

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Fox Farms in Southeast Alaska Photograph Collection, ca. 1927

PCA 331

1 album
204 b&w photographs

Processed by: India Spartz, July 1994
Updated by: Sandy Johnston, May 2014
Revised by: Jacki Swearingen, May 2014

ACQUISITION: The Alaska State Library purchased this album in 1991 (Acc. No. 1991-042).

ACCESS: The photographs may be viewed. However, because the photographs are fragile, they 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 numbered. An item level inventory is available. Each album leaf includes hand-written descriptive notes. Notes from Paul Converse, of Auke Bay, further describe some of the images. Acid free interleaving tissue has been placed between each album page. The album has been placed in Mylar and into an archival box.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The owner/photographer of the album is unknown.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The photographs include fur and fox farming scenes from Brothers Island, Sumner Island, Behrs Island [Chain Is.?], Donkey Bay, Kake Cannery, Pybus Bay and Monte Carlo Fox Farm. There are also images along the Inside Passage, including Petersburg, Wrangell, Ketchikan, and Kake. Names mentioned include: Charlie Zimmerman, Mrs. Zimmerman, Nellie Lutro, Peres, John Hadlund, the Hadlund family, Skok-ish-Tin (Wrangell), the Gomoll family and others.

Note per Paul Converse: Behr's Island is probably Chain Island at the south end of Rocky Pass, south of Kake. Skiff Island is in the same area, along with the Conclusion Island and Monte Carlo Island ranches.

INVENTORY

Album – Places and Faces

- 1 On board SS *Alaska* just before the boat sailed for Seattle
- 2 [Woman on ship]
- 3 [Man in hat on ship]
- 4 The harmony girls our entertainers : Miss Thomas and Miss Hill
- 5 One of the beautiful falls – steep mountainside
- 6 Seymour Narrows – Falls, forests, mountains and gas boat
- 7 Lighthouse on point - not visible
- 8 On the Alaska coast
- 9-10 The Good Rt. Rev. Bishop J.R. Crimont, who was a passenger on the SS *Alaska*, on the deck before reaching Ketchikan.
- 11 Rt. Rev. Bishop Crimont in far north attire
- 12 Our good friend the Rt. Rev. Bishop

- 13 A net full of fish, 2 or 3 hundred fish in dipper. “you can only see the splashings of fish but 2 or 3 hundred in dipper”
- 14 Eagles – a bounty is placed on them because they destroy fox, fish & deer
- 15 Mrs. Gomoll and little niece in her garden
- 16 A skate used as food for foxes
- 17 Another view of Petersburg harbor
- 18 USS Rev. Cutter *Bear*
- 19 Wrangell Narrows. We passed thru on way to fox islands. Wrangell Narrows Petersburg, Alaska
- 20-21 Views of Petersburg
- 22 Petersburg Harbor Petersburg, Alaska [view of docks across the water]
- 23 *Brothers* [boat in Petersburg harbor]
- 24 Beautiful & fantastic shaped icebergs on every side on the way from Wrangell to Petersburg over Stikine flats.
- 25 On the beach Petersburg [3 men standing on iceberg]
- 26 La Conte Glacier, Le Conte
- 27 Icebergs on way to Petersburg
- 28 Icebergs in harbor at Petersburg; Petersburg, Alaska
- 29 Just after the Memorial Day services Supt. of Schools Mitchell & Mrs. Mitchell in front of the Mitchell home in Ketchikan.
- 30 The little Mitchell [Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell with toddler]
- 31 At the boat landing in Ketchikan – Mama & Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell
- 32 The next stop – Wrangell; Wrangell, Alaska
- 33 Evening at Wrangell, Alaska 10:15 pm
- 34 Wrangell, Alaska

- 35 Scenes in Wrangell; Front Street Wrangell, Alaska
- 36 Bear Totem Store. Wrangell, Alaska
- 37 Mama and Pete on the way to Shakes grave
- 38 Historical totems in Wrangell – One Legged Fisherman Totem
- 39 Kadashan Totems, Wrangell, Alaska
- 40 Raven Totem, Wrangell, Alaska
- 41 Mrs. Shakes former home
- 42 Shakes Island seen from Mrs. Shakes former home
- 43 Chief Shakes Island, Wrangell, Alaska
- 44 Home; Chief Shakes house & totems, Wrangell, Alaska
- 45 Other houses, where Mrs. Shakes now lives; Native houses & totems, Wrangell, Alaska.
- 46 Interior with curios, some 300 yrs old or older; Interior Chief Shake's house, Wrangell, Alaska
- 47 Totems and native homes; Kicksetti totem, Wrangell, Alaska
- 48 Totems and native homes; [2 totems]
- 49 Beaver totem, Wrangell, Alaska
- 50 Chief Shakes grave
- 51 Pete and the grave
- 52 Marie at the grave
- 53 Totems in front of Shakes home; Chief Shakes' Totems, Wrangell, Alaska
- 54 The home; Chief Shake's house, Wrangell, Alaska
- 55 Another view of Chief Shakes home
- 56 Old Natives; Skok-ish-Tin 107 years old, Wrangell, Alaska [Native woman]
- 57 Old Natives; Native jeweler, Wrangell, Alaska [Native man]

- 58 Pete in front of his former home in Wrangell
- 59 Wrangell Harbor; Cannery ship, Wrangell cannery
- 60 Glacier; The Great Glacier, Wrangell, Alaska.
- 61 Gulls and picturesque scenery on trip from Wrangell to Petersburg over Stikine flats
- 62 Street scene in Wrangell – note historical canon relic of early days in front of place where papers were signed
- 63 Wrangell Fire Dept.
- 64 Preparing to leave Wrangell; Totem at dock- Mr. Burch, Pete and Marie
- 65 Leaving Wrangell
- 66 SS *Alaska* in dock just before sailing – Wrangell
- 67 Kake cannery
- 68 Brothers Island Fox Farm
- 69 The beach at Brothers Island
- 70 The beach at Brothers Island

Short article: “The True Story of Koo Koo Kook the Beloved Pest” by Mrs. Ernest Gomoll of Sumner Island Fur Farm, Petersburg, Alaska

- 71 The pet otter and Mrs. Gomoll
- 72 One of their martins
- 73. Training the otter, Mrs. Gomoll
- 74 Mr. Gomoll and the otter on Sumner Island
- 75 Sumner Island the Gomolls
- 76 [The Gomolls sitting on the bow of the *Lenor*]
- 77 The log cabin at Sumner Island in winter
- 78 Summer at Sumner [woman and child in garden]

- 79 On the way to Brother Island; Scene in Rocky Pass taken 3am. Sunrise that morning at 2am. Note perfect reflection in water.
- 80 On the way to Brother Island; Indian village Kake
- 81 Charlie Zimmerman
- 82 [Mrs.] C.E. Zimmerman, Brothers Island, Alaska, via Juneau [with foxes]
- 83 On the beach
- 84 [On the beach, winter]
- 85 [Zimmerman's Brothers Island fox farm; *per Paul Converse*]
- 86 [Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Zimmerman at Brothers Island fox farm; *per Paul Converse*]
- 87 [Brothers Island beach; *per Paul Converse*]
- 88 [Brothers Island beach; *per Paul Converse*]
- 89 Just after the delicious venison dinner [Peter Behr, Mrs. Zimmerman and others, unknown location; *per Paul Converse*]
- 90 [Man standing in knee high grass]
- 91 [Peter Behr, Charlie Zimmerman and others; *per Paul Converse*]
- 92 Looking north from Monte Carlo Fox Farm
- 93 Skiff Island Fox Farm; Youn Hadlund
- 94 Skiff Island Fox Farm; Mr. & Mrs. Hadlund
- 95 Skiff Island Fox Farm; Mrs. Hadlund & daughter
- 96 Pan full of pups
- 97 Mama, Pete and Hadlund family. Pet fox Buster in Mr. Hadlund's lap
- 98 The Hadlund family
- 99 Marie and pan full of fox pups
- 100 Sumner Island; The log cabin

- 101 Sumner Island; Mrs. Gomoll in garden
- 102 Pete's Neighbors; Hadlunds
- 103 Pete's Neighbors; and Gomolls
- 104 Pete's Neighbors; at Mrs. Gomoll's birthday party
- 105 Winter 1927 Behrs Island Alaska [group of foxes]
- 106 Winter 1927 Behrs Island Alaska; Fox shed
- 107 Winter 1927 Behrs Island Alaska; [fox]
- 108 Winter 1927 Behrs Island Alaska; Motor boat *Hicks*
- 109 Pete carrying food to foxes
- 110 Marie on huge rock formation, foliage growing right out of rock
- 111 Around Pals Island in a row boat; Mama and Pete on way to Behrs Island
- 112 Around Pals Island in a row boat; *Hicks* in distance
- 113 Around Pals Island in a row boat; gulls in front of "Pals" Island
- 114 Polly eating a skate, summer 1927 [fox]
- 115 Polly and one of her pups, winter 1927 [fox]
- 116 Polly, winter 1927, *Hicks* in background [fox]
- 117 Fox pen, winter 1927
- 118 Foxes and pen, winter 1927
- 119 [Peter Behr with foxes; *per Paul Converse*]
- 120 [?] snow capped mountains
- 121 The "nest" & wood shed
- 122 Picking strawberries in Pete's garden; Pete and Mama
- 123 Picking strawberries in Pete's garden; Mama & Marie, Behrs Island in distance

- 124 Picking strawberries in Pete's garden; Just Marie, nest in distance
- 125 Fox pets watching Pete cut wood
- 126 [Group of foxes]
- 127 Where otter was trapped
- 128 Peter Behrs and his foxes 1927; feeding
- 129 Peter Behrs and his foxes 1927; pelts
- 130 Peter Behrs and his foxes 1927; Pete in winter 1927 [shouldering fox pelts]
- 131 Pete's trick fox now with Ringling Brothers Circus
- 132 Pete and fox getting wood for winter
- 133 Pete on *Hicks* with otter & mink
- 134 Storms
- 135 Storms
- 136 The fox farm
- 137 The gas boat *Hicks*
- 138 Behrs Island seen from Point Barry
- 139 [Foxes in yard]
- 140 Pete holding otter & mink he has caught
- 141 Pauline, daughter [fox]
- 142 Neighboring fox farm stocked by Pete
- 143 Neighboring fox farm stocked by Pete
- 144 Pete holding baby foxes
- 145-148 Winter on the fox farm
- 149 Otter caught by Pete

- 150 Otter in trap
- 151 Otter in trap
- 152 The little boat
- 153 [Man with hammer on platform of structure being built, boat in water]
- 154 [Man standing near wooden building]
- 155 [Man sitting on shore with group of foxes]
- 156 [Group of foxes eating]
- 157 Some of the little foxes
- 158 [Pete sitting with two foxes in arms]
- 159 Pete and his Alaskan fox ranch; The love nest
- 160 Pete and his Alaskan fox ranch [Pete hand feeding fox, other foxes around]
- 161 Pauline and her family [foxes]
- 162 Pete and his pets
- 163 [Group of foxes outside building]
- 164 [Two men standing outside building]
- 165 Donkey Bay at high tide
- 166 Donkey Bay seen from Midway Fox Is.
- 166a [No photograph] 13 lbs. "Ruta" grown on the San Juan Fox Farm (Frank Smith in picture.)
- 167 Mrs. Frank Smith on San Juan Fox Farm, Craig and Jahnke owners
- 168 San Juan Fox Farm, Sisters Island, Pybus Bay; Louie Fenford, Charlie Anderson, Jack Olson [3 men gathering fucus, *per Paul Converse*]
- 169 Pybus Bay cannery
- 170 Mr. and Mrs. Elliot – [R.V. & Nellie, *per Paul Converse*]

- 171 48 Fox hides on Pybus Bay Fox Co's Island
- 172 Shake smoke house. Shakes were split out of a tree that Mr. and Mrs Elliott felled and Rawd split them out and Mrs. Elliott nailed them on. Mrs. Dahl, Henrietta (Dahl), Mr. Elliot and Mrs. Elliot
- 173 Foxes feeding on Pybus Bay Fox Island
- 174 Henry, Chris and seven fall venison [Henry Lutro, *per Paul Converse*]
- 175 Foxes feeding
- 176 Mr. Elliott and Mr. Lutro [sitting on boat *Alpha*]
- 177 *Virgin* at anchor [in front of fox farm – Elliott or Midway, *per Paul Converse*]
- 178 Pybus Bay Fox Co's Farm: Dahl York and Elliott, owners
- 179 Furs – Pybus Bay Co's fox island
- 180 Float at Midway Fox Farm. *Virgin* at anchor – Henry's boat. Al Rhymes boat and float.
- 181 Chief Pybus just out of den [fox pup]
- 182 Chief Pybus [fox pup]
- 183 Billy Sunday at dinner time [fox pup]
- 184 Midway Fox Farm; winter
- 185 Midway Fox Farm; Mrs. Lutro and pups [Mrs. Nellie Lutro & pups - former Mrs. Elliott, *per Paul Converse*]
- 186 The log cabin; Mr. Elliott, Mr. Lutro, Mr. Rhymes & Mr. Baker [standing in front of log cabin]
- 187 Henry and stock on Midway Fox Farm
- 188 Peres
- 189 Pete and Peres with the suitcase from home
- 190 Mail boat (larger) Zimmerman boat (smaller) in Brothers Island harbor
- 191 Beautiful snow capped mountains on every side

192-193 Monte Carlo Fox Farm

194 Monte Carlo Fox Farm; Mama, Marie & Pete

194a Monte Carlo Fox Farm; whale bone arch, Pete, Mama and John Hadlund

195 Monte Carlo pups

196 Hadlunds dore [dory]

197 John Hadlund and pet fox

198 [Woman with fox around shoulders]

199 [Woman standing with dog outside of cabin]

200 [Mrs.] C.E. Zimmerman, Brothers Island, Alaska (via Juneau) [with foxes]

201 [Charlie Zimmerman? with foxes, *per Paul Converse*]

202-204 Winter on Behrs Island 1927 [foxes]