

**Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

**Langille, William A.**

**William A. Langille Photograph Collection, ca. 1900-1910**

**PCA 123**

80 photographs, b&w

**ACQUISITION:** In 1972 Mrs. Webb Trimble of Seattle donated photographs of her father, William A. Langille.

**ACCESS:** The photographs may be viewed however they may not be photocopied.

**COPYRIGHT:** Requests for permission to publish or reproduce images from the collection should be discussed with the librarian.

**PROCESSING:** The images are mounted with archival corners on acid-free paper, and sleeved in Mylar. An item-level inventory is available.

### Biographical Note

William Alexander Langille was born in Nova Scotia and came to Alaska in 1898. Under Teddy Roosevelt's forestry chief, Gifford Pinchot, he traversed the Kenai Peninsula in 1904 and produced a report which recognized the Kenai's value as a wildlife and hunting preserve. His detailed description of the forest has been valuable 90 years later in tracking the destruction of the spruce bark beetle.

Langille recommended that portions of the proposed Kenai Forest Reserve be designated as game preserves, including Sheep Creek at the head of Kachemak Bay for Dall sheep, and Caribou Hills for moose and remaining caribou. Following other of Langille's recommendations the Chugach National Forest was created July 23, 1907, stretching from the Copper River on the east to Cook Inlet on the west, Kachemak Bay on the south and including all the Chugach Mountains to the north. In 1909, Langille was named supervisor over what is today's Tongass National Forest.

William Langille is considered one of Alaska's early conservationists and many historians consider him to be the father of forestry in Alaska. He died August 21, 1956, in Portland at age 84. [Information obtained from the US Fish & Wildlife Service Kenai National Wildlife Refuge web site <http://kenai.fws.gov/overview/> and The Anchorage Times, Aug. 30, 1956, p. 5]

### Scope and Content Note

The collection includes views of Alaskan villages, Tlingit baskets, mining camps, logging, fishing, railroad building and other activities. Tuxecan, Klinkwan, Sitka, Kake and Ketchikan are a few of the locations represented. Langille's headquarters were at Ketchikan.

### Inventory

- 1 Fairbanks, Alaska. Episcopal Church and Hospital. (L. E. Robertson photograph)
- 2 [Men standing in front of Circle Hotel on Ophir Creek near Nome, ca. 1900] Kinne photograph.
- 3 Sitka, Alaska [Baranof Castle]
- 4 Sitka, Alaska. [Old military barracks, Russian Church, and Tlingit canoe in view, ca. 1900]
- 5 Sitka, Alaska. [General view from Crescent Bay with Mt. Edgecumbe in background] (Merrill photograph, no. 155)
- 6 Sitka, Alaska. [Old Hospital] (Merrill photograph)
- 7 [Mt. Edgecumbe with water in foreground]
- 8 Cordova, Alaska. [winter view]

- 9 Cordova, Alaska. July 4, 1910. [street scene] (Kennedy photograph)
- 10 Cordova, Alaska [street scene]
- 11 [Copper River flats along Copper River Railway]
- 12 [Copper River Railway track]
- 13 Bridge and Child's Glacier. Copper River Railway. 1910 (Kennedy photograph)
- 14 [Martin Island off Katalla, Alaska]
- 15 [Miles Glacier Camp]
- 16 Ketchikan, Alaska. [Waterfront view]
- 17 Ketchikan, Alaska. [Waterfront view]
- 18 Waiting for the rush. [Horses laying in unidentified street with people, horses, GEM Bakery in view]
- 19 [Kake, view from water.]
- 20 [Comet-Kensington & Northern Belle Mines Berners Bay District]
- 21 [Two Tlingit men in ceremonial blankets and hats] (Merrill photograph)
- 22 [Totems at Howkan.]
- 23 [Cook Jack's Native house with raven carving, Tuxekan.]
- 24 [Tlingit baskets.]
- 25 [Tlingit wood carvings.]
- 26 [Tlingit totems at Howkan.]
- 27 Sitka, Alaska. [Totems] (Merrill photograph, no. 105)
- 28 [Totems at Tuxekan.]
- 29 [Totems at Klingwan [Klinkwan].]
- 30-34 [Totems at Village Island. Location is Tongass Village per Laura Lucas 2/22/99]
- 35 same as #26

- 36 [Village Island totems: Proud Raven or Lincoln Pole on left; Seward Pole, right. Location is Tongass Village per Laura Lucas 2/22/99]
- 37 [Totem at Klingwan [Klinkwan].]
- 38 [Totems at Tuxekan.]
- 39, 40 [Totems at Klingwan [Klinkwan].]
- 41 Refreshments [Native woman and child sitting outside tent.]
- 42 [Man and woman from California or Great Basin area Indian tribe.]
- 43 [Camp in forest with tents, canoes, men. W.A. Langille, left.]
- 44-51 [Logging activities.]
- 52 [Abandoned wooden shelter with shingled roof.]
- 53 [Wooden structure near unidentified shore]
- 54 [Buildings along unidentified shore.]
- 55 [Close up of #53]
- 56-60 [Unidentified houses and structures in various locations.]
- 61 [Unidentified coastal town with lumber mill.]
- 62 [Fishing boats on shore at low tide, Ketchikan.]
- 63 [Unidentified waterfront scene.]
- 64 [Men aboard unidentified vessel.]
- 65 [Unidentified fishing vessels.]
- 66 [Cows grazing in field.]
- 67 [Taku Glacier.]
- 68 [Child's Glacier on Copper River.]
- 69 [Unidentified glacier.]
- 70 [Unidentified glacier.]
- 71 Sitka, Alaska [Photograph of drawing] (Merrill photograph)

- 72 Sitka, Alaska [General view, Mill's Island in foreground.]
- 73 Kake, Alaska ["Gummok's Creek Bridge built 1913 by E.K."]
- 74 Kake, Alaska [waterfront view.]
- 75 Kake, Alaska [waterfront view]
- 76 [United States Public school at Klingwan [Klinkwan]; totem on left.]
- 77 [Totems on either side of wooden building, Klingwan [Klinkwan].]
- 78 Tuxekan, Alaska [Totem poles.]
- 79 Tuxekan, Alaska [Totem poles.]
- 80 Tuxekan, Alaska [Totem poles.]