

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Petroglyphs in Alaska Photograph Collection, ca. 1921-1959

PCA 234

Carvings at Cape Alitak, Tiedemann Island, Holkham Bay
and unidentified locations. ca. 1921-1959

INTRODUCTION

Petroglyphs are carvings or inscriptions on rocks and are often called picture writing." These pictures represent human figures, animals, birds, fish and "Y" faces and were carved by the prehistoric inhabitants of Alaska.

Most petroglyphs are found along the ocean beach near salmon spawning streams.

This collection includes petroglyphs found near Alitak on Kodiak Island, Admiralty Island area, Auke Bay area, and other unidentified locations.

View 6 was taken by Allen E. Hasselborg; views 17-20 were taken by Capt. C.A. Halvorsen, superintendent of the Alaska Packer's Association at Chignik, Alaska.

INVENTORY

- 1-2 Petroglyphs on Fritz Cove Road--Auke Bay [circles, bird-like figures].
- 3 [Human figures, circles, Auke Bay area.]
- 4 [Unidentified man to left of 2 vertical columns of petroglyphs.]
- 5 [Petroglyphs depicting human figures and faces as well as other markings; no location named.]
- 6-7 Petrograph [sic] Tidemann [Tiedemann] Island, Seymour Canal [flat table-like rock with swirl markings]. A. Hasselborg photo.
- 8-9 Petrograph [sic] Tidemann [Tiedemann] Island. Seymour Canal, flour in grooves [marking on rocks more distinct because of flour--same rock as #6 and 7]. A. Hasselborg photo.
- 10 Flat rock at entrance to Holkham Bay, Stevens Passage... July 1921 [faint markings on flat, plate-like rock].
- 11 [Circular markings on large rock, one resembling a sun.]
- 12 [Circular and human figure markings on rock; slightly fuzzy.]
- 13 [Rock with circular markings.]
- 14 [Circular and rope-like markings on rock.]
- 15 Two rocks with circular and animal figure markings.]
- 16 Cape Alitak, 5 miles from the village [cliffs beyond flat beach; water and mountains, left].
- 17 Alitak, Kodiak Island [flat rocks with human figure petroglyphs]. #1. Capt. C.A. Halvorsen photo.
- 18 Alitak, Kodiak Isl. [sea mammals and human figures on three adjoining rocks]. #2. Capt. Halvorsen photo.
- 19 Alitak, Kodiak Island [very distinct petroglyphs depicting human figures and human faces]. #3 Capt. Halvorsen photo.

- 20 Rocks south end of Kodiak Island at Alitak [distinct human faces and human figures]. #4. Capt. Halvorsen photo.
- 21 Rock writings on Cape Alitak [distinct human faces and other markings].