Simson, Aaron Taylor & William Albert, Collectors

Aaron S. and William A. Simson Photograph Collection, ca. 1892-1905

PCA 382

1 box (25 images)  Processed: May 1998
0.5 cu. ft. By: India Spartz

Inventory: L. Spear, 12/99


ACCESS: The images may be viewed. However they may not be photocopied.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: The photographs are studio-mounted. An item-level inventory is available. Many of the images have faded.
Biographical Note

Aaron Taylor Simson was born in Rayne Township, Pennsylvania in 1848. His date of arrival in Alaska is unknown. However, he and his first wife, Maggie, worked at the Indian Training School at Sitka until 1894. Shortly afterward, Maggie died and Simson returned to Pennsylvania. He remarried Alma Hamill and had two children, including the donor's father, William Albert Simson (deceased 1989). Aaron Simson collected artifacts and photographs while in Alaska; he died in Pennsylvania on May 31, 1920. Mrs. Alexander donated the remaining artifacts to the Sheldon Jackson Museum at Sitka, Alaska.

Scope and Contents Note

The collection includes Southeast Alaska, the Sitka mission school and students. Locations are primarily, Juneau and Sitka, views by Moosbauer, Reuben Albertstone, F. Jay Haynes and Y. Eaton of Native Photo. The photographs were taken primarily between 1890-1905.

Inventory of Photographs

Photos:

1  [Verso] Coronet band Mission Training School, Stika Alaska (Albertstone and Moosbauer)
2  [Verso] Interior Greek Catholic[church], Sitka, Alaska (Albertstone)
3  [Verso] Princess Tom and Indian Girl in Dancing Costume, Sitka Alaska (Reuben Alberstone)
4  [Verso] Boys and girls at Mission Training School, Sitka, Alaska (Reuben Albertstone)
5  [Verso] Girls in Mission Training, Sitka, Alaska (Reuben Albertstone)
6  [Verso] A.T. Simson, Healy Wolf (Albertstone and Moosbauer)
9  [Verso] Interior of shoe shop, Mission Training School, Sitka, Alaska (Albertstone and Moosbauer) [A.T. Simson, Right Rear]
10 [Verso] Totem Poles, Ft. Wrangle [Wrangell], Alaska (F. Jay Haynes)
11 [Verso] Totem Poles, Ft. Wrangle [Wrangell], Alaska (F. Jay Haynes)
12 [Verso] Sitka, looking up Lincoln St. (F. Jay Haynes)

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/PCA382.pdf
14  [Verso] Juneau, Alaska (F. Jay Haynes)
15  [Verso] Mission Hospital
16  [Verso] Girls in Training School, Sitka Alaska
17  [Verso] Bridge over Indian River, Sitka
18  Dr. Jackson’s Museum, Sitka, Alaska
19  [Verso] Steamer George W. Elder at Sitka Harbor, Alaska (Y. Eaton, Native Photo, Sitka, Alaska)
20  [Verso] Mission Training School, Sitka, Alaska
21  [Verso] Indian Town, Sitka
22  Sitka Alaska and Three Sister Mts.
23  Government Buildings, Sitka Bay
24  [Verso] Sitka, Alaska
25  [Verso] (Louis Moosbauer, Sitka, Alaska)