

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

GUIDE TO COLLECTIONS

Hunt, William E.

William E. Hunt Photograph Collection, 1900-1910

PCA 155

97 photographs, b&w
Papers (4 folders)
(2 boxes, 0.67 linear ft)

ACQUISITION: Retired Lt. Col. William H. Hunt of Worthington, Ohio and Retired Colonel Richard J. Hunt, sons of William E. Hunt, loaned the images to the Historical Library in October, 1979 for copying. (Accession Nos. 1979-29, 1980-22.)

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

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

PROCESSING: The photographs are sleeved in Mylar. Some of the papers have been photocopied. The typescripts and memorabilia are sleeved in Mylar.

Biographical Information

William E. Hunt (b. 1875) was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and assigned to Camp Skagway, Alaska, in 1902, as Commanding Officer of Co. "M," 8th Infantry. He left Alaska in 1903 but was reassigned in 1908 to Ft. Davis, Nome, as Commanding Officer of Co. "I," 22nd Infantry. He brought his wife and 3-month old child, Richard, on this tour of duty. He retired from military service in 1939 and died December 1946.

Scope And Content Notes

William E. Hunt collected these photographs while stationed in Alaska. The collection includes images of the Von Detricks, known to the Alaska Natives as "the white fox king." Subjects also include ships, landscapes, military, mining activities, Unalaska, Selawik, Nome.

The collection also includes Hunt's journal describes his tour of duty in the Philippines, California, and Skagway, letters to his parents, news clippings, letterhead from Skagway businesses, programs and other memorabilia. Photographers represented include B.B. Dobbs and A.G. Simmer at Nome.

Inventory

Photographs

Box 1

- 1 [Auk Indian village at Auke Bay (Juneau), Alaska.]
- 2 Russian Church, Juneau, Alaska. [interior view with priest in front of icons.]
- 3 [Juneau, Alaska looking down Seward Street to the waterfront.]
- 4 Moon Night at Juneau, Alaska. [with snow covered roofs of buildings.] (12)
- 5 Treadwell and Glory Hole, Treadwell, Douglas Island, Alaska. [Water view] E.A. Hegg
- 6 [Silver Bow Basin, Juneau, Alaska. Three children standing beside a creek.]
- 7 Jualpa Mines. [showing hydraulic sluicing with two children in scene] (8)
- 8 [Juneau Garden. Man leaning on fence that encloses a garden and greenhouse]
- 9 [Denver Glacier close-up. Erickson photo?]
- 10 [Denver Glacier. Erickson photo?]
- 11 Unalaska. [Panorama of snow covered Unalaska, Alaska. Part I]

- 12 [Unalaska. Part 2. Panorama showing church, buildings, and sailing ship in background.]
- 13 [Pullen House, Skagway with young woman in foreground.]
- 14 [Aerial view of Skagway, Alaska. Erickson photo?]
- 15 [Business office, Skagway, Alaska.]
- 16 [Golden North Hotel, Skagway, Alaska.]
- 17 [Military regiment marching, Skagway, Alaska.]
- 18 [Two men in military uniforms.]
- 19 [People watching a pole vaulter; Ft. Davis, Nome]
- 20 [Group of men with buildings and mountains in background.]
- 21 [People fishing with nets, probably at Nome Beach, Alaska.]
- 22 Nome Roadstead Taken at Midnight June, 1906. [Five people sitting on a platform overlooking the harbor with several ships in background.] Dobbs (962)
- 23 Landing Passengers on Nome Beach From S.S. Victoria June 15th 08. [Small boats "Defiance" and "Wilhemina" in foreground]
- 24 Ice Jam at Mouth of Snake River, Nome, Alaska. [Buildings in background] (970)
- 25 Birds Eye View of Nome, Alaska. Jan - 1907. Dobbs
- 26 Washing gold, Nome, Alaska. "Gold Fever" Good-bye, Uncle Sam, Good-bye. Group of men with sluice box.
- 27 Nome, Alaska. July 1900. [View of Nome with tents along the water's edge in foreground] Dobbs (71)
- 28 Nome Brass Band Playing Barrack Fourth of July 1908. Nome, Alaska. [Crowd of people standing in front of buildings listening to the band Bell and Co. photo]
- 29 Freighting Under Difficulties, Nome. [horse-team pulling freight through snow-]
- 30 Seward Peninsula Excursion Train Dorothy Creek. [People standing in open railroad cars with buildings and mountain in background] Dobbs (816)
- 31 Winter Sports, Nome, Alaska. [people watching two on a toboggan] Dobbs
- 32 Third Beach line, Showing Mining and Prospecting Outfits at Work, Nome, Alaska. 1908.

- 33 Behring Sea After A Storm. At Nome. Dobbs (836)
- 34 Shriners Landing At Nome, Alaska Aug. 1 - 09.
- 35 A Day in the Northland - On The Ice Hummocks of Bering Sea, Opposite Nome, Alaska, 1910. [some on sled, others standing on ice] Lomen
- 36 [Three women and a dog standing in the snow with buildings in background]
- 37 [Deep snow surrounding snow covered buildings]
- 38 [Armed soldier watching three men working on construction of a building.]
- 39 Relief of Guard. Nome, Alaska. Dec. 25th, 1908. [military men standing at attention in front of a snow covered building] Simmer
- 40 Alaska ? [2 children and a man standing between snow banks, buildings in background.]
- 41 [A group of military men standing in front of Lieutenant West's quarters]
- 42 [military men in front of Fort Davis Officer's Club sign] Dobbs. Nome.
- 43 [military men surrounding Fort Davis Officer's Club sign]
- 44 [Two groups of military men standing in the snow with buildings in background]
- 45 "First Chance going out and last chance coming in". [Fort Davis Saloon.]
- 46 Post Hospital, Ft. Davis, Alaska. April 1, 1910.
- 47 [Fort Davis Officer's Club schedule of unknown event]
- 48 [1910 All Alaska Sweepstakes sign]
- 49 Fort Davis, Alaska. June 16, 1910. [View shows snow covered buildings with flagpole in foreground]
- 50 Fort Davis, Alaska. [Two men standing in snow with buildings in background.] Dobbs
- 51 Fort Davis, Alaska. April 1, 1910. Guardhouse.
- 52 Christmas Dinner Co. "I", 22^d Inftry [Infantry], USA. Nome, Alaska. 1908. A.G. Simmer
- 53 [Fort Davis Buildings buried in snow drifts.]
- 54 On the Water Wagon but not "up the pole." [Men beside horse-drawn wagon with buildings in background]

- 55 [Mining scene near Nome showing buildings and excavation dumps. I Dobbs (184)
- 56 [Aerial view of coastline with tents and small buildings on shore. Nome?] (116)
- 57 Mining with a Long Tom, Nome, Beach. Dobbs
- 58 [Man dressed in fur parka and boots standing on snowshoes in the snow]
- 59 [Two Eskimo men in fur parkas with two reindeer standing in the snow]
- 60 [Crowd of people watching sled dogs race]
- 61 [Men standing on a platform possibly judging dog race]
- 62 [Men in sunglasses on platform]
- 63 [Crowd of people standing around a team of dogs]
- 64 [Crowd of people and dogs in background]
- 65 [Crowd of people watching a team of dogs]
- 66 A Malamute Chorus. -Nome, Alaska. Dobbs
- 67 Native Whaling Boat At Edge of Ice Pack - Bering Straits. Dobbs (911) 2 copies
- 68 [Two men in a kayak at the edge of an ice pack]
- 69 "Three of A Kind." Nome, Alaska. [Three small Eskimo children sitting] Dobbs
- 70 Eskimos In Rain Suit, Nome. Dobbs
- 71 Sloop *Gjoa* In Which Capt. Amundsen Made His Famous Voyage Through The N.W. Passage, Nome, Alaska. Dobbs (#808)
- 72 [Large passenger ship in the ice with people walking on ice nearby]
- 73 S.S. Corwin in the Nome Roadstead, June 4th, 1910.
- 74 The first arrival In the Nome Roadstead Spring, 1910. The "Helen Johnston" [gasoline schooner], L.L. Lane, Master. Lomen Bros.
- 75 S.S. Victoria In Ice Pack Near Nome. Dobbs
- 76 S.S. Corwin and Gas. Sch. [gasoline schooner] "Helen Johnston" In The Roadstead Opposite Nome, Alaska, June 4th 1910. Lomen Bros.

- 77 Unloading S.S. "Corwin" with dog teams 5 miles from shore on Bering Sea. Nome, June 2, 1907. Dobbs (997)
- 78 [The "Ohio" In an Ice Pack] Dobbs (#153)
- 79 Cop-Konna [?] Chief of Cape Prince of Wales. [Dog team hitched in fan design - sled loaded with white fox.]
- 80 Home of Cop-Konna. Cape Prince of Wales.
- 81 Three of our trappers on the Selawik. [Three men and 2 women beside a wooden building. The men trapped furs for a Mr. Von Detrick]
- 82 "This fellow is white fox when he reaches the states... 11 [Picture of a white rabbit in front of a pile of logs]
- 83 Kobuk River, April, '09. [A few trees on far side of river.]
- 84 Point Hope. [Loaded sledge and dog team beside a snow covered hill]
- 85 Cape Deceit, Kotzebue Sound, April 1910. [Picture marked with an "X" indicating the place Von Detrick's camped - winter scene]
- 86 Kotzebue, April '09. Some more of the trappers and their wives. [Group of 5 adults and an child]
- 87 Selawik - April '09. [Group of homes of trappers where Von Detricks bought furs.]
- 88 Shishmaref, Alaska. - April '09. [View of native underground houses]
- 89 Catching tom cod (Shishmaref) [Mrs. Von Detrick and Eskimo woman on snow covered ice.]
- 90 Grave near Shishmaref [Mrs. Von Detrick standing beside whale ribs decorating grave.]
- 91 Two Eskimo hunters coming in... [Snow covered ground, hunters with loaded backpacks. More description on back of photo.]
- 92 First chance - April '09. [Small cabin with several people and dog teams in front. Cabin used by the Von Detrick's for over night lodging.]
- 93 "Mr. Detrick and team starting on a five weeks trip after furs..." [Loaded sledge and dog team with Mr. Von Detrick.]
- 94 An old picture of Aubrey and myself... [Group of 4 adults and 3 children in front of the open door of a log cabin]

- 95 Mr. D. "Pesh-oo-guar-rik" as the natives call him meaning "white fox chief" [Portrait of Mr. Von Detrick seated on a chair wearing a fur parka]
- 96 [Portrait of a woman - probably Mrs. Von Detrick - wearing fur parka and mukluks.]
- 97 1st. Lt. William E. Hunt, Commanding Co. "M" 8th Infantry, Skagway, Alaska, Christmas, 1903. [Group of men in uniform, three rows deep; Lt. Hunt in back row 5th from right, wearing glasses.]

Box 2**Papers of William E. Hunt**

Folder 1. Hunt, William E. Journal, Describing military duty in the Philippines, California, and Skagway, Alaska, 1902-1903, 92p. (Typescript from original journals)

Philippines: cholera deaths and malaria, military combat deaths, transfer of troops; description of trips to Japan and Hawaii, the Presidio (California), description of trip to Alaska, arrive Skagway Sept. 22. Life in Skagway, the Pullen House, activities, military doings, July 4th celebration and various military and local people are noted, vessel arrivals, visitors, etc.

Folder 2. Miscellaneous papers. 8 items.

- 1 Letter, Camp Skagway, dated May 13, 1903, to Adj. General, Vancouver Barracks, Wash., requesting instructions regarding disposition of charges against Private Clarence L. Smith who escaped from the guard house before he could be brought to trial.
- 2 Instructions for Officer of the Day. Camp Skagway, January 4, 1903. Circular no. 1.
- 3 Discipline and proper uniform. Camp Skagway, December 18, 1902. Circular no. 11.
- 4 Special orders, no. 82, Office of the Commanding Officer. Camp Skagway, Aug. 14, 1903. Relieves 1st Lt. William E. Hunt of responsibility for athletic instruction and transfer of this duty to 2nd Lt. William G. Murchison, Includes expression of appreciation of Hunt's services and best wishes on new duty. Also gives a 7-day leave of absence to Lt. Col. William L. Pitcher.
- 5 Circular no. 16. Office of the Commanding Officer, Camp Skagway, May 14, 1903. Adjutant William E. Hunt by order of Major Pitcher prepared a detailed circular indicating sloppy dress and rusty equipment would not be tolerated and officers were expected to make improvements immediately.
- 6 Invitation to Lt. W.E. Hunt to attend a farewell on his behalf at the A.N.B. Hall, Aug. 15, 1903.
- 7 Newspaper clipping, Lt. Murchison and Miss Taynton are wed, Aug. 18, 1903.
- 8 Newspaper clipping. Send off--Col, Pitcher given banquet by friends.

Folder 3 Programs, tickets, invitations and other memorabilia. 23 items.

Partial contents: 1902/1903 Christmas/New Years program at St. Savior's Church, Skagway; Skagway Theatrical Stock Co. in "Confusion" at Elk's Hall; Debate--

resolved that a territorial form of government would be beneficial to Alaska;
passenger list, Alaska excursions, July 7 and Aug. 4, 1903.

Folder 4. Letters from William E. Hunt to his parents, 1902-1903, 15 letters (typescripts of originals).

- 1 On board transport BUFORD in quarantine at Marivales, Manila Bay. July 22, 1902.
- 2 On board U.S.A.T. BUFORD at sea, Aug. 21, 1902 (enroute to Honolulu, then San Francisco).

3-14 Skagway, Alaska. Oct. 5, 1902-July 31, 1903.

Oct. 5--military families at boarding house, comments on town, church, planned post at Haine Mission. Dec. 28--Episcopal Church musical program and activities, Arctic Brotherhood. Feb. 15--lumber unloaded at Haines for post construction, , commanding Company "M" and other duties, social doings. March 7--describes transportation from Whitehorse and Dawson, Y.T., gold prospects. March 19--rank of Battalion Adjutant. April 22--Methodist Church, military comment. June 24--military personnel, new recruits expected, socials, Masonic lodge, June 29-25--more recruits arrive, 400 acres on west side of Skagway River become military reservation, re to Fort Egbert, gold shipments, 4th of July plans. July 5--Senatorial party arrive on Dolphin for several days and then on train to Whitehorse. July 17--visit of Inspector General, arrival of David Starr Jordan of the U.S. Fish Commission on the ALBATROSS. July 26--Dept. Commander Gen. Funston arrives, Senatorial visit at Dawson to obtain data on Canadian mining laws, tariff rates on mining machinery, gold strike 200 miles west on "4th of July Creek"; visited Haines and post foundations. July 31--military matters, Major Booth and Knudsen case regarding selling of commissary produce to Nome civilians.

- 15 Leavenworth, Kansas. Aug. 31, 1903. (Waiting to enter college, left Skagway Aug. 16 on HUMBOLDT, reference to Skagway military matters.)