Guide to Collection

Snug Harbor Cannery, Chisik Island Photograph Collection, ca. 1933-1965

PCA 212

20 photographs
1 map
22 photographs with negatives
12 color 35mm slides 1953 to 1955

Processed by: Staff
Revised by: Jim Simard, Dec. 2017

ACQUISITION: The collection has no known provenance. Accession 2006-38 has been added to this collection. It was donated by Thomas O. Duncan in 2006, with an accretion in 2008.

ACCESS: The photographs may not be photocopied.

COPYRIGHT: Requests for permission to publish or reproduce from the collection should be discussed with the librarian.

PROCESSING: The collection has been left intact; images were received glued to black construction paper with citations written in yellow pencil. The images have been numbered.
SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Chisik Island is located on the west side of Cook Inlet and salmon canneries operated on the island from 1919 to 1948. Chisik Island and nearby Duck Island are part of the Tuxedni National Wildlife Refuge; both islands are seabird sanctuaries.

This small collection, which has no provenance on record in the Historical Collections, contains views of the island and surrounding areas as well as scenes of cannery activities and boats which used the docking facilities; citations written in yellow pencil.

Accession 2006-38 has 22 photographs and corresponding negatives. They were taken by the donor while working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Pacific Salmon Investigations Laboratory in Seattle. He was attached to various projects in Alaska in research of sockeye salmon.

INVENTORY

Series I
1 Location on Chisik Island, Cook Inlet, Alaska. [map of Alaska with location of Snug Harbor cannery indicated].
2 General view, fishing boats [boats at dock; ship channel, hill beyond].
3 California Standard pumping product [oil tanker at dock].
4 Winter ice, 1933. Reason for pulling dock each season [ice surrounding dock piling].
5 Typical summer dock arrangement at Snug Harbor [aerial view, dock and cannery building].
6-8 Fishing boats unload at Snug Harbor [similar views of unloading operations].
9-10 [Tuxedni] View of Channel, dock, fish boats etc., Snug Harbor Cannery.
11 View of cannery and some of bird rookery [view from the water, rookeries at right].
12 [View across channel, note cliffs where birds nest.
13 Launching gillnetters [small fishing boat suspended above dock area].
14 View up Channel; gillnet boats delivering to tenders.
15 View up bay - Fossil Point on left.
16 Mt. Illiamna, 1 mile up beach [view of snow covered mountain from water].
17 Illiamna from inlet [two men in boat, Mt. Illiamna in distance].

18 Sunset, Tuxedni Channel.

19 Cannery Beach.

20 Sunset - Chignit Mountains.

21 Gillnetters at dock.

**Series II  Accession 2006-38**

Photos 1-22 show interior cannery process views. The process starts with the unloading of salmon from the fishing vessels through to the stacking of cases of canned salmon at the end.

1 [seagulls nearby on dock]

2 [view of KALGIN ISLAND with 2 men standing ready at bow & stern to tie up]

3 [more distant view of seagulls in air, on piers, and on beach]

4 [man standing on step next to end of retort (pressure cooker)]

5 [man inside boat’s hold moving fish into basket on line to be hauled out]

6 [3 men on part of fish processing line]

7 [man standing by trough of fish - may be a flume or deep conveyor belt?]

8 [man in processing gear working on fish processing line, standing beside large piece of machinery]

9 [processing line for large cans; large machine marked AMERICAN CAN CO 108-A]

10 [man in processing gear, working on canning line]

11 [man in coveralls standing at canning line]

12 [3 men, two moving large flat basket of cans]

13 [outdoor conveyor, either moving fish down into water, or up out of water]

14 [whole fish on conveyor belt, worker on left mostly cut out of image]

15 [2 men in boat’s hold, moving fish into basket to unload]
16  [1 man seated on canned salmon box, 1 man standing at large can machine]
17  [1 man working at canning line]
18  [2 men working with cans and machinery]
19  [man moving pallet of baskets of cans into or out of retort (pressure cooker)]
20  [2 men standing behind large machinery]
21  [1 man guiding basket of fish being moved]
22  [2 men stacking boxes of canned salmon]

**Series III  Accession 2006-38 accretion**
12 Color 35mm Slides 1953 to 1955

1  Naknek river. Fish conveyor at cannery.
2  PAFCO #5 Cannery Boat Naknek River
3  Ketchikan Spruce Mill 1954
4  SEABEE Lower Russian Lake
5  Henton’s Ferry Kenai River
6  Russ. Orth. Church Kenai
7  Native graves near Palmer
8  Sterling Highway near Skilak - Hidden Lk. Area
9  Picking up fish from scows. Cook Inlet
10  Pacific American Fisheries Cannery at Naknek
11  Henton’s Lodge Kenai River
12  Bill Roberts & Kobo. Think this on Kenai Peninsula.