

## Cybertour Manager: file 8678

### Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (1909) -- A Cybertour of Selected Buildings

Essay Meta Data Images Frames

Frame #1



#### **Alaska Building**

**Architect: Howard Galloway**

**Funded By: United States government**

**On Site Now: area north of Cunningham Hall and Johnson Annex**

The Alaska Building was a commanding structure that covered 36,000 square feet of land. This was the Northern Empire's first building in any exposition. Its exhibits showcased the tremendous the territory had to offer, not the least of which was gold. One of the more eye-catching displays featured more than \$1 million in gold nuggets, dust, and ingots inside a heavily fortified case. At the end of each day, the entire cage was lowered through the floor to an underground vault accessible only by tunnel. Much of Alaska's wildlife was on display, either taxidermized or in the form of fur pelts. Hungry visitors enjoyed the fish-canning exhibit, where a free dainty lunch was handed out, made from a different salmon recipe every day. Other exhibits included information about the territory's timber, whaling, mining, and burgeoning petroleum industries. Steamship and railroad companies were well-represented, and many of these organizations urged people to travel north, perhaps to buy land or set up a business. Another exhibit highlight was a large collection of artwork, most notably by native women. The Alaska Building was demolished after the fair.

Frame #2



#### **United States Government Building**

**Architect: Howard & Galloway, Supervising Architects/  
John Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect of the Treasury**

**Funded By: United States government**

**On Site Now: Central Plaza (Red Square)**

The enormous Government Building was the crowning building at the A-Y-P, a font of knowledge, wisdom, and patriotism whose presence gave the fair substantial balast. The Departments of State, Treasury, War, Justice, Post Office, Navy, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce and Labor all had display space in the Government Building, as did the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum. A mint struck commemorative medals, which were then sold by private concessionaires. A guard force protected the exhibits around the clock, at night carrying side arms. The building was open from 9 to 5:30 Monday through Saturday and closed on Sunday. A fisheries exhibit occupied a separate building that was linked to the main Government Building by an enclosed passage. Among the hundreds of thousands of items displayed in the Government Building were a

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