

Adams Family photograph collection, circa 1889-1931

Overview of the Collection

Collector	Adams (Family : Adams, Gilbert Alison, 1862-1932)
Title	Adams Family photograph collection
Dates	circa 1889-1931 (inclusive) 1900 1931 1900-1906 (bulk)
Quantity	35 photographic prints (1 box) ; sizes vary 3 pieces of ephemera
Collection Number	PH0919
Summary	Photographs of daily life, business activities, hunting, and methods of transportation employed by settlers and Native tribes around Nome and Council City, Alaska in the early part of the 20th century
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	The entire collection can be viewed on the Libraries' Digital Collections website. Permission of Visual Materials Curator is required to view the originals. Contact Special Collections for additional information.
Additional Reference	
Guides	
Languages	English

Biographical Note

Gilbert Alison Adams (1862-1932) was an attorney in Council City, Alaska. He served as president of the Townsite Organization, and worked as the clerk of the District Court in Nome and as a U.S. commissioner in Council. He may also have been the proprietor of Kane House, a hotel in Council, in the early 1900s. He married Elizabeth "Lizzie" Dickenson (1866-1947) in 1906, and they had two daughters, Lucile D. (1907- 1982) and Alison M. (1908-1958). Lizzie was born in Yolo County, California in 1866 and moved with her father to Nome, Alaska in 1899. In 1918, the family left Alaska and moved to Tacoma, where Gilbert died in 1932 and Lizzie remained until 1943, when she moved to Seattle to live with Lucile. Alison moved to Los Angeles and married a man named Owen.

Content Description

Photographs of daily life, business activities, hunting, and methods of transportation employed by settlers and Native tribes in and around Nome and Council City, Alaska. There are also photographs of the Adams family and Eskimos in Council City and Nome. The collection includes photographs by B.B. Dobbs and Susan Bernardi.

Other Descriptive Information

Several of the photos are by Susan Bernardi, who was a schoolteacher at the U.S. Government School in Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales in the early 1900s. (See her album *Photographs of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska Album* PH Coll. No. 49). There is no indication of the Adams family's relationship to Bernardi, if any existed.

Use of the Collection

Alternative Forms Available

[View the digital version of the collection](#)

Restrictions on Use

Restrictions might exist on reproduction, quotation, or publication. Contact the repository for details.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Source: Curtright & Son Tribal Art; May 4, 2005.

Processing Note

Processed by Claire Imamura, 2011; Melody Hauf, 2012, processing completed 2012.

Collection accessioned as PH 2005-026.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Adams Family

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Item	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
1/1	1	Studio portrait of Elizabeth Adams [view] I.G. Davidson, Tacoma, Washington Territory (photographer)	circa 1889
1/1	2	Postcard of large two-story house probably Adams family home in Tacoma, Washington [view] Written on verso: Aug. 5, '07. On the other side of this card is the shack where we live. It is on the corner, N.E. corner of E. 15 & Alder Sts. where you will always find the latch string out. H.B.A.	1907
1/1	3	Postcard of two girls, Lucile and Alison surrounded by dolls and toys Council City, Alaska [view] Written on verso: Elizabeth's photo, Council, Al. Christmas 1910. Lucile & Alison, NAT Residence. (NAT probably stands for N.A.T. & T. Company). This may have been a company house.	Christmas 1910
1/1	4	Postcard of toys and Christmas tree, Council City, Alaska. [view] Written on verso: Elizabeth's photo, Xmas 1912 13, Council Alaska. Lucile & Alison, Christmas tree.	circa 1912
1/1	5	Studio portrait of Alison [view] Photographer: Harding Studio, Tacoma, Wa Written on photo: To My Darling Mama with love and gratitude, Alison. December 12, 1928.	December 1928
1/1	6	Probably Alison standing in front of a poster of Josef Lhevinne [view] Written on verso: Elizabeth D. Adams Fall 1930-31.	Fall 1930

Daily Life in Nome and Council City Alaska

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Item		
1/2	7	Three men standing in a boat with the body of a polar bear [view]	undated
1/2	8	Two men in front of W.G. Schaefer Groceries [view] The photograph is printed backwards.	undated

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/2 9	Group of eight people in front of Cottage Roadhouse with sled and dog team [view] Sign above the door says: Cottage Roadhouse, Mrs. Ginivin, Prop.	undated
1/2 10a-b	Horse-drawn carriage with five passengers in front of Kane House, Council City, Alaska [view] Written on verso of 10b: J.Y. McCurres Stage leaving Council for Nome, Al. Lucile's Photo.	undated
1/2 11	Five men (including three Eskimos) and a dog standing in front of a decorated tent Nome, Alaska [view] Printed on photo: S&H Nome, 865.	1900
1/2 12	Young girl, Anita Allen, sitting at a desk looking at a globe Nome, Alaska [view] Written on verso: Anita Allan, Nome, Alaska. Granddaughter of C.D. Lane, 1905.	1905
1/2 13	Postcard of Ralph Tapia and Scotty Allan, with large ice sled on Bering Sea, Nome, Alaska [view] Written on verso: Elizabeth's Photo, Nome Alaska. GAA Ralph Tapia, and Scotty Allan's ice sled on Bering Sea, Winter 1917.Scotty Allan was a famous dog musher and the owner of beloved sled dog, Baldy. He also served as a representative to the Alaska Territorial Legislature in 1917 and 1919.	1917
1/2 14	Postcard of Ralph Tapia, and Scotty Allan with two children in front of an ice sled, probably Nome, Alaska [view] Written on photo: Scotty Allen's motor sled.	1917
1/2 15	Postcard of six boys lined up for a sack race on street, Nome, Alaska [view] Written on verso: Just a line to let you know that we are both O.K. I found your dad in fine shape, I was up & had quite a talk with him. Joe Council [City, Alaska]. Addressed to: Miss Alison Adams, 5121 N. 48th, Tacoma, Wash.	1922
1/2 16	Postcard of a drawing of puppy and bucket with the caption PIONEERS [view] Printed on drawing: Lomen Bros.	undated

Eskimo People

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Item		
1/3	17	Studio portrait of two Eskimo women, Kinkguk and Inkiuk [view]	undated
1/3	18	Two seated Eskimo women in fur parkas [view] Hammond (photographer)	undated
1/3	19	Eskimo woman kneeling on ground with young boy behind her [view]	undated
1/3	20	Full length studio portrait of Eskimo man in fur parka, Nome, Alaska [view]	1900
1/3	21	Studio portrait of Eskimo man in fur parka [view] Probably B.B. Dobbs, Nome, Alaska (photographer)	undated
1/3	22	Studio portrait of Eskimo woman with chin tattoo [view] B.B. Dobbs, Nome, Alaska (Dobbs 186) (photographer)	1903
1/4	23	Eskimo children and woman holding a baby seated on the ground while a man cuts a boy's hair [view] Written on photo: The Barber. Written on verso: Kirkuk natives.	circa 1903
1/4	24	Eskimo people in a long boat, probably at Nome, Alaska [view]	circa 1903
1/4	25	Two Eskimo men standing in front of an overturned boat [view]	circa 1903
1/4	26	Three Eskimo women in fur parka seated beneath an overturned boat [view]	undated
1/4	27	Tom cod drying along poles with overturned skin boat in the background [view]	1903
1/4	28	Human skulls and bones arranged on logs [view] Written on verso: Eska [sic] Graves Alaska.	circa 1903
1/4	29	Postcard photo of five Eskimo people fishing from the beach with nets [view]	undated

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Written on verso: Eskamoes [sic] fishing. Mrs. Gbb [sic] Photo.	
1/4	30	Group of people in large boat with sail [view]	undated

Photographs from Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska by Susan R. Bernardi

These photos are images that also appear in the *Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album* (PH Coll 49). These photos were made by the photographer Susan R. Bernardi. Bernardi was a U.S. Government schoolteacher in Cape Prince of Wales beginning in 1901. The photos in the album in PH Coll 49 include captions that provide more information about these photos.

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Item		
1/5	31	Boat and sled cache above the snow [view] Bernardi's caption for this photo which appears on page 11 of her album <i>Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album: House Snowed Under</i> . Bernardi's caption for a similar photo on page 7: All sleds and boat frames are cached to keep the wolf dogs from chewing the seal thong with which it is bound.	circa 1906
1/5	32	Eskimo hunter with seal standing on ice [view] Bernardi's caption for this photo which appears on page 17 of her album <i>Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album: A Hair Seal Plentiful all the year in Bering Straits</i> . As many as 75 are caught in 1 day. The small boys and men's hunting trousers are made of the skin with hair on. Without the hair waterproof boots and suits are made.	circa 1906
1/5	33	Eskimo people standing around a boat [view] Bernardi's caption for this photo which appears on page 25 of her album <i>Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album: The Woman Has Sprinkled Ashes, Made from Shavings of new Paddles, along the path to keep Devils from Hoodooing the hunting</i> .	circa 1906
1/5	34	People with whale carcass on the beach [view]	circa 1906

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Bernardi's caption for this photo which appears on page 30 of her album <i>Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album: A Pup Whale</i> 30 ft long. Bernardi's caption for a similar photo on page 28: Four Men Put on Waterproof 1 piece Suits, get into a hole, cut in the whale's stomach and then proceed to carve throwing the meat on to ice where the woman haul it on dog sleds to the village.	
1/5 35	Postcard of Eskimo boy wearing fur parka [view] Bernardi's caption for this photo which appears on page 65 of her album <i>Photos of Eskimo at Kingegan, Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska, Photograph Album: Rags.</i>	circa 1904

Ephemera

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/ Folder	Item	
1/6 36a	Rope [view] Piece of knotted rope which broke on the 1901 voyage of the schooner <i>Ralph J. Long</i> on its trip from Nome to Seattle.	1901
1/6 36b	Note that was attached to rope [view] Written on card: A clove knot tied by 2[nd] mate B [illeg] of the 2 mast 90 ton Schooner <i>Ralph J. Long</i> out from Nome, Alaska, Oct. 23, 1901. Arrived in Seattle Dec. 9, 1901. A part of rope which held boom and broke one night--5 minutes after Mrs. B and I left deck. We were sitting under boom. Written on verso: Lizzie B. Dickenson.	1901
1/6 37	Mrs. Gilbert Alison Adams calling card	undated

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Eskimos--Alaska--Nome--Photographs

Eskimos--Alaska--Social life and customs--Photographs

Personal Names :

Adams, Alison

Adams, Elizabeth (Lizzie)

Adams, Gilbert Alison, 1862-1932

Adams, Lucile

Geographical Names :

Council (Alaska)--Photographs

Council (Alaska)--Social life and customs--Photographs

Nome (Alaska)--Photographs

Prince of Wales, Cape (Alaska)--Photographs

Tacoma (Wash.)--Photographs

Form or Genre Terms :

Photographs

Other Creators :

Personal Names :

Bernardi, Susan R

(photographer)

2009 (Last modified: 5/22/2018)



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