

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Guide to Collection

Smith, Alexander Malcolm, 1859-1958

Scrapbook of Alexander Malcolm Smith, ca. 1926-1958

MS 4-6-2

[Contents list prepared by Willette Janes]

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Alexander Malcolm Smith was born Jan. 1, 1858 in Inverness, Scotland. At the age of sixteen he served an apprenticeship with the Hudson's Bay Company in Canada for three years. His personal adventures and exploration in the North made his knowledge of Alaska and Canada of value to many seeking his services. He made gold strikes in the Klondike and Nome, built several roadhouses, discovered oil seepages that are now the United States Naval Oil Reserve. He was second in command for the Wilkins Arctic Expedition of 1926-1927, made mineral discoveries in Siberia, and was honored by many groups; Royal Geographical Society, American Geographical Society, and Explorer's Club.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The Library file includes photocopies of the scrapbook of Alexander Malcolm Smith, loaned by his wife, Ann (now King) of Seattle, and his son Malcolm Alexander.

Photos form a different collection, PCA 136.

INVENTORY

	PAGE
Photograph of Alexander Malcolm Smith	1
Biography,- Encyclopedia Northwest Biography	2-4
Photographs "Sandy" Smith; Earl Rossman; Smith, wife Elizabeth Ann, and son Malcolm A. Smith, - 1946; town of Ruby; gold diggings; and 14 of Wilkins Expedition.	5-10
Photographs of Smith and Capt. George Wilkins; invitation to Adventurers' Club dinner, 1927; and letter from the Mayor of Berkeley, Cal., Louis Bartlett, to Smith thanking him for the use of his dogs at Christmas, 1920.	11
Photograph of Smith and steamer <i>Baychimo</i> .	12
<i>The Daily Province</i> - Newspaper articles, ca. 1922, describing Smith's intended 25,000 mile, 4 year trip through Siberia by dog team. Included is a description of his involvement with motion pictures, mining, and personal comments.	12
Letter: to Barrett Willoughby from Merle Crowell, <i>American Magazine</i> , 1924, requesting Smith's personal story in a forthcoming article. Also a poem entitled "New York City Potlatch", 1925.	13
Menu: Banquet honoring Sandy at the Harvard Club, November 17, 1925.	14
Letter: to Miss K.O. Smith from S.H. Brooks, Alaskan geologist, Dept. of Interior, thanking her for information on whereabouts of Smith, 1924.	15
"Noted Arctic Explorer Here Still Following Lure of Gold.", <i>Vancouver Daily Press</i> , Feb. 1939. Account concerning Smith's negotiations for drilling sections in the Atlin mining districts and some biographic material; short articles on the Wilkins Expedition of 1926, and a brief description of the golf game in the Arctic during that period.	16
"Lions Will Receive Their Charter Tonight", newspaper article and photo relating to Smith's appearance as guest speaker	17
Telegram: Brooks Geological Survey to A.M. Smith requesting whereabouts of "Scooy" (sic) Smith. "Famous Pioneer to be Chamber Guest at Weekly Meeting". Newspaper article on Smith's upcoming talk.	18
Telegram: A.H. Brooks to K.O. Smith, Sausalito, Cal., requesting additional information. Penciled reply refers to Smith's trip into Russia.	19
" <u>A Trail Blazer's Adventures at the Top of the World</u> ", by Barrett Willoughby, <i>The American Magazine</i> , Nov. 1925. Story of Smith's adventures in the North; gold	

and oil discoveries; Smith's personal comments flowing through the article.	22-2
Photographs: Smith on "ski boat"; "Sourdough" party at Arctic oil field; blanket toss; schooner "Silver Wave" used for race to Arctic oil fields.	22-2
"Sausalito Man Sails for Alaska; Experts to Locate New Land", <i>Sausalito News</i> , Jan. 23, 1926, relates Smith's experiences in the arctic.	30
"Sandy Smith Brings Back Word of Many Old-Time Alaska Men." <i>Sausalito News</i> , Jan. 23, 1926. A review of Smith's various lectures.	31
"Polar Flight Vanguard Sail North Sunday." <i>Daily Times</i> , Jan. 13, 1926.	32
Article on Smith's involvement with the Wilkins Expedition.	32
"Arctic Lecture Was Enjoyed." <i>Daily Times</i> , Jan. 13, 1926. Review of Smith's lecture before Women's Club.	32
"Famed Sourdough is Visitor Here." Newspaper article describing Smith's plans for a tour of the U.S. and Mexico, including biographical material.	33
Photos: Smith, wife Elizabeth and son Malcolm; Smiths in front of helicopter	34
"Commander of Polar Expedition... Success of Exhibition Plans." <i>News Digest</i> circa 1926. Article about Capt. George Wilkins' planned Detroit arctic Exhibition and Smith's involvement.	35
"Lost Arctic Continent," February 1, 1926. Newspaper account of Smith and Capt. Wilkins' Arctic Expedition; describes the route and transportation of supplies.	36
"Iron Caravan Resumes Trek" Feb. 13, 1926. Newspaper article commenting on the expedition's use of "snow motors" for transporting supplies	36
"Advance Guard of Pole Party on Way Inside". <i>Anchorage Daily Times</i> , Jan. 25, 1926. Article reports on Smith and the advance guards plans with the Wilkins Arctic Expedition	37
"Arctic Adventurers Arrive in Alaska for Polar Flight", <i>The News</i> , Denver, Colorado, Jan. 24, 1926. Newspaper account of preparation for Detroit Arctic Expedition.	37
Photographs: "Leaders in Pole Flight Welcomed to Detroit", <i>The Detroit News</i> , January, 1926; showing Capt. Wilkins, Viljalmur Stefansson, A. Malcolm Smith, and various dignitaries.	38
Hutchinson, Palmer, "Alaska Flight on Tomorrow", <i>The Bulletin</i> , March 10, 1926. Article reports on start of famed Wilkins expedition.	39
Lanan, Bella. "The Strange Case near the Top of the World". Newspaper	

article and cartoon depicting an event that ended up in the courts.	39
Pickering, Loring, "Wilkins to Get Flying Start in Race to Arctic". Newspaper account of Wilkins Arctic Expedition; biographical material on Smith.	40
"Sandy Smith, Celebrated Explorer and Yukon Guide, is Guest in Green Bay." Newspaper account of Smith's exploits in Alaska and Russia.	40
Photograph: Sandy using his "sail skis" in the Arctic.	40
Earp, Frederick Lewis, "Wilkins Polar Base Moves to Barrow Today." Newspaper accounts of Wilkins' flight from Barrow and subsequent disappearance; Smith's sled dogs "Slim" and "Red"; Smith's collection recollections of time spent in a Russian prison; and humorous account of mistaken identity, ca. 1926.	41
"Arctic Flyers Fail, Mushers Face Death", Los Angeles Evening News, 1926, Accounts of Smith, mushers, and dogs facing possible starvation during overland trip for Wilkins Arctic Expedition, and emergency flight to supply food.	42
"The Fighting Men on the Tanana". Article describing the route of the Detroit Arctic Expedition and the problems they will encounter.	42
"Sausalito Man Fails in Arctic Snow Motor Expedition". Newspaper account of Smith's failure to haul supplies for Wilkins to Pt. Barrow.	43
"Aviator 'Sees' Through Fog by New Device". Newspaper account describing Wilkins' use of new scientific instruments such as gyroscope, air speed indicator, etc. to solve problems of navigating near Pole.	43
"Pole Fliers Push Hunt for Chief", <i>The Bulletin</i> , April 23, 1926. Newspaper account of Major Lanphier's preparations to fly to Pt. Barrow.	44
Earp, Frederick Lewis, "2nd Plane Joins Hunt for Wilkins". Newspaper account of the "missing" Wilkins Arctic Expedition, and speculations by Viljalmur Stefansson.	44
"Sandy Smith Sees Friends at Purgatory", ca. 1926. Article about Smith's trip to Purgatory, Alaska as candidate for Territorial Auditor	44
"Polar Fliers Push Hunt for Chief", <i>The Bulletin</i> , April 23, 1926. Accounts of search for Capt. Wilkins and Ben Eielson.	44
Boyes, Kathleen. "Our Arctic Heritage". Poem predicting tourist influx as result of Wilkins' expedition.	44
Photographs: "Major Lanphier to Fly Over Pole with Wilkins"; "Planes and Advance Party", and Smith mapping airplane route.	45
O'Cotter, Pat. "That North Pole Trip", 1927. Article criticizing Wilkins, and	

Detroit Arctic Expedition, and others attempts at climbing Mt. McKinley.	46
Photograph: Smith and Edmundo Chamarro on the ship Columbia, 1927.	46
"Lost Arctic Continent - Ex-Aberdeen F.C. Player", Jan. 1, 1926. Newspaper account of Smith's involvement with the Wilkins Arctic Expedition.	47
Waldron, Malcolm T. "Soviet Terror Reign Told by 'Sandy' Smith", March 14, 1929. Newspaper account of Smith's experiences in Okhotsk, Russia.	47-48
"This Enchanted Isle", <i>New York Evening Post</i> , Jan. 16, 1926. Biographical material on Smith's adventures, discoveries, and his reminiscences.	48
"The First Yukon Jury". Newspaper account describing early cases of the Grand Jury in Circle City, Yukon Territory.	48
"Sandy Smith to Talk Before P.T.A. Tuesday", <u>Daily Alaska Empire</u> . Newspaper account of Smith's lecture on his adventures, including movie roles.	
<u>Photographs</u> : Smith's two sled dogs and footprint of "Baldy of Nome".	49
<u>Correspondence</u> : Jan. 9, 1926, R. Kersting, Secretary of Explorers Club to Smith thanking him for his gift of a Mammoth tusk and molar.	49
Award from the Council of the American Geographical Society certifying Smith as a "Fellow", Nov. 21, 1933.	50
"Nautical Hits and Misses", <i>SS Haleakala Radio News</i> , July 20, 1934. Reporting Smith as a passenger, dancing the Highland Fling, and with brief comments on Pullen House and Skagway.	51
Jamison, H.E., "Along the Waterfront-Real Sourdough", <i>Seattle Star</i> , Aug. 17, 1936 Narrative on Jamison's visit to Juneau, Alaska and subsequent meeting with Smith, including biographic material.	52
"Old Time Prospector Prepares to Hit Klondike Trail at 81", ca. 1940. Biographic material on Smith; his experiences in Russia; and the sighting of Amundsen's dirigible.	53
Photographs: Cast and crew of movie "Big Game", starring May Allison; Alfred Brooks party on "Conenaught"; two beach scenes; caricature of Smith; crew of Fokker on Wilkins expedition of 1926; and unknown gold diggings.	54-57
Correspondence: R. Halpin, American Historical Co., Inc., Publishers, to Smith informing him of biographical material in the "Encyclopedia of Northwest Biography", June 6, 1940; letter from Charles E. Bunnell, U. of A., to Smith, thanking him for information on Col. Alfred H. Brooks; comments on other pioneers; letter from Jas. G. Steese, Royal Interocean Lines, to Miss Cummings, informing her that he had missed Smith, and various comments on his activities.	58-60

- "Sandy Smith in D.C. on Oil Matters Accompanied by Burr and Stories", *The Washington Post and Times*, March 9, 1955. Account of Smith's reason for visiting D.C. and brief biographical data. 61
- "The Higher Latitudes are Healthy", *The Higher Latitudes-Newsletter*, Dec. 1, 1955. Brief account of Smith's amazing vitality at 96; "tall tales"; various paragraphs on life and people in the North, and hunting tips. 62-63
- Henning, Bob, "Indestructible Sandy Striking Wilderness", May 3, 1955. Newspaper account of Smith's experiences in Alaska, Mexico, Russia, and personal comments. 64
- "Sandy Smith Not Talking", *Jessens Weekly*, 1955. Account of interview with Smith upon his return from three and one half months in the Arctic and Illustration of Naval Petroleum Reserve # 4, discovered by Smith. 65
- "Sandy Smith, 96, Sourdough Won't Quit, Hits Trail Again", *The Daily Alaska Empire*, ca. 1953. Biographical material blended with anecdotes by Smith on experiences in the Arctic, Siberia, and dog mushing. 66
- Vera, Dorothy H., "Sandy Smith a 'Young' Sourdough at 97", Aug. 27, 1955. Newspaper account of Smith's experiences, including discovery of oil and "Mountain of Jade"; first ski club in Juneau, Alaska; first Grand Jury member; and his plans to write a book. 67
- Hughes, Doris, "Alaska Explorer Visits in Area". Biographical material on Smith from Salinas, Cal. newspaper, including his knowledge of an "island stacked high with ivory, walrus tusks, copper nuggets, and a 'mountain of jade'" 68
- Donaldson, Cy, "Arctic Adventurer- Fabled Life Led by 96 Year Old Visitor", *Chico Enterprise Record*, May 28, 1956. Account of Smith's discoveries; involvement with Wilkins Expedition; prospecting; and additional biographical material. 69
- "Prospector 'King' Seeking Uranium", *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Sept. 25, 1957, Biographical material on Smith including anecdotes by him. 70
- "Alaska Pioneer Visiting Here", *Torrance Herald (Cal.)* Jan. 6, 1957. Newspaper account of Smith's visit with Tom Watson; and biographical material. 71
- Photographs: "Old Klondike Days", Smith and friend Tom Watson, and Passport photo of Smith. 71
- Croman, Dorothy Young, "Sandy Smith: Exploits of the Remarkable Man"³, *Seattle Post-Intellig6htor -NORTHWEST*, Aug. 28, 1947. Biographical material; reminiscences by Smith; and account of his death on June 24, 1958, in Cal. 72-75