

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Worden, John E.

John E. Worden Photograph Collection, ca. 1908-1919

PCA 248

18 photographs, b&w

Revised: 6/6/2005

ACQUISITION: Nina Mollhagen, granddaughter of John Elmer Worden, donated the photographs in 1985, along with the novel, *Sourdough Lucy Ware*, by Lynn Worden Holmes, daughter of John Elmer Worden (Acc. No. 1988-028).

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 photographs are sleeved in Mylar and an item-level inventory is available.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Elmer Worden (1861-1925) came to Alaska from New York, via Oregon, and was a resident of Wrangell from 1898-1925. He married Nina Silve Turner in Portland in 1895 and they had 3 children.

Worden served as Wrangell's postmaster from 1900 until 1917 when his health began to fail. He was Wrangell Town Clerk from 1905-1925. Additionally, he was a professional photographer and active in community affairs. His photographs illustrated an early booklet on the Tlingit Indians and in early travel brochures promoting Southeast Alaska. Worden's photographs may also be found in other of the Library's collections. He was a member of the Pioneers of Alaska, the Improved Order of Redmen, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Woodmen of the World.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains views of early Wrangell including street scenes, the public school, totem poles and people.

INVENTORY

1. Wrangell, Alaska from Mount Dewey, Feb. 1908 [overall winter scene of Wrangell].
2. Wrangell, Alaska [view from the water; boats at anchor].
3. Buildings erected after fire of Mar. 24, 1906. Wrangell, Alaska [buildings on either side of planked street].
4. Wrangell, Alaska -- Looking N. East [planked street and sidewalk; stores on either side; child and dog, foreground, right].
5. "9 A.M. At The Wrangell Public School" [children walking single file into school building].
6. Pupils.. Wrangell Public School Oct. 14, 1919 [school children and teachers on steps of school].
7. "Skak-ish-tin," Native, over 100 years old. Wrangell, Alaska [full face head and shoulders portrait of a woman; long straight hair; labret between lower lip and chin].
8. Native Jeweler, Wrangell, Alaska [man, seated, right; snow shoes on wall].

9. Kiksetti Totem, Representing Kiksetti, Kalteek and Shadesty Families. Erected -- Wrangell, Alaska in 1894 [full length view of totem; board fence behind it].
10. Totem. Wrangell, Alaska [unidentified totem on wooden sidewalk between buildings].
11. "Chief Shakes" His Home And Totems at Wrangell, Alaska, April 18, 1915. Totems erected About 1832 [man in doorway of house; totems, left].
12. Loading Salmon on "Star of Greenland"; Wrangell, Alaska, Sept. 11, 1914 [ship at dock; men, right, with stacked boxes on carts].
13. A.P.A. Cannery, Wrangell, Alaska. Sept. 11, 1914 [view of buildings from the water; ship, left, at dock].
14. Excursion Party on "Port Simpson" opposite Great Glacier -- Stikine River June 21, 1914 [broadside view of riverboat; deck crowded with people; glacier and mountains behind riverboat].
15. Glacier on Stikine River. (no. 685)
16. "Sitka Alaska Harbor" [water front and islands from hill above]. Partly tinted.
17. Old Boundry Line [boundary line], U.S. and Canada, on Stikine River, 30 miles from Wrangell Alaska [river, foreground; wooden buildings on river bank, center]. Slightly blurred photo.
18. On The Great Glacier, Stikine River near Wrangell, Alaska, June 21, 1914 [group of people standing on glacier]. Fading image.