Lewis, Richard F.

Richard F. Lewis Photograph Collection, ca. 1907-1930

PCA 103

138 b&w photographs

Processed by: Staff
Updated by: Jacki Swearingen, July 2018

ACQUISITION: The source of the collection is unknown.

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: Photograph are numbered and housed in Mylar.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Richard F. Lewis came to Alaska around 1894, following his graduation from Harvard Law School. He married in 1898 in San Francisco and brought his bride, Grace, to Juneau. They spent their time between Juneau and California. In 1900 he was among the group of Alaskans who lobbied successfully in Washington, D.C. to have Alaska's capital moved from Sitka to Juneau. He retired to Piedmont, California in 1952 and died in 1955.

Lewis was called upon in 1938 to assist the Alaska Commercial Company of San Francisco, a trading company operating in Alaska, in establishing its title to the wharf and other property at Unalaska. By 1938 the company had sold all of their Alaska holdings except their trading posts at Dutch Harbor and Unalaska to former employees who organized as Northern Commercial Company. Dutch Harbor and Unalaska had been part of their original purchase from the Russian American Company in 1867. With increased U.S. Navy activity in the area in the late 1930s, the company's officers were concerned that their property would be taken over for military use.

The Dutch Harbor and Unalaska properties and merchandise were sold in August 1940 to Northern Commercial Company. Two weeks later the Navy selected Dutch Harbor as its Aleutian Island headquarters. The trading post there ceased operations for the next two years. The Unalaska post, however, continued in operation, catering to the many civilian construction workers as well as military personnel and local residents.

Alaska Commercial Company operations were divided into four Districts: Kodiak, St. Michael, Unalaska, and the Pribilof Islands. Some of the existing records have been assembled by W.J. Erskine, a longtime company employee who purchased the Kodiak District property in 1911. The records for the Kodiak District collected by Mr. Erskine are held by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and have been inventoried by Wendell H. Oswalt in ALASKA COMMERCIAL COMPANY RECORDS: 1868-1911. Records for the St. Michael District and the Pribilof Islands are scattered, some being held by Wilson F. Erskine and others by the Jackson Library, Stanford University. Most of the Unalaska District records have been lost or destroyed.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The photographs in this collection include views of Juneau, Sitka, Flat City and Iditarod. Views of Juneau include the Gold Creek Dam and flume construction, 1928, Juneau buildings, general views, and fires. Photographers represented in the collection include Trevor Davis, the Snap Shoppe, Lomen, and Ordway. Many of the images were taken by unidentified photographers.

INVENTORY

Descriptive information not in brackets was found on front or verso of photograph


3 Flat City, Alaska. Front Street, May 1911. [Stanley's Restaurant & Lodging and other storefronts]

4 Flat City, Alaska. Grand Hotel 1910. [N. Glantz - S. Swanson proprietors]


6 [Steamer COTTAGE CITY]

7 [Juneau, Alaska. General view 1925]

8 [Group of people seated on tramcar. Woman holding WE ARE MARRIED BANNER] (Lomen Bros. Photo)


10 [Mudslide]


13 Scottish Rite Temple [Juneau, Alaska] Alaska Scenic Views Photo 17

14 Juneau, Alaska. [General view including Gastineau Channel and Douglas] ©T. Davis. 251)

15 [Rockslide]

16a,b [Mountain scenics]


18 Juneau, Alaska. [from Sandy Beach, Douglas] © Ordway-Neff


http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA103.pdf
21     [Same as #16]
22     [Waterfall]
23     [Waterfall]
24     [Scenics]
25     [Same as #23]
26     Alaska - Juneau Mill
28     Gold Hill Hotel
29     [Gold Creek flume 1898 or 1899]
30a    [Dogs playing in water, buildings on bank of river]
30b    Course of Iditarod River. On the Iditarod River the boat you see was running in same direction we were but she was going down stream while we were proceeding up. We had gone eight miles to reach the point where we were from the point where the other boat is situated."
31b    Juneau Hotel fire. 1:30 A.M. Sept. 4, 1911. Winter - Pond Co.
32     [Juneau fire] © 30 Ordway
33     [Juneau fire] © 30 Ordway
34     Goldstein Bldg Fire. Snap Shoppe
35     [Juneau fire] T. Davis
36a    Spectacular $50,000 fire threatens business district. Juneau, Alaska. ©30 Ordway
36b    Jorgenson’s Motors [Building near building on fire, Juneau] T. Davis
37     Goldstein Building fire. Snap Shoppe
38     [Juneau fire] T. Davis
39     [Construction site]
40  [Barge]
41  [Man standing on logs attached to a rope, poling through water]
42  [Three men standing outside log cabin, sleds in foreground]
43  [Pacific Coast Lumber Co.]
44  [River scene]
45  Scow CHENA sinking. Eighteen miles below Dikeman. May 27, 1911.
46  [Horses pulling sleds]
47  [Construction site]
48  [Native women, children, and man standing by building]
49  [Native camp. Fish nets leaning on tent]
50  [Same as #47]
51  [Horses pulling wagon in snow]
52  [Group of Native children]
53  [Canvas covered automobile]
54  [Men on bow of vessel]
55  Wier [Weir], View 1, Mar. 10, 1907. Showing flow of water over crest immediately after measurement. R. G. Wayland.
56  [Horse pulling sled, man in back holding reigns]
57  [Fish drying on racks]
58  Wier [Weir], View 1, Mar. 2, 1907. Showing flow over crest immediately after measurement. R. G. Wayland.
59  [Building construction]
60  First Boat of Season Landing. Iditarod, Alaska. May 19, 1911. [WHITE SEAL]
61  Wier [Weir], View 2, Mar. 10, 1907. R. G. Wayland.
62  [Gold Creek] Upper part of Spring No.5, Mar. 12, 1907, R. G. Wayland

63  [Gold Creek] Upper part of Spring No.5, Mar. 10, 1907. Showing that all flow had ceased and spring was dry. R. G. Wayland.

64  [Gold Creek] Spring No.5, View 1, Mar. 12, 1907. R. G. Wayland.

65  [Gold Creek] Creek bed above flume at Spring No. 5, Mar. 12, 1907. Showing that the bed of Gold Creek was dry at this point. R. G. Wayland.

66  [Gold Creek flume]

67  [Barge EDNA]

68-79 [Flume construction]

80  [Unidentified town; four buildings and a number of doghouses]

81  [Two men crossing creek on logs]

82  [Construction site]


84  [Man & dogs wading creek]

85  [Steamer DAWSON at wharf]

86  [People standing at back of horse drawn cart]

87  [Twin Totems]

88  [Man crossing creek (see also #41)]

89  [Flume]

90  [Sled dogs crossing river]

91  [Dogs, pulling sled and man] Clemons Photo, Ruby, Alaska. 1912.

92  [Construction area]

93  [Fish wheel on river]

94  [Dogs, sled and men crossing creeks]

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA103.pdf
[Similar to view 86]

[Gold Creek] Spring No.5, View 1, Mar. 10, 1907.  R. G. Wayland

Flume, view 2, Mar. 9, 1907.  Showing dry bed of Gold Creek at Spring No.5.  R. G. Wayland.

Shaft House, View 1, Mar. 10, 1907.  Showing height of surface on Mar. 10 in pond at head of Jualpa shaft.  R. G. Wayland.

Shaft House, View 1, Mar. 12, 1907.  Showing that the water surface has risen nearly to normal height.  R. G. Wayland.

[Small log cabin]

[Horses pulling sleds]

[Steamer WHITE SEAL]

[Men working on railroad track]

Spring No.5, View 1, Mar. 2, 1907.  Taken on North side of flume.  R. G. Wayland.

[Men, dogs, cabin and cache]

Shaft House, Mar. 9, 1907.  View of pond & shaft house at head of Jualpa shaft, showing fall of water surface about two hours after plug has been removed from tunnel.  R. G. Wayland.

[Sleds filled with supplies by cabin]

[Man & Dogs crossing creek]

Flume View 1, Mar. 9, 1907.  Showing dry bed of Gold Creek at Spring No.5.  R. G. Wayland.

Side view of flume exterior.  Wooden flume replaced by concrete.

Shaft House, View 2, Mar. 10, 1907.  Same as View 1.  R. G. Wayland.

Summer tourists 1905

Lower end view flume exterior.

Shaft House, View 2, Mar. 12, 1907.  R. G. Wayland
[Men standing outside of log building with sign that says “SALOON”]

Flat City?

[Celebrating opening of Gold Creek flume]

[Flat City?, log buildings and canoes near water]

[People and wagon outside of log building with sign that says “ROADHOUSE”]

[Small log cabin]

HALF WAY ROADHOUSE

[Ruby, Alaska, street scene]

[Fairbanks Stage carrying U.S. Mail]

[Dredge]

[Ruby, Alaska, street scene (same as #122)]

[Horse pulling sled]

[Horse drawn cart, “Budweiser” sign on building in background]

[Cabin along river]

Juneau, Alaska. [General view] (T. Davis #253)

Juneau, Alaska. Elk’s Building. Gastineau Hotel (Kirk photo)

[Mouth of Tunnel Mar. 9, 1907. Showing flow of water from mouth of Jualpa Tunnel after plug was removed from bulkhead. R. G. Wayland.

#3, 5-3-14. [Gold Creek flume construction]

#1, 5-3-14. [Gold Creek flume construction]

#2, 5-3-14. [Gold Creek flume construction]
Photographs 135-138 are housed in PCA Oversize


136 The Great Fire that nearly destroyed the City of Douglas Alaska, Oct. 10th 1916.

137 [Large group of men in Elks Hall; probably annual roll call] (Elite Studio, Juneau, Alaska)


INVENTORY OF ORIGINAL NEGATIVES
Negatives stored in freezer in vault

1 Box
6 printed negatives: #28, 30b, 40, 52, 89, 102
6 negatives that have no prints