

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

**Whittier, William A.**

**U.S.S. Perry & U.S.R.C. Thetis Alaskan Cruises, 1902-1908**

**PCA 425-30**

2 Albums, paper and leather binding.  
86 b&w photographs

Processed by: Alea Oien, 4/2009  
Anastasia Tarmann, 2011

**ACQUISITION:** The collection was donated by Deborah W. Sterling, granddaughter of William A. Whittier, to the Alaska State Library Historical Collections and is accessioned as 2002-69.

**ACCESS:** The collection is unrestricted.

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**PROCESSING:** This collection has been described at the item level. All items have been placed in mylar and into pH-neutral folders.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The photographs in this collection belonged to William A. Whittier. He was a young lieutenant in the Revenue Cutter Service apparently serving in Alaska on two separate Revenue Cutter cruises. His photograph appears in one of the group shots in album one. The donor never knew her grandfather; nor did her father, who was only 8 months old when his father was mugged in the streets of Boston in August, 1911. William Whittier died that same night of an undiscovered hematoma from being clubbed on the head.

R. Newton Hawley documented at least one of the cruises (that of the U.S.S. *Perry*) with his photographs. Dr. Hawley was a Surgeon in the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Two photograph albums, two separate trips: one on the Revenue Cutter *Perry* in 1902-8; and the other aboard the Revenue Cutter *Thetis* in 1908. Siberian and Alaskan Arctic circle villages, coastal Alaskan and British Columbian towns, including fish racks, waterways, Pavlof Mountain eruption, glaciers, sod houses, Eskimo burial site, totem poles.

## SUBJECTS

Revenue cutters, Eskimos, Villages, Totems, Church buildings, Unalaska, Nushagak, Chignik, Howkan, Sitka, Juneau, Fort Wrangel.

## INVENTORY

### Folder 1 of 2

*Album 1*: Pictures taken on cruise of U.S.R.C. Thetis, 1908.

1. Native House and Family, St. Lawrence Bay, Siberia
2. "Thetis," Behring Sea, June 17, 1908.
3. Reindeer, St. Lawrence Bay, Siberia
4. Point Barrow Esquimo Women.
5. Esquimo Grave, Point Hope. [Grave surrounded by whale bones and human skulls]
6. R.C.S. Officers on Alaskan duty, 1908
7. "Reinburg's Army"

8. "Reinburg's Army"
9. Seal Rookery, St. George Island.

**Folder 2 of 2**

*Album 2:* U.S.S. Perry; Alaskan Cruise. 1902-08; From The Collection Of; R.N. Hawley. Surgeon. R.C.S.

1. Surgeon Hawley.
2. U.S. Revenue Cutter Perry.
3. The "Sky Pilot" - Lieut. Molloy.
4. Mount Pavlof.
5. Unalaska, Aleutian Islands.
6. Old Greek Church, Unalaska.
7. Unalaska.
8. Greek Church, Ugashik.
9. Indians drying salmon, Nushagak River.
10. Johnson's Cannery, Nushagak.
11. Native Houses, Nushagak.
12. More Kalatat's Totem.
13. Mt. Pavlof in eruption.
14. Wood Island - view from Pavloff's house.
15. Baptist Mission, Wood Island.
16. Greek Church, Wood Island.
17. Greek Church, Kodiak.
18. Kodiak.
19. Valdez Glacier, Prince William Sound.
20. Chignik Bay Cannery. Perry's launch in foreground.

21. Castle Rock, Chignik Bay.
22. Stream near Chignik.
23. Stream near Chignik.
24. Cannery, Orea.
25. Fort Liscum, Prince William Sound, Near Valdez.
26. [Valdez Glacier and town of Valdez]
27. U.S. Marine Barracks, Sitka. Governor's House on left. Presbyterian Church.
28. Old Russian Block House, Sitka.
29. U.S.S. Perry at Government Wharf, Sitka.
30. Indian River, Sitka.
31. Old Russian Barracks, Sitka.
32. Totem at Sitka.
33. Chancel, Greek Church, Sitka.
34. Greek Church, Sitka.
35. Woman's Club, Sitka.
36. Totems, Sitka.
37. Sitka.
38. Sitka. Perry in harbor.
39. Madonna, Greek Church, Sitka.
40. Sitka. Mt. Verstovoi. [Mt. Verstovia]
41. Juneau.
42. Juneau.
43. Na-Ha Hatchery. Col. Kutchin.

44. Na-Ha Stream.
45. Na-Ha Stream. Lt. Hamlet and Col. Kutchin.
46. Rapids, Na-Ha Stream.
47. Na-Ha Stream, above Loring – Salmon jumping falls.
48. Salmon Hatchery, Na-Ha Stream.
49. Old Burial Totems, Howkan.
50. Burial Totems, Howkan.
51. Chief Skolka's Totem, Howkan. "Russian Admiral"
52. Sea Totem, Howkan.
53. Totems, Howkan.
54. Totem, Howkan.
55. Burial Totems, Howkan.
56. Totem at Howkan, Beaver.
57. [Inside Passage]
58. Stream on Vancouver Id.
59. Stream on Vancouver Island.
60. Stream on Vancouver Island.
61. Burial Totems, Ketchikan.
62. Burial Totem, Ketchikan.
63. Totems, Fort Wrangel.
64. Old U.S. Barracks, Fort Wrangel.
65. Totem, Fort Wrangel.
66. Totems, Fort Wrangel.
67. Totems, Fort Wrangel.

68. Totem, Fort Wrangel.
69. Indian Doctor, Kassan.
70. No photograph.
71. Davidson Glacier, Near Haines Mission.
72. New U.S. Army Post, Haines Mission.
73. Father Duncan, Metlakatla.
74. Indian Church at Metlakatla. [Exterior view]
75. Indian Church, Metlakatla. [Interior view]
76. Metlakatla.
77. 792. Onondaga. Copyright, 1903, By A. Loeffler, Tompkinsville, N.Y.  
[Commercial photograph of a large ship]