Park quarters to enjoy a glimpse of life in our town over a half century ago. The occasion was a reception to honor Romaine Hardcastle and her donation of a large collection of historic local photos to the Kettleson Memorial Library. The event was hosted by Sitka National Historic Park, Southeast Alaska Indian Cultural Center, Sitka Historical Society (Isabel Miller Museum), and Sitka Tribe of Alaska.



Above: Donor Romaine Hardcastles enjoys a reception in her honor following the evening's program.

The evening's program included a presentation by master storyteller Bob Sam, reminiscences by the guest of honor, and statements by the superintendent of the National Historic Park and Sitka Tribe of Alaska representatives. All were treated to a display of select framed photos from the collection, and the evening was capped with a reception of contemporary local fare.

Thanks to the Tribe's 2004 IMLS grant, we now may share this fine collection more easily, and have the beginnings of an online collection that can be enjoyed by the entire internet world.

Right: Tribal citizen Nels Lawson examines photo with Roby Littlefield before reception.



Romaine Hardcastle visits with park superintendent Greg Dudgeon.