

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Allman, Jack, d. 1953

Jack Allman Papers, 1935-1959

MS 220

9 boxes, 4.5 linear ft.
1 album

Processed By: James Simard, Nov. 2006

ACQUISITION: This collection is a gift of Renee Guerin. Acc. # 2006-050.

ACCESS: The collection is available for viewing, however; the photographs may not be photocopied.

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 collection was divided into four series: Jack Allman's research files; Manuscripts of Jack Allman's fiction; Published editions of the short stories; and a family photograph album.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Leland Stanford Allman
1892 - 1953

The Almighty Printer Above wrote "30" to Jack Allman's life book July 10, 1953 after a long valiant fight against cancer. His career closed as he had lived, consideration for mankind, cheering with his famous wit and humor, practicing the beautiful philosophy that made his life so worthwhile...the Golden Rule.

At seven Jack Allman's adventure started in Alaska and he grew up with the Territory, mined, mused, freighted, and prospected. Before twenty he took out \$78,000. World War I and France two weeks after enlisting; Armistice; working in movies; Paris as foreign correspondent; New York and writing hundreds of Alaskan adventure stories along with stage, screen, radio and editorial work. Back to Alaska; starting Matanuska paper; Kodiak, Fairbanks, Excursion Inlet and Juneau.

Professionally Jack Allman wrote his dog stories under the name of "John Stanford", while his snow-ice adventure yarns were under his regular signature. Many times two of Allman's stories would appear in one copy of Blue Book, Argosy, or Boy's Life using these two names.

[Biographical note excerpted from *Christmas Extra*, Memorial Edition, Dec. 25, 1953.]

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The Jack Allman Papers are primarily materials relating to the life and writing career of Jack Allman. The collection includes manuscript copies of Allman's short stories and novels, and editions of popular magazines containing published versions of Allman's stories. Some of the story files include correspondence with publishers.

Jack Allman's research files, contained in the collection, include photographs and primary documents relating to the life and career of James Wickersham. The collection contains first editions of Matanuska Valley Pioneer, Aug. 22, 1935, published by Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation and edited by Jack Allman, and of the Fairbanks News Miner published by James Wickersham in May of 1903.

The Jack Allman Papers includes a family photograph album containing images of Ruth Allman and Barbara Allman Watson.

RELATED MATERIALS

An index of Jack Allman's fiction, including publishers, magazine titles and dates is included in The Wickersham State Historic Site Collection, MS 107 Box 59 Folder 14.

SUBJECTS

Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Alaskan Fiction
Allman, Jack, 1892-1953
Wickersham, James
Watson, Barbara Allman
Allman, Ruth

INVENTORY

Box 1: Jack Allman's research files

Folder 1

Matanuska Valley Pioneer & Fairbanks News Miner
Matanuska Valley Pioneer, August 22, 1935 [photocopy and original]
The Fairbanks Miner, May 1903
Matanuska valley Map
Jack Allman military discharge papers, age correction papers
Matanuska Valley Pioneer, March 19, 1936 [photocopy]

Folder 2

High School Whims, Seattle, Wash., December 1895 [probably belonged to Darrell Wickersham]
Article – Rare Beauty of Baleen
cartoon article – Men of the High North-and Women Too [regarding sourdough reunion]
Typed selections from James Wickersham's diaries
James Wickersham's reasons for making a law that states Stealing of a Dog is Larceny Under Common Law and Statutes of Alaska. Includes poem The Malemute by Pat O'Cotter
James Wickersham's father's and grandfather's original land grants at Vandalia, Illinois.
Menu – Alaska Railroad Bill conference, 1913
Poem – The Squaw Dance at Paddy McCosh's Skandoo's (shaman) talisman history.
Typed article – The Will of Peter the Great
Letter from P.T. Rowe
Speech given by Judge Wickersham – introduction of 1st statehood bill.
James Wickersham – one page biography.

Folder 3: Wickersham House

Miscellaneous correspondence, articles and photographs regarding James Wickersham & Wickersham House in Fairbanks

Folder 4: James Wickersham

- Folder 4-1 Original photograph of the Committee of Fifteen – Having charge of the Anti-Chinese Agitation in Tacoma, Washington Territory, [1885 – on reverse of picture is a drawing of a steamship thought to be done by Howard Wickersham – son of James, before he died 1/1/1902.]
- Newspaper clipping – Wickersham Day Established To Honor Pioneer Delegate
- Newspaper clipping – Living History – describes James Wickersham’s last two elections.
- Extract from John Montgomery’s agreement – Nisqually, 10/10/1852
- Photographs –Tlingit woman making bowls, picture of Abraham Lincoln and W.H. Seward totems
- Photographs and clipping of Yukon river steam boats burned.
- The Wickersham Reunion, 1920
- Excerpts from James Wickersham’s diaries
- Invitation to Sourdough reunion and short stories sent to reunion by James Wickersham, 1938
- History of Education in Alaska
- Letter to James Wickersham regarding M.J. Sjoblom (Teddy Bloom) and Wickersham’s reply
- Mountains named to honor Alaska Leaders, 1960 – photo on back.
- Alaska’s first printing press – correspondence.
- Legal documents regarding James Wickersham’s Fairbanks mining claims
Newspaper articles regarding Wickersham house.
- How Fairbanks got its name by James Wickersham – history of Fairbanks
- A Dick Willoughby Story by C.T. Ashby
- Photographs of James Wickersham, Eagle, Alaska and his office.
- Newspaper article – Lived On \$5 A Month – story of James Wickersham
- Photograph of James Wickersham on Ed Orr’s stage, and stage ticket

Fraternal Order of Eagles notice of Arrears.

Photo of Mt. McKinley

Miscellaneous photographs of House of Wickersham and family and friends

Old photo of Skagway

Story about James Wickersham by Mrs. Lockie McKinnon.

Official Ballot Republican Party, 1918

Photocopies of photograph of Richard Harris

James Wickersham's commission as judge, 1905

James Wickersham's Sons of the American Revolution membership cards

Transfer of land from Barnette for Fairbanks court house, 1904

Letters to James Wickersham from Jujiero Wada, Jap.

Letter to James Wickersham from Felix Pedro, 1903

- Folder 4-15 James Wickersham's notes taken when talking to the Taku Chief Aanalahaash, regarding Shu-Thluh-ka and the Tlingit Swan Hat, 1907.
James Wickersham's notes regarding Tlingit translations, and blanket dies [dyes?], 1907.
Photographs- Tlingit woman weaving blanket, tattoo on the arm of Mrs. Peter Newman.

Photograph of blanket hanging on wall and native baskets

Photograph of Frank Cleary talking with Indian chief on Tanana river, also a short biography of Frank Cleary.

Folder 5: Correspondence

Photograph of Chief Kowee and correspondence regarding Pilz by James Wickersham

Miscellaneous correspondence to and from James Wickersham

The Flag of the United States by James Wickersham, 1935 – sentiments and personal experiences regarding the flag of the United States.

Minutes of Miner's meeting held on Pedro Creek, Sept. 10, 1902

Photograph and biography of Louis P. Shackelford by his daughter.

Folder with miscellaneous correspondence between James Wickersham and

Willoughby (Frances) Barrett, article with story of her life growing up in Alaska.

Letters to and from C. L. Andrews, Dr. Charles Bunnell.

James Wickersham obituary, Jack Allman obituary, Grace Vrooman genealogy.
Extracts of Treadwell History.

Folder 6

The Esquimaux Alaska's first newspaper, and photocopies, and a brief history of it, 1866.

Folder 7

Photograph of Mt. McKinley
Newspaper article about Mt. McKinley climbers, 1963
Newspaper article Alaska's Fantastic Linguist – about Richard Henry Geoghegan
Miscellaneous correspondence with Grace Wickersham
Map of Tacoma cemetery showing location of Wickersham plots
Letter telling James Wickersham he has been elected as part of the Camp of Interlocked Moose Horns, August 1, 1909 Kenai, Alaska
Correspondence with Tanana Valley Mission to James Wickersham – describes conditions, 1915
Story of Thomas Lloyd – regarding climbing Mt. McKinley, 1908
Photograph – Cache. Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska - Loman Bros. Nome '86 [1886]
Articles regarding raising of new totem pole (Abraham Lincoln) in Ketchikan.
Newspaper article about Ruth Allman, 1978
Juneau area post cards
Photocopy of James Wickersham's Alaska's First Statehood Bill, 1916

Folder 8

Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, photographs, stories and correspondence regarding James Wickersham. Some Allman legal papers.

Box 2-3: Manuscript collection: Short fiction of Jack Allman; a novel length work intended for serial publication, titled Sourdough Justice or Gangdom Goes North. Manuscript copies of short stories by Jack Allman.

Box 4-5: Published editions of popular magazines, featuring the short fiction of Jack Allman. Magazines include Argosy Weekly, The Popular Magazine, Top-notch, Western Trails, Detective Fiction Weekly, Boy's Life, the National Police Gazette.

Jack Allman's fiction (published and unpublished) includes these titles:

A free translation
A matter of showing it
Alaska's Helen Keller

All God's creatures
Arctic justice
Ask the stars
Big baby
Big Bertha
Black gold
Blood donors aka Blood money
Blue for boys
Boomrang
Bum
Camouflage
CAN/do
Chumps
Deader'n a doornail
Death dog
Desert death
Dog eat dog
Facing the white death
Fan mail (published as "Love is in the air")
Fishermen go to town
Frauds of a feather
Glory glovers
Greater love
Hard Shell
Hardluck Johnnie's Christmas seals
Horace proves a point
Jig-saw joker
King Jasper the first
Klondyke (rewritten "More than a friend")
Klondyke [Mute justice]
Mrs. Packard's stepson (a tragedy)
Mud and men
Mute evidence
One white chip
Polar prison
Prisoner of the polar pack
Queen
Rusty
Secret of the pack
Sole Survivor
Suggested story for Kate Smith by Norman H. White and Jack Allman
The "Clumb Some"
The "Double Eagle" sweepstakes
The chicken hearted fool
The chickenhearted fool
The Christmas spirit by the Bard of the Kuskokwim ... E. Edward Kone

The cobbler's warrant
The diamond horseshoe
The flying canoe
The flying canoe (Alaska's flying canoe)
The golden burden
The grubstake
The motive
Trouble maker

Box 6: Manuscript and published copies of short stories by Jack Allman.

Box 7: Jack Allman's research files. Correspondence.

Box 8:

Silversides. Promotional materials relating to Jack Allman's fishing lure, "Silversides".
Sourdough. Promotional materials and news items about Ruth Allman's sourdough cookbook.
Alaska Songs.
Ruth Allman, notes and correspondence.
Collected publications.

Box 9: Photograph Album.

Photographs of Barbara Allman Watson and other family members. Scenics, images of Herbert Hoover, Warren G. Harding.