

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Cox, Lillian Lewis

Lillian Lewis Cox Photograph Collection, ca. 1903-1910

PCA 556

1 folder
33 b/w photographs

Processed by: Sara Bornstein
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ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Colleen Jackson. Acc. # 2012-060.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

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PROCESSING: The photographs have been organized, described, and sleeved.

BIOGRAPHICAL or HISTORICAL NOTE

Lillian Lewis was born in California gold country on December 15, 1889, in a small town called Sheep Ranch. Both of her parents had been born in that area and her father worked for Sheep Ranch Mine. When she was 20 she married Thomas P. Roust who owned "valuable mining claims in Alaska," as reported in the newspaper. She was his second wife; the first lived just over a year with him and died in Candle City, Alaska. He was eleven years older than Lillian.

Roust was a Dane that had come to America in 1888 with his family and settled in Oakland, CA. He headed up to Alaska in 1903 to seek his fortune. The 1910 census has the pair living near Cape Nome in an area described as "Scattered prospectors and miners outfits on tundra between Jess Creek and Snake River." Deering Alaska is also mentioned in letters home and on the backs of the photos in the collection.

The pictures show happy times enjoying the outdoor life in Alaska and some of the mining operations. By the 1920 census Lillian is listed as "married" but is working as a nurse in San Francisco. Roust had a 3rd wife by the 1930 census and not much is known about the divorce with Lillian.

Lillian eventually married a Mr. Cox and was well respected during her long tenure as the Superintendent of Nurses for the Tehama County Hospital in northern California. She died on May 28, 1968 in Alameda California.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

SUBJECTS

- Gold Rush
- Voyage

INVENTORY

1 Biography

Lillian Lewis Roust

- 2 Deering, AK Christmas 1913 & Invitation to Camp Christmas Celebration
- 3 [Children being pushed downhill on a sled]
- 4 Lillian Lewis Roust [sitting with an open book in front of cluttered walls]
- 5 Lillian Lewis Roust [and unidentified male herding reindeer]
- 6 Lillian Lewis Roust [sitting outside in a fur coat]
- 7 Lillian Lewis Roust 1910 [standing in front of a well? Wearing a fur coat]
- 8 Lillian Lewis Roust [and unidentified male ice fishing?]
- 9 Lillian Lewis Roust [wearing snowshoes and an Eskimo parka]
- 10 Lillian Lewis Roust [standing in a field outside a house]
- 11 Lillian Lewis Roust [sitting in snow and wearing a fur coat]
- 12 Lillian & Thomas Roust [skiing]

Boat Voyage

- 13 [Passengers posing on deck]
- 14 [Lillian Lewis Roust and unidentified male relaxing in chairs]
- 15 [An officer, possibly the captain, posing on deck]
- 16 [Men and boys pose among ropes and rigging]

Landscapes, Mining & Eskimos

- 17 [Postcard of miner hosing rocks]
- 18 [Scenic Postcard]
- 19 Looking North East from highway. Reflection of Mountains on opposite shore is shown in lake.
- 20 [Reflection of Mountains on opposite shore is shown in lake.]
- 21 [Reflection of Mountains on opposite shore is shown in lake.]
- 22 Postcard from Nels to Mrs. T. P. Raust in Deering, AK: After the Big Storm- Nome, Alaska, 1913. 5.5 "Victorial" Lying in the Roadstead.
- 23 [Postcard of men with dogsled teams]
- 24 [Dogsled team with musher]
- 25 [Men outside Keewalik Hotel & Restaurant]
- 26 [Postcard: 1910 snow scenery]
- 27 [Dogsled team and musher in snowy scenery]
- 28 [Two women with shovels and mane pose for a photo while gold panning]
- 29 [Postcard: 1910 mining operations]
- 30 [Unidentified male gathering flowers]
- 31 Merry Christmas 1913 [Matted photograph of one story buildings on land spit with kayaker in the water]

Other

- 32 The S. S. "Victoria" Bucking Heavy Seas in Bering. Photo taken 8 p.m. Lomen Bros. Nome. #901
- 33 [Man in fur top.] Copyright 1903 by Lomen Bros. Nome #23.
- 34 Deering, AK or Angel's Camp, CA