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American Museum of Natural History Photograph Collection: Alaska & British Columbia Indian culture and villages, ca. 1869-1911

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By: Marilyn Kwock

ACQUISITIONS: Photographs #1-70 were obtained from the American Museum of Natural History August 29, 1977. In 1994, AMNH donated a group of sepia tone photocopies of scrapbook pages thought to have been taken or collected by George Thornton Emmons. Acc. #1977-050, Acc. #1994-001.

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PROCESSING: The two groups of prints and photocopies were organized separately by location, if known, except for duplicates. Spelling of Tlingit names varied. The museum's negative numbers are listed after the captions. Most of the photocopied pages do not have negatives.
SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTES

Most images are of Tlingit Indians and culture in Southeast Alaska, and British Columbia, Canada, circa 1886-1909. There are a few views of Copper River Indians, the Inuit and western Alaska. The collection also includes views taken on the Harlan Ingersoll Smith expedition through Southeast Alaska in 1909 and images by George T. Emmons, Miles Bros. and Edward Dossetter.


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2. [Shamans grave house of logs at the deserted village of Thenhuggu, 1888...Northern shore of Icy Cape, Alaska (verso).] (neg. 2A3000)


3a. [...Taken 1889 (handwritten, same caption as #3). Photocopy.] Emmons?

4. Eshlota-Stick Indian from Copper River, Alaska - thought to be half Russian. c. 1903 [wearing cloth dress]. Miles Bros. (no. 885) (neg. 128094)

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6. [Hoonah Indians in dance costume. Identified (left to right): David Lawrence, Archie Lawrence, Jack Moore and Willis Hammond (their uncle and U.S. Deputy Marshall to Governor Brady, first governor of Alaska (verso). c. 1909.] (neg. 13986)

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9a. [Taku village & houses of visiting Tlingit tribes on Gasthinau Channel (sic) just to southward of Juneau. Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11209)

10. [Shaman's grave house of logs off the S.E. end of the Kake village...(verso). Killer whale on roof. 1889] (neg. 2A3002)

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17. [House of Klukwan [Klukwan], Alaska...August 26, 1909 (verso).] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46163)

18. [Interior of one of the houses at Klukivan...August 26, 1909...(sic, verso). House posts and beams in ruins.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46164)

19. [Carved interior post of an old Tlingit house at Kluckgwan Chilkat representing the mythical spirit of "Rush-tar-Kah" and the dorsal fin is the old copper shield Tironek (verso). 1889.] Emmons or Boas (neg. 336625)

19a. [Carved interior post in an old Tlingit house at Kluckwan Chilkaht qwan, representing the mythical spirit of "Rush-Tai-kah"...Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

20. [Klukwan House, exterior...by Harlan I. Smith, August 26, 1909. Looking northward at the carved horizontal piece forming the subterranean part of the house shown in No. 46164 (verso).] H. I. Smith (neg. 46165)

21. [Showing the original position and surroundings of the Doctors Spirit Guard "Gastin"...on the outskirts of the village of Kluckwan "Chickahlq (sic, verso). Three carved wood figures leaning against tree, 1889.] Emmons or Boas (neg. 336624)

21a. [1915. Showing the original position and surroundings of the Doctors Spirit Guard "Grastin"(?)...village of Kluckqwan "Chilhahtqwan." Taken 1890 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

22. [Grave yard back of Kluckwan [Klukwan](verso). 1909.] H. I. Smith (neg. 46168)

23. Metlahcatlah [Metlakatla, Annette Island (verso). Large buildings along beach]. E. Dossetter (neg. 42300)


26. Volunteers, Metlahcatlah [Indian men in uniforms with bayonets on steps of building]. E. Dossetter (no. 42305)

27. Women spinning wool. Metlahcatlah [eight women and spinning wheels]. E. Dosseter (neg. 42307)

28. Natives, Metlahcatlah [Indian men and two Caucasian men on steps of building]. E. Dossetter (neg. 42303)
29. Metlahcatlah [looking across slope to large wood buildings and six man band; group of Natives at right]. E. Dossetter (no. 42302 written at top left)

30. Volunteer band, Metlahcatlah [on building steps.] E. Dossetter (no. 42306)

31. [Eskimo grave fallen down (verso). 1891.] Bruce (neg. 13780)

32. [Eskimo skull over grave. Port Clarence, Alaska (verso). 1891.] Bruce (neg. 13777)

33. [The Tlingit village of Sase at Port Mulgrave, Bering Bay, of the Gakutatgwan (verso).] (neg. 335774)
33a. [...]Yakutatgwan. Taken 1888 (handwritten).] Emmons? (neg. 335774)

34. [Totem poles. Interior posts...Village of Tsuseka, Port Mulgrave, Khantaak Island (verso). Yakutat; original Tlingit village on the island before Yakutat (per Phyllis DeMuth, handwritten).] (neg. 124319)

35. ["Ghost" post in the house of the chief of the Principal family of the "Shlachai-yuk-quan" carved to represent a killer whale below, and above a beaver...(verso). Yakutat (per Ethel Montgomery).] (neg. 335777)
35a. ["Garst" post..."Shlavhai-yuk-quan"...Taken 1888.] Emmons? (neg. 335777)

36. [Grave posts and a flagpole. Tuxekan, Alaska (verso).] (neg. 124320)

37. [Grave posts at Tuxekan, now deserted (verso). 1909.] (neg. 2A3003)

38. [Sitka (verso). Sitka Trading Co. street scene.] (neg. 296250)

39. [Native village of Sitka, 1889 (verso); view from the water.] (neg. 124888)

40. [Mingit village of Sitka Alaska, 1869, from a sketch from the Alaska Coast Pilot (sic, verso).] (neg. 124885)

41. Indian grave yard, Telegraph Creek [Stikine River area, British Columbia.] F. W. Carlyon (no. 670) (neg. 13970)


43. [Pictographs on western beach between Wrangell and north side of island (verso). 1909.] H. I. Smith (neg. 26080)

44. [Pictographs (verso). 1909, near Wrangell.] H. I. Smith (neg. 26078)

45. [...Aug. 8-15, 1909...Rear view of pole shown in Nos. 46128-9...Note the two cavities...(verso). Mortuary pole.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46130)
46. [...Aug. 8-15, 1909...(verso). Front of mortuary totem pole in #45.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46129)


48. [United States court house and garden of custom officer (verso). 1909.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46102)

49. [Chief Skakes' [Shake's] house (verso). View over water, 1909.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46120)

50. [Chief Shakes House, Interior, Wrangle [Wrangell], Alaska...Aug. 8-14, 1909... (verso).] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46123)

51. [Looking eastward at a raft of logs when tide is out (verso). Wrangell, 1909.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46119)

52. [Showing sawmill, Wrangel, Alaska (verso). 1909.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46108)

53. [Grave post shown in no. 46138...Looking eastward...Aug 8-14, 1909. (verso).] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46139)

54. [Aug. 8-14, 1909. Looking southward at the grave pole and grave house in Wrangel graveyard... (verso). Side view.] Harlan I. Smith (neg. 46140)

55. [House Post, Alaska (verso). Top figure has real hair. Cut out on white background. 1911?] Emmons (neg. 34301)

56. [House Post, Alaska (verso). Cut out on white background. 1911?] Emmons (neg. 34298)

57. [House Post (verso). Top figure's "hair" has been retouched. Cut out on white background. 1911?] Emmons (neg. 34299)

58. [Tlingit salmon house showing salmon drying on the ground. P. 24 (verso). Two children seated at right center.] (neg. 336695)

58a. [Tlingit summer house showing salmon drying on the ground. Taku. Chichergoff Isl. [Chichagof Island]1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

59. [Copy of original photograph, 1887 (verso). Native man in hat and suit, upper torso portrait. Photocopy.] (neg. 41612)

59a. [E2517. "Klaanot." Second chief of the Chilcoot family of the Chilkahtqwan...was killed...in 1887 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41612)

59b. [Same description as #41612 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41616)

60. [Chilkat Indian men wearing blankets (verso). Unidentified man and Tom Price (right) in Chilkat blankets and headdresses.] W. Orchard (no. 45608)
61. [A Chilkat man with his pack, snowshoes and staff ready for packing to the interior (verso).] (neg. 11216)
61a. [Representing a man with pack...A Chilkaht man "Sa Tin." Taken at Kluckqwan, 1899 (handwritten). Retouched, photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11216)
62. [A Tlingit man with a piece of copper money (verso).] (neg. 11208)
63. [Alaska (verso). Native village from the water, 1909.] H. I. Smith (neg. 13987)
64. [Tlingit(?) women weaving. P. 180 (verso). Seated woman working on Chilkat blanket.] (neg. 2A12044)
65. [Burial with blanket. 178 (verso). Chilkat blanket hanging over a grave. Page 178?.] (neg. 2A11645)
66. [NW Coast Indian (verso). Man in headdress and Chilkat tunic, holding rattle.] (neg. 2A12043)
67. [Native man in Chilkat tunic.] (neg. 2A11643)
68. [Native man in Chilkat tunic and potlatch hat.] (neg. 2A11647)
69. [Light canoe on beach (verso). Wood house in background, 1909.] H. I. Smith (neg. 26083)
70. [Crab traps on wharf (verso). Wrangell, Aug. 8-14, 1909.] H. I. Smith (neg. 46107)
71. [A Doctors grave house on the banks of the Chilaht river...Taken 1891. See pg. 185 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 335778)
72. [Showing Tlingit temporary dwellings. A bark house & a rail cloth tent at Chilcook, Chilkahtquan. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11210)
73. [Children, Chelkaht-qwan. 1889 (handwritten). Two boys. Photocopy.] Emmons?
74. [A Tlingit of the "Geni-nah-how qwan" from Dry Bay. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Upper torso portrait, photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11202)
75. [A hunting & halibut fishing village of the "Hoonah-Kou" in Cross Sound on George's Island. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?
76. [A young girl of the Hoon-ah-kow, Taken 1889 (handwritten). Head and shoulders portrait, wearing button blanket and scarf. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11201)
76a. [Three Tlingit girls, taken 1889 (handwritten). Head and shoulders portrait, photocopy. Girl in #76 is in center.] Emmons? (no. 11200)
77. [A very old Tlingit with his walking stick in hand of the Hoonah Kow. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Man squatting next to building. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11207)

78. [Type of old Tlingit house taken at the Chilcoot village of Indarstahka, 1889 (sic, handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11215)

79. [Showing the method of sun & air drying salmon for food purposes at the Chilkaht village of In-dir-stakta. Taken 1891 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41622)

80. [E 1057. Representing the final disposition [of] a Chilcat blanket placed on the grave house of a chief of the "Auk-qwan" at Inito-ka-hwar[?]...Taken 1890 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

81. [Representing basket makers with their baskets for sale at Juneau, Alaska. Taken 1891 (handwritten). Two seated women. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11211)

82. [Old doctor of the Tarku qwan and his two wives. Taken at Juneau, 1892 (handwritten). Envelope says taken 1888 by Emmons (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11214)

83. [Represents an old Tlingit woman of the "Auk-qwan sitting in the midst of her boxes in a temporary bark tent...("Khart hwar(?)," Salmon Creek). Near Juneau, Alaska, 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

84. [Summer fishing village of "Khart-hwar(?)," Bartletts Bay, of the "Hoonah-Kow," the salmon drying in temporary frames. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41619)

85. [Representing a dead chief of the "Hootz-ar-tai gwan" laid out for cremation with the family [in] ceremonial dress... Taken at Kellesnow about 1886 (handwritten). [Killisnool] Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11204) Photo torn on left side

86. [Type of smaller Tlingit house taken at Kluckqwan Chilcatqwan, 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

87. [E 2295. Showing the "Goungh Het" Whale house at "Kluckqwan" and the chest E 2295- as it stood in the house, also above it is the ceremonial feast dish of the family, 14 feet long carved to represent a wood worm (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 336141)

88. [Showing the trying out of Salmon oil or grease in an old canoe at Pyramid Harbor. "Chilkaht qwan"...Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

89. [See E. 1380. Representing a Tlingit chief. "Cond-wot" of the Chilkaht qwan living at Qluckqwan. When supposed to be in a dying condition was placed with his family treasures around him...Taken at Sitka, 1892 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11213)

90. [The berry feast of the Tlingits held at Sitka about the month of August. This represents the family returning from picking berries and dancing and singing in the canoes]
preparatory to landing on the shore in front of the feast house. Taken in 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41621)

91. [Seal hunters of "Sitka-qwan" gambling, playing the game of "Nar-hin(?)" with the ivory or bone toggles "Kar-chiu-tark-Alh-Kar-ee(?). Taken at Sitka, 1887 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? photo damaged


93. [A little boy of the ("Kake ratt[?], frog family) dressed in a whole deer skin for feast or ceremonial occasion. Taken Sitka, 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

94. [The Tlingit village of Sitka. Taken 1888 (handwritten). View across water, photocopy.] Emmons?, cyanotype

95. [Representing a Tlingit mother and baby in its cradle. Taken at Sitka, 1887 (handwritten). Upper torso view. Photocopy.] Emmons?

96. [Showing the manner of gathering herring-spawn which has collected on seaweed & marine plants in Sitka harbor by Tlingits. Taken 1891 (handwritten). Two men in canoe. Photocopy.] Emmons? Photo damaged, right top corner

97. [Representing a Doctor of the Sitka quan practising about about (sic) a sick or bewitched man...Taken 1888 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

98. [Represents a Doctor practicing about a sick man...Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 335775)

99. [Representing a Doctor of the "Ky-gatse-hit-ton" Sitka qwon, practicing with a witch, showing the way the witch is tied up. Taken Sitka, Alaska. 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 335776)

100. [Showing the berry pickers, Tlingit women...Taken at Sitka, 1889 (handwritten). Women seated against a wall. Photocopy.] Emmons?

101. [Representing Tlingit women of the "Sitkaqwan" making baskets of spruce root...Taken 1886 (handwritten). Four women seated on boardwalk. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11212)

102. [Representing the ceremonial headdress "Shick-ee-et." This picture was taken in Sitka in 1887 of a Tlingit who was dying, he was dressed for death...(handwritten). Sitting between two standing men. Photocopy.] Emmons? damaged photo

103. [Seal hunters of the Sitka-qwan gambling, playing the game of "Nar-hin(?)" with the ivory or bone toggles "Kar-chiu-tark-Alh-Kar-ee." Taken at Sitka, 1887 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? damaged photo
104. [Sitka village showing the manner of drying herring spawn for food purposes which has been collected on sea weed marine plants. Taken at Sitka, 1891 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? photo damaged on left side

105. [Representing an old family grave house at the village of Thluhugga, Hoonah-kow. Taken 1888 (handwritten). Long view of wolf figure on roof. Photocopy.] Emmons?

106. [Mortuary columns & grave houses at the southern extremity of the Tlingit village of "Tuxshican" Hennea qwan. Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41620)

107. [Mortuary columns in rear of the Tlingit village of Tuxshican "Hernua-qwan(?)." Taken 1897 (sic, handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?


109. [Representing an old Tlingit house at Wrangel of the "Shekheam-qwan" (?) with mortuary column in front. On the column is represented from the base upwards a sea lion, a bear, a hawk, a bear and a Killer whale. Taken 1891 (handwritten).] Emmons?

110. [Showing old houses and Mortuary columns at Tlingit village at Wrangel [Wrangell] "Stickirne-qwan(?)." Taken 1890 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

111. [Old family grave house at Wrangel [Wrangell] Stickherse qwan of the Bear family. Taken 1889 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

112. [Picture of Katashan, a chief of a family of the Steckhun qwan and his wife & child, all dressed in ceremonial dress...Taken at Wrangel [Wrangell], 1892 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? blurred, overexposed

113. [Family Grave house at Wrangel Stickherse qwan. The carved animal, a wolf, represents the family totem (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 23)

114. [Mortuary column in front of the house of one of the principal chiefs of the Steckheare-qwan at Wrangel representing a man seated on a frog and on his head a totemic head dress representing a double whale Killer. Taken 1891 (sic, handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

115. [See E2258. "George," the head chief of the "Thlan has yuk qwan." Taken at Yakutat, 1891. "George is considered the most successfull (sic) bear and otter hunter of the tribe" (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 11203)

116. [Representing a little boy (about five years old) of the "Quash-qway-qwan" dressed for ceremonial dance with the nose ring in septum of nose (handwritten). Holding circular rattle of puffin beaks. Sitka, 1889 or 1890 (See Emmons, 1991, p. 244). Photocopy.] Emmons?
117. [1503(?). Representing a Tlingit with caribou skin robe over shoulders, with the ceremonial blanket as a background. Taken 1887 (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

118. [E 953. Picture of an old doctor of the "Thlan-har-yuk-qwan" with the head dress "Cow-gourk" on (handwritten). Seated on steps. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 41618)


120. [A practicing Doctor of the Yao-ku qwan dressed and prepared for practicing-with his implements of practice around him, 1887 (handwritten). Seated on mats. Photocopy.] Emmons? (no. 39, 336801)

121. [E 627 (handwritten). Chilkat blanket with upsidedown face at top. Photocopy.] Emmons? blurred

122. [A Doctor's ornamental dress of eight wooden spirit masks attached to rope of inner bark of the red cedar worn in practice, from South Eastern Alaska (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

123. [Representing the ceremonial Chilcat blanket "Narkheen" stretched on its frame in process of manufacture, on the left is the pattern board with design painted upon it (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

124. [Eskimo on board ship in the Arctic (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?

125. [Umiaks along side of a ship in Bering Sea (handwritten). Photocopy.] Emmons?