

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Kloke, Fritz, Collector

Fritz Kloke Photograph Collection, ca. 1892-1905

PCA 381

119 photographs
.21 linear ft.

Processed: Jan. 1998
I. Spartz, D. Finley
Inventory: L. Spear

ACQUISITION: The photographs were donated by Mr. F.J. "Fred" Gunterman of Sun River, Oregon in May 1997. Acc. No. 1997-021.

ACCESS: The photographs may be viewed. However, the images may not be photocopied.

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

PROCESSING: The photos are arranged by subject. Photographs numbered 113 to 119 are stored in Oversize. A folder-level inventory is available.

Biographical Note

Fritz Kloke was born in Marsberg, Westfallia, Germany in 1860. In 1885 he and a friend hired onto a boat in Germany, assuming it worked European waters, but instead landed in the United States. He wrote to his mother from New York City, explaining that he arrived there by accident, or, sooner than he expected. Another letter written to his mother in 1891, from San Francisco, said he had been in Alaska and would return to the Yukon in the spring. While at Forty Mile Creek during the spring of 1893, he ran several trading and mining businesses. In 1903, he returned to the Yukon Territory (probably Dawson). He lived in Alaska until 1905 then moved to a 160-acre farm near Los Angeles, which became a horticultural showplace in the Imperial Valley. He also started a bank in Calexico. In 1907, he married long-time Alaskan friend, Isabella "Belle" Healy Dossel, widow of Captain John Healy. Kloke and Belle met in Skagway, where he managed some of their mining interests.

Fritz and Isabelle visited Nome for the last time in 1910. Belle died in 1916; Kloke died three years later in 1919.

Scope and Contents Note

The collection of turn of the century photographs contains snapshots as well as studio-mounted images from Winter & Pond, Dobbs, Nowell, Kinne. Subjects include miners, mining and mining camps, Tlingits from Southeast and Eskimos from Nome, and unidentified landscapes. Locations range from the Bering Sea to Southeast Alaska and include Anvil, Nome, Koyokuk River, and many unidentified towns. Two images of the Nome Artic [Arctic] Railroad and the Wild Goose Railroad are included.

Inventory

Folder 1	#1-2	Aleutian Islands
Folder 2	#3	Circle City
Folder 3	#4-6	Dogs
Folder 4	#7	Freighting
Folder 5	#8-26	Mining Camps/Miners
Folder 6	#27-59	Nome area, Eskimos-photos by Dobbs, A.W. Hall, Nowell
Folder 7	#60-67	People - Alaska Natives, Women

Folder 8	#68-70	Russian Orthodox Church
Folder 9	#71-81	Scenery - Unidentified
Folder 10	#82-85	Ships
Folder 11	#86-94	Southeast Alaska: Tlingit Indians, Totem Poles. Photos by Winter and Pond, "B.C. Towne"
Folder 12	#95-111	Towns in Alaska - Unidentified
Folder 13	#112	Wild Goose Railroad, Kinne, photographer

#113-119 are located in Oversize:

#113	Bradfield Canal (looking south) (HNT.238-94)
#114	[Glacier] (HNT.159.94)
#115	Methakahtla (looking S.W.) (HNT.4.94)
#116	Muir Glacier (West Shore) (HNT.120.94.)[Verso] Mis. J.J Healy
#117	[Sign in Photo] Expedition de M. Loicq De Lobel au Klondike (Photographie Du Pont De Fer, Buikard 14, Boul D. Poissonniere, Paris).
#118	[Harbor Scene, faded]
#119	[Freighting with dog sled] Compliments of Capt. J.W. Allard[?] (E.J.Hamacher of White Horse, Y.T.)