

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

**Guide to Collection**

**Pate, James Andrew, 1866-1934 (Family)**

**Papers of James Andrew ("Andy") Pate  
while working in Northern Alaska as a riverboat captain and mail carrier, 1898-1906  
And family related material]**

**MS 4-29-1**

1 box  
0.2 linear ft.

**INTRODUCTION:**

Captain James Andrew Pate was born in Jamestown, Arkansas in 1866 and died at Pine Bluff in 1934. He began working on the river in 1892 receiving a masters license in 1898, the year he headed to Alaska. There he served as a first class pilot on the Fish River to Canyon, the Niukluk River from its mouth to Council, Alaska; also he worked in the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean during six winters and nine summers in Alaska. During his last four winters in Alaska, Capt. Pate carried mail by dog-sled from Golovin Bay to Council City (60 miles). Vessels piloted by Capt. Pate were the steamers FORTUNE HUNTERS, ARCTIC BIRD and he bought, the DUSTY DIAMOND.

Most of Capt. Pate's business and Alaska material were lost in a fire. His daughter, Jimmie Jean Bowman of Shreveport, La., gathered together family material on Capt. Pate's life and provided photocopies for the library in 1986. The file also includes several publications with articles on Capt. Pate in Alaska and photos of Capt. Pate and his wife

## INVENTORY

- Folder 1. Family genealogy charts and biographical data. 5 items  
Includes letter from Jimmie Jean Pate Bowman; marriage license of J.W. Pate and Jim Mc Culloh dated July 16, 1907; A GREENBRIER MOTHER-Jim Irene Mc Culloh Pate 11 Feb. 1885-10 Mar. 1976 written by Jimmie Jean Pate Bowman.
- Folder 2. Alaska related letters, clippings, publications and documents, 1898-1985.
- 1 Letter from J.A. Pate, Chicago dated April 20, 1898 to his son (J.A. Pate will be pilot on steamer FORTUNE HUNTER built in Chicago to be shipped to St. Michael. He has a contract with Klondike Promotion Company, states pay to be received.
  - 2 Letter from C.W. Garfield, Deputy Collector, Nome dated July 4, 1904 to Capt. Pate, Chinik. (Requests information on steamers using unlicensed men)
  - 3-6 Articles on J.A. Pate's experiences in Alaska from Arkansas newspapers; obituary.
  - 7 Copy of Stock certificate for 180 shares in the Consolidated Alaskan Company dated Jan. 3, 1903.
  - 8 U.S. Steamboat Inspection service License to Master of Steam Vessels certifying James A. Pate dated Oct. 18, 1929.
- Folder 2 (cont.)
- 9 References to Capt. J.A. Pate and steamer DUSTY DIAMOND used (at Golovin Bay.
  - 10 "Captain Andy Pate and his Alaskan Adventure, by Wilson Powell". In THE INDEPENDENCE COUNTY CHRONICLE, V. XI, no. 2, Jan. 1970, p. 2-13.
  - 11 "The Life and Adventures of Andy Pate," by Helen Lindley". In THE IZARD COUNTY HISTORIAN, V.16 no. 3, July 1985, p.3-14.
- Folder 3. Letters from Capt. Pate to his wife from Memphis, March 4, 1929; Clarendon, Ark., Oct. 28, 1933.
- Folder 4. Photographs
- 1 Portrait of James Andrew Pate (as a young man).
  - 2 Portrait of Jim Irene Mc Culloh Pate.
  - 3 Dogsled team at Council, Alaska 1904 with H.S. Chester at rear of sled and Capt. Pate at side.
- Folder 5. Newspaper and miscellaneous material about J.A. Pate and family including Mrs. Pate, their daughter and three sons.