

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Enckell, Maria

Maria Jarlsdotter Enckell Papers

MS 258

1 box
1024 pages (manuscript)
Photocopied Manuscript & supplemental
materials

Processed By: Anastasia Tarmann
July 2010

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Maria Jarlsdotter Enckell. It was shipped to the State Museum April 6, 2001 from a United States address and accessioned by the State Library Historical Collections May 24, 2002. Acc. # 2002-057.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: This collection has been described at the item level. Original order maintained. The three parts of the manuscript arrived bound and encased in plastic sleeves. A copy of a press release was placed in the Master File. Unbound pages were placed in a Mylar folder. There is no original instrument of donation.

HISTORICAL NOTE

From the introduction to Documenting the Legacy of the Alaska Finns from the Russian Period, written and researched by Maria Enckell, Edited by Gene A. Knapp, Copyright 1996 by The Finnish-American Historical Society of the West:

Finland was under Swedish rule for six hundred years, until 1809. The Crown Colony of New Sweden was established in Delaware in the mid 1600s. A good portion of those colonists were Finns, but they were misrepresented as Swedes. Through rigorous research by historians, such as K. G. Olin, that record has been set right...From 1809 until 1917 Finland was under Russian rule...They were misrepresented as Russians in listings outside Finland. The historic record denies the Finnish presence there in the same manner as was done in the New Sweden Colony...My research led me to the very foundations of Sitka Lutheran Church.

From: Enckell, Maria J. (2001). "Scandinavian Immigration to Russian Alaska, 1800-1867." *FEFHHS Journal* Volume 9: 107:

In 1812 Tsar Alexandr created the Grand Duchy of Finland. Everyone in Finland now turned their heads southeast towards St. Petersburg. A large number of Finland's highly educated, skilled, and experienced military men, initially idle, found welcoming employment in Imperial Russia's infant navy and military establishments. By the end of 1917 more than 300 Finns had risen to the ranks of General and Admiral in Imperial Russia. With their Baltic German counterparts, many of these men served both as officials and military governors, overseeing vast districts throughout Imperial Russia. Their districts were often larger than their own homelands. This was most certainly true for Russian Alaska. Of Alaska's fourteen Chief Managers/Governors between 1799 and 1867 five were non-Russian Evangelical Lutherans. Of the fourteen, three were Baltic Germans: Carl Ludwig August von Hagemeister, who relieved Baronov of his reign of eighteen years.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

A three part manuscript with additional revisions, unrelated press release, and an article Documenting Finnish genealogy and Finns in Russian America.

SUBJECTS

Russian America, Finnish history and genealogy, Sitka Lutheran Church

INVENTORY

- 1 Photocopied article: Enckell, Maria J. (2001). "Scandinavian Immigration to Russian Alaska, 1800-1867" *FEFHHS Journal* Volume 9: 106-114.
- 2 Press release from the Swedish Finn Historical Society regarding the Enckell Archives - Pertaining to the Finns and Lutherans in Russian Alaska.
- 3 Documenting the Legacy of the Alaska Finns from the Russian Period published by Finnish-American Historical Society of the West; Vol. 23, No. 1 (Revised); Pioneer Series; February 1996. [2 page introduction/summary of Documenting the Legacy of the Alaska Finns from the Russian Period written and researched by Maria Enckell and edited by Gene A. Knapp]
- 4 Photocopied three-part manuscript: Enckell, Maria J. The Other Russians, and additional revisions (April 2002).