

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

**Todd, Nathaniel**

**Nathaniel Todd Photograph Collection, 1906-1908**

PCA 77

3 Folders  
23 Pages, personal papers  
58 B&W Photographic prints

Revised by: Anastasia Tarmann  
July, 2010

**ACQUISITION:** The Nathaniel Todd photographs were donated by his stepdaughter, Leda A. Mack of Denver, Colorado. The items were transferred from the Colorado State Museum, July 21, 1976 with permission from Leda Mack. Acc. #1976-019.

**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. Items placed in Mylar, and into pH-neutral folders. Several objects from this collection were separated and sent to the Alaska State Museum.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Nathaniel Todd was born in Antrim Ireland, in 1876 and came to the United States as a young man. He served with the U.S. Army Signal Corp at Ft. Gibbon., Alaska, from June 15, 1906 to August 23, 1908. During May, 1907 he helped repair the telegraph line in the vicinity of Koyukuk, Alaska, for which he received a letter of commendation from the War Department. Additionally, Nathaniel Todd served in the Spanish American War, and was an employee of the Union Pacific Railroad. He died on January 11, 1941 in Boise, Idaho.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Turn of the century images of Ft. Gibbons and Tanana Village and River area, Koyukan Athabaskans, U.S. Army Signal Corp. operations, and landscape. Included are steam and paddle boats, fishing boats, buildings, and a horse drawn cart. Miscellaneous papers of Nathaniel Todd.

## SUBJECTS

Koyukan Indians, Ft. Gibbon, Tanana, Koyukuk, Cos Jacket, Vancouver, B.C., U.S. Army Signal Corp., U.S. Telegraph, Taku Glacier, Paddle boat, Steamer, Ice flows.

## INVENTORY

### Folder 1

- 1 Group of Koyukan Athabaskans standing and sitting in front of a wooden building. A dog and small child are alongside the structure. Other native homes are in view.
- 2A Koyukan Athabaskan family by side of native house with sod roof. An old woman is holding pelts. A man has one leg up on log and a young boy is holding a bow.
- 2B Close up of 2A.
- 3 Koyukan Athabaskan man, two women and young boy standing in a clearing surrounded by thick bushes.
- 4 Koyukan Athabaskan women and children standing in a clearing surrounded by thick bushes.

- 5 Koyukan Athabaskan women children and man standing in front of native tent. The man wearing decorated shirt and footwear is holding a bow.
- 6A Koyukan Athabaskan women, children and man standing to the right of a native tent.
- 6B Close up of 6A focusing on woman holding baby, young boy and man.
- 7 Koyukan Athabaskan woman, wearing hooded parka standing by trees.
- 8 Ft. Gibbon. U.S. Army Signal Corp standing in formation in front of Army building. Other buildings in view.
- 9 Ft. Gibbon. U.S. Army Signal Corp. Men with dogs and sled in front of building.
- 10 Two women and a man standing on large chunks of ice, as river breaks up.
- 11 Two horse drawn carriages on dirt street along river. Buildings and church steeples in view.
- 12 Tanana street scene. Boardwalk along storefronts (including Tanana House, Tanana Bar, The Northern) and view of river.
- 13 U.S. Army Signal Corp men with dogs and sled on the trail. Transmission tower in view.
- 14 Men with white horse and pony standing in front of stable.
- 15 The cooking crew. One man holding a rolling pin - another a large pan of buns.
- 16 Three men walking toward horse drawn carriage. Buildings in view.
- 17 Ft. Gibbon, U.S. Army Signal Corp. men in uniform assembling in front of building - carrying gear and guns.
- 18 Tanana Street Scene. Pioneer., Tanana-Bakery Restaurant. Tanana cigar store, The Senate, The Reception in view. Men and dogs along boardwalk.
- 19 Tanana. Winter street scene similar to view 12.
- 20 Tanana (?) Buildings along the river. Man standing in fenced in garden. U.S. Telegraph Office in view.

- 21 Tanana (?) Close up of U.S. Telegraph office. Snow covered street along the river.
- 22 Tanana street scene. Group of men standing in front of The Northern, The Reception, The Senate, Tanana Cigarstore, Tanana Bakery and in new Pioneer.
- 23 U.S. Army Transport Thomas (?) by G. Miyasaki, Japanese photographer.
- 24 Unidentified vessel breaking through icy waters.
- 25 Tanana (?) Men watching ice breaking up along the river.
- 26A Tanana. The ice break up along main street.
- 26B Same as 26A
- 27 Paddle Boat "Cleopatra" (?)
- 28 Postcard. Taku Glacier Alaska with vessel along face of glacier.
- 29 Steamer, Alaska at an unidentified harbor
- 30 U.S.S. Tennessee at Seattle, Washington
- 31A The Catalina at unidentified dock.
- 31B The Catalina at unidentified dock.
- 32 Seattle, Fishing boats along pier.
- 33 Seattle Steamer Katrina Luckenback at Docks
- 34 Vancouver B.C. The Steamer Utah.
- 35 The paddle wheeler Tanana.
- 36A Men and dog looking at fishing boat Rebecca and paddle wheeler General "Jeff C. Davis" both in dry dock.
- 36B Duplicate of above

- 37 U.S. Army Signal Corp. Two men paddling canoes - others standing on barge along the shore. U.S.A.T. General Jeff C. Davis in view.
- 38 General Jeff C. Davis, paddle wheeler, being placed on wooden planks.
- 39 U.S.A.T. Gen. Jeff C. Davis and another small boat at riverbank.
- 40 Crew aboard the Gen. Jeff C. Davis preparing to unload. Man with camera and other observers along the riverbank.
- 41 U.S.A.T. Gen. Jeff C. Davis in dry dock, surrounded by ice and snow.
- 42 U.S.A.T. Gen. Jeff C. Davis at riverbank. US. Army Signal Corp men working on small boat nearby.
- 43 The Florence S., filled with wood, unloads - man piling split logs on shore.
- 44 Small paddleboat "Princess."
- 45 A large crowd awaits the arrival of British Aviator A. Stuart MacLaren landing at Vancouver, B.C. from Siberia on H.M.S. Thiepval.
- 46 Two men aboard a small boat approaching a dock.
- 47 Tanana Street scene. Vachon's Tanana Coml. Co. Drugstore. The Grand Hotel and Bar in view.
- 48-52 Tanana(?) River, break-up and ice flows
- 53-54 Scenic photographic images
- 55 Large building and small shack on pilings along water. Dock and fishing boats in view.
- 56 Two men and 3 dogs standing near horse drawn cart with wooden runners for snow travel. Four large wooden barrels are in the cart.
- 57 Mining dredge ending at railroad track.
- 58 Scenic view - water and islands.

### **Miscellaneous papers of Nathaniel Todd**

- 1 Obituary for Nathaniel Todd (newspaper clipping)
- 2 Letter from War Department Office of The Chief Signal Officer, August 21, 1907.
- 3 Letter from War Department Signal Corp. U. S. Army, Alaska Cable and Telegraph System, Seattle. May 28, 1906. (four pages)
- 4 "In This Great War" - poem written by Nathaniel Todd (3 pages)
- 5 U.S. Army enlistment papers July 25, 1907 and February 6, 1909
- 6 Railroad Retirement Board Certificate of Annuity, January 9, 1939
- 7 Statement of length of service and health record. 12 pages.