Blankenberg, J. M.

J. M. Blankenberg Photograph Collection, ca. 1910

PCA 125

35 photographs Processed Rev. 1994
India Spartz

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Biographical Note

John Martin Blankenberg was born in Tragdor, Norway, October 24, 1860. He came to Alaska during the Klondike Gold Rush and worked as a photographer in Dawson, Haines, and possibly other locations. Little is known of his personal life. He was married at one time and spent the latter part of his life in Tenakee, Alaska, which is where he died, August 19, 1939. He is best known for his photos of Haines, Lake Bennett, and Lake Lindeman, the Chilkat Indians, and activities on the Chilkoot Pass.

Scope and Contents

Scenes of the Chilkoot Pass, Port Chilkoot (Haines), Chilkat, Porcupine and Haines Alaska, mining, and the Chilkat and Sitka Indians.

Inventory

1a. [Construction of buildings at Port Chilkoot.]

1b. [Construction of buildings at Port Chilkoot.]

2. [Port Chilkoot buildings. View taken from the water with mountains in background.]

3. [Haines street scene with wharf leading to Bay Trading Co. and Bakery in view.]

4. [Snow-covered street scene with men, snowshoes and dogsled in front of General Merchandise Store.]

5. [Snow-covered street scene with buildings, men, snowshoes and dogsled in view.]

6. [Horse-drawn sleigh filled with people waiting in front of Porcupine Trading Store; Nettlesford Hardware storefront in view.]

7. Starting on the trail for Bullion Creek, Atlin District [horse-drawn sleigh loaded with supplies, men and harnessed dogs standing on snow-covered street in front of building].

8. Interior of Kodenahas house, Klukwan [four Native men dressed in traditional regalia].

9. Haines, Alaska [a waterfront view of Haines]. (#32)
10. Chilkoot Pass [a winter view of groups of men going up the Pass.] (#18079)

11. [Dog team with driver pulling loaded sled.]

12. Group of Sitka Indians at Klukwan [group of men on steps of building, most in costume]. (#159)

13. Chilkat Salmon Cannery, Chilkat, Alaska [view of buildings from above; sailing ship and other small boats in bay].

14. Gardners Claim on Christmas Creek [view from below of sluice box, gravel bed and creek; tent in far background].

15. [Bachelor Avenue, Porcupine, Alaska; several men, a woman and a girl posing in front of log-based tents.]

16. [Totems, Howkan, Alaska.]

17. Whip sawing lumber Lindeman [two men sawing, two men standing under log trestle; tents, boats and snowy mountains in background].

18. The Dead Horse Trail [skeletons and bodies of horses strewn in foreground; bridge, trees, mountains in background].

19. Porcupine City [log storefronts with groups of people outside; Board and Home Bakery at left].

20. Kutawat Chief of Chilkats [Native man holding cane, seated in chair, covered with blanket and fur throw, hat on ground]. (#108)

21. Broadway Skagway, Alaska [street scene looking northeast; storefronts, crowd near storefront named Yukon Outfitters; railroad tracks running length of street; Yukon Outfitters on left side of street; Kaufman (?) Brothers banner displayed over street, mountains in background].

22. [Winter view of groups of people walking up Chilkoot Pass; tents, gear in foreground.]

23. Haines, Alaska [view of Haines from water; person in open boat in left foreground].

24. [Aerial view of Skagway, Alaska looking northeast with Skagway River and snowcapped mountains in background.]
25. Chilkat River [canoe with two masts and sails, two men standing, two men and one boy seated; American flag flowing from stern]. (Duplicate view donated by R.W. Hein 9/94.)

26. Dancing costumes of Chilcat [Chilkat] Indians [five costumed Native men in foreground with more on risers behind them]. (#160, same image as 34)

27. Group of Sitka Indians at Klukwan Potlach [Potlatch] [three costumed Native men performing in foreground with more on risers behind them; wood frame building in background. Similar to 26]. (#159)

28. Reception of the Sitkas by the Chilkats. Klukwan Potlach [Potlatch] [view of large group of people, several with flags, open boats, on banks of Chilkat River]. (#154)

29. Gen view of No. 1 below on Porcupine [large placer mining operation along river; tent in far background].

30. [Snow scene with dogs waiting to pull sleds; eight men posing beside sleds; snowy mountains in background.]

31. Porcupine City [snow-covered street scene; several buildings with small tent in right foreground]. (#229)

32. Pleasant Camp [snow scene with log buildings; horse and sleigh (?) center front; snowy-covered mountains in background].


34. Dancing costumes of Chilcat [Chilkat] Indians. Stamped: J.M. Blankenberg, Photographer, Haines, AK [Caption on verso: Scene at an Indian Potlach May 1904.] (#160, same as 26)

35. [Interior of mill or shop, two workmen standing by boilers or other equipment, location unknown.]