

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Kashevaroff, A. P. (Andrew P.), 1863-1940

Andrew P. Kashevaroff Papers, ca. 1901-1935

MS 149

12 folders
0.2 linear ft.

Processed By: Gladi Kulp,
February 2000
Revised: August 2001

ACQUISITION: The papers were collocated from the manuscript collection, vertical file, and clip file. Provenance is unknown but it is assumed that Kashevaroff's papers were filed during his days as curator and librarian of the Alaska Territorial Library and Museum. Folder 11, Acc. # 2001-46 was added July 2001, purchased from Natasha Calvin, granddaughter of Father Kashevaroff.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be discussed with the Librarian. Photocopying does not constitute permission to publish.

PROCESSING: The papers are arranged according to format, correspondent, or subject. Original file order, before collocation, has been maintained. Folder 11 (Oversize) was added when accessioned in July 2001.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Andrew P. Kashevaroff was born in Kodiak, September 19, 1863. He was educated in the Russian and American schools of San Francisco. By the age of 18, he had mastered the organ, violin, and piano. After attending the Russian Orthodox seminary in San Francisco he was sent to assist the priests of the Greek-Russian church in Sitka, then the capital of the territory. He married Martha Bolshenin in 1883; they had one son and 5 daughters. Later he became librarian and curator of the Alaska Territorial Library and Museum. Father Kashevaroff wrote articles in newspapers and journals on history and ethnology, mostly pertaining to Alaska. He died in 1940.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The Kashevaroff papers contain a diary kept for 3 months in 1923 during a lecture tour in Alaska, correspondence with Professor E.O. Essig (Berkeley), Peter Kostrometinoff, and Archie Shiels. His writings include various Alaska subjects, e.g., biography of Archimandrite Joasaph, a history of the Russian American Fur Company activities, and a version of the Tlingit war from manuscripts and personal contact with Indian elders. Most of the writings are typewritten as is the correspondence. A watercolor by Xenia Kashevaroff, his daughter (married to composer John Cage), is included with the Fort Ross materials. Many of the items are undated but were probably written between 1923 and 1935. Certificates relating to Kashevaroff were added in 2001 as Folder 11.

INVENTORY

- Folder 1** Diary, Jan. 30 – March 3, 1923, lecture tour in Alaska
- Folder 2** Letter from Petr. J. Kostrometinoff, Seattle 1927, regarding the transfer of Alaska after the purchase from Russia. Also includes census information concerning the Kostrometinoff family.
- Folder 3** Correspondence with Archie Shiels regarding Zagoskin and treatment of the Aleuts by the Spanish at Fort Ross, CA, 1934-35.
- Folder 4** Correspondence with E.O. Essig, Professor of Entomology, Berkeley, CA, 1927-29, 1933, concerning beekeeping in Alaska, history of Fort Ross, CA, and other Russian settlements.

Writings: Description of writings are taken from the original card catalog, probably prepared when Father Kashevaroff was curator/librarian. Original cards housed in Master File.

- Folder 5** Biography of Archimandrite Joasaph, original and rewrite; information on Madame Shelikov, and making bells in Sitka; 8 leaves, typewritten.
- Folder 6** History of the Russian American Fur Company activities at the time of the transfer of the territory to the U.S.; 6 typed pages prepared by Father Kashevaroff in the capacity of historian for the Pioneer Igloo No. 6.
- Folder 7** The First Alaska Day, October 18, 1867; 14 leaves, typewritten.
- Folder 8** Juneau; 6 leaves.
- Folder 9** Tlingit war lasting about 95 years. Correct version gathered by Rev. A.P. Kashevaroff from manuscripts and personal contact with old Indians [n.d.]; 14 leaves, typewritten. Folder contains original documents and copies of manuscripts from which information was gathered. Original acceptance of peace treaty by Sitkans with X signatures, and copy of Peace Treaty, Wrangell and Sitka natives.
- Folder 10** History of the Russian Church in south east Alaska; 5 pages, typed, Juneau, Alaska.

Certificates: Purchased in 2001 from Natasha Calvin (Acc. # 2001-46). Documents are in Russian and were described in English by Sergei Kan.

Folder 11 (Located in MS Oversize) also contains digitized versions of certificates #1-3.

- Item 1: October 22, 1901: standard award or certificate of appreciation (Russian gramota) issued by Bishop Tikhon of Alaska and North America to "the teacher of the Sitka school, Andrei Petrovich Kashevarov for his efforts to organize a church celebration in Sitka on September 24, 1901." (This could have been St. Michael's Day according to the old calendar or some parish-school related celebration, or a visit by the bishop).
- Item 2: February 6, 1908: gramota issued by the Alaska bishop Innokentii (Innocent) to "a member of the Sitka St. Nicholas Brotherhood, Marfa Trifil'evna Kashevarov, for her zealous efforts on behalf (or for the benefit of) the Orthodox Church in North America." The St. Nicholas Brotherhood in Sitka was the one that the Russian/Creole people belonged to and Marfa Kashevarov is, obviously, AK's wife.
- Item 3: Document is difficult to decipher, since it is written in Church Slavonic. It does, however, mention Bishop Innokentii, which would place the document into the 1904-19 time period and hieromonk Antonii of Sitka

(roughly the same period). It also mentions Andrew Kashevarov. This document is probably an official document of his ordination as a priest which took place in 1904.

Item 4: Alaska Yukon Pacific diploma of appreciation to Andrei Kashevarov for his work on a major display at the fair, 1909, Seattle.

Folder 12 Photocopies of correspondence from Father Kashevaroff to:
Mary - 5 letters dated April 12, 1934 to April 27, 1938
Jack - 1 letter dated March 16, 1937
Justice - 2 letters dated Feb. 29, 1936 and Feb. 8, 1937
John W. Frame - 1 letter dated July 8, 1920