

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Thompson, Lennie Robert, d. 1976

Lennie Robert Thompson Photograph Collection, ca. 1938-1939

PCA 420

35 images

Processed by: Gladi Kulp
June 2001

Revised: August 2001

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Shirley Thompson, May 2001, Acc. #2000-41. She delivered the photographs for the Thompson family while on a cruise ship tour through Southeast Alaska. Acc. #2001-57 was added in August 2001.

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 were numbered by staff and housed in mylar. There was no original order to the collection; a few photographs have descriptions written on the back.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Lennie Thompson was head of a Coast Guard Station, place unknown. He came to Alaska in 1938-1939 on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Shosco*, possibly to investigate the crash of the Wiley Post-Will Rogers airplane in 1935. Thompson died in 1976 at age 70.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE:

The collection contains photographs primarily of Dutch Harbor-Unalaska region. There are photographs of whale butchering, native Alaskans in Savoonga and Gambell on St. Lawrence Island. There are also photos of King Island, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Shosco* in Juneau, and a few postcards including one of the Post-Rogers airplane disaster. Thompson was probably in Alaska in 1938-1939. Accession # 2001-57 was added to the end of the collection.

INVENTORY

Photographs: some images have descriptions on verso probably written by Lennie Thompson

1-3	Butchering a whale
4-7	Native Alaskans on St. Lawrence Island
8-10	Native Alaskans
11-12	King Island
13	Unalaska-Dutch Harbor region
14	Navy Radio Station, Dutch Harbor
15	[Kodiak]
16	[Dutch Harbor per Anne Rowland, former director of Museum of the Aleutians]
17-19	Postcards of Unalaska, Nome, Post-Rogers airplane crash at Pt. Barrow
20	U.S. Coast Guard Cutter <i>Shasca</i> docked at Juneau, 1938

- 21 Ship in polar ice
- 22 U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Itaska [Itasca] (sunk Japanese submarine 1942)

Accession #2001-57 (added in August 2001): descriptions are taken from the verso of the photographs, probably written by Lennie Thompson

- 23 Unalaska, Alaska, June, 1939. Taken from "Itasca"
- 24 King Island natives in one of their "oomiaks" [skin boat]
- 25 Buying ivory novelties from the King Islanders
- 26 King Island natives on board Itasca
- 27 [front:] CWO-1 Linnie [Lennie] Thompson
- 28 [Kodiak. 2 buildings on waterfront; on roof of building on left: W.J. Erskine Co.]

Digitized images:

- 29-35 [Ivory novelties: "Thompson exchanged a bar of ivory soap and a Hershey bar with natives for these artifacts"]