The Swedes’ Life and Work in the State of Washington photograph album, circa 1920

Overview of the Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>The Swedes’ Life and Work in the State of Washington photograph album</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>circa 1920 (inclusive) 1915 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>.6 cubic feet, (1 box)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Number</td>
<td>2016.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Photograph album related to the life and work of Swedish immigrants living in Seattle and Washington State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>Museum of History &amp; Industry, Sophie Frye Bass Library</td>
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<td>Sophie Frye Bass Library</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Museum of History &amp; Industry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P.O. Box 80816</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
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<td>98108</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Telephone: 206-324-1126</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fax: 206-780-1533</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:library@mohai.org">library@mohai.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Restrictions</td>
<td>The collection is open to the public by appointment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Content Description

This album of 92 photographs, related to the life of Swedish immigrants living in Seattle and Washington State, includes a variety of photographic subjects, including street scenes, apartment buildings, stores, residential property, ferry docks, lumber camps, group portraits, office interiors, schools and construction projects. Historic Seattle churches and Swedish Hospital buildings and rooms are of particular interest. Many of the 8x10 black and white photographs are attributed to K.E. Nordland of Nordlands Foto Company, 1707 Market Street in the Ballard neighborhood of Seattle.

The title of the album was translated by the donor from the Swedish language title embossed on the cover of the album.

Historical Background

By 1910, nearly 150,000 Scandinavians had immigrated to the Pacific Northwest, making them the largest foreign-born ethic group in the state. Swedes labored on farms, lumber mills, railroads, mines and the waterfront. They frequently worked on construction projects, contributing manual labor and engineering skills. Many successful Swedish-owned businesses were established in Seattle between 1890 and 1930.
The pioneer Swedes clustered together socially and formed a large number of secular, religious and charitable organizations including clubs, lodges, orders and churches. The Swedish Club was founded by recent arrivals in 1892 at the Stockholm Hotel, located at First Avenue and Bell Street. The hotel was owned and operated by Andrew Chilberg, President of the Scandinavian-American Bank and Puget Sound Savings and Loan. Early members and founders of the Swedish Club included Nels B. Nelson of Frederick & Nelson, and John Nordstrom, who together with Carl Wallin started what is now Nordstrom Department Store. The first Swedish Club building was located in downtown Seattle at Eighth Avenue and Olive Street.

Swedish Hospital was organized in 1908 to address the Swedish Club’s concerns for healthcare. It began operation in a leased building on Belmont Avenue and moved to a new building on Summit and Columbia in 1912. Club member Dr. Nils A. Johanson was the driving force behind the hospital.

The church was an important factor in the lives of Scandinavian immigrants, and the major denominations were Lutheran, Baptist and Methodist. The 30-year pastorate of Reverend Emil Friborg was instrumental in founding Adelphia College in 1905. Seattle charitable organizations of Swedish origin include the Millionaire Club and the Lutheran Compass Mission. The Scandinavian Department at the University of Washington was established in 1910, when an addition to the State Constitution required a Swedish language program be included in the University program.

Seattle Swedish social organizations include various Vasa Lodges, the Skandia Folkdance Society and the Swedish Cultural Society, founded in 1921. In 1961, a modern Swedish Club building was completed overlooking Lake Union and downtown Seattle. The Swedish Club continues their mission to promote better understanding between the United States and Scandinavian countries.

Use of the Collection

Alternative Forms Available

View selections from the collection in digital format by clicking on the camera icons in the inventory below.

Restrictions on Use

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Preferred Citation

*The Swedes’ Life and Work in the State of Washington* Photograph Album, Museum of History & Industry, Seattle

Administrative Information

Location of Collection

1a.1.18

The Swedes’ Life and Work in the State of Washington photograph album, circa 1920
http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv63388
Custodial History

Album was found at the Swedish Cultural Center in Seattle, provenance unknown.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Swedish Cultural Center, received in 2016.

Processing Note

Original album was large and heavy, with wooden covers covered in leather. Since only a minority of the pages contained photographs, and the album was unduly weighty, it was disassembled, the pages numbered in the original order, and boxed. The album cover was also retained.

Related Materials

Accession no. 2014.106 is comprised of twelve photographs attributed to Nordlands Foto Company, and depicts homes and construction projects, including a waterfront pier being built by A.W. Quist for the American Can Company.

Detailed Description of the Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016.59.1: Swedish Hospital buildings exterior view [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia and Summit Streets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016.59.2: Swedish Hospital interior view of laboratory room [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia and Summit Streets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016.59.3: Swedish Hospital buildings exterior view [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia and Summit Streets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.4: Interior room with fireplace and staircase</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>Signed on front, Nordlands Foto Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.5: Ballard Swedish Baptist Church exterior view [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th Avenue NW and West 63rd</td>
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<td>2016.59.6: Adelphia College group portrait on front steps [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th Avenue North and Miller Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.7: Swedish Businessman's Association group portrait outside</td>
<td>1921 May 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snoqualmie Falls Lodge [view]</td>
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<td>2016.59.8: Finnish Evangelical Church exterior view with people in front [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>1708 65th Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.9: Central School, Kirkland</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.10: Swedish Engineers Club exterior view</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.11: Snoqualmie Falls</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.12: Group of men, women and children on the deck of boat Luna</td>
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<td>2016.59.14: Large group of women and one man posing in park</td>
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<td>2016.59.15: Logging operation with steam donkey</td>
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<td>2016.59.16: Kirkland waterfront view looking south</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.17: Kirkland ferry dock</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.18: Road construction work crew in Kirkland</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.19: Two story house exterior view N.E. corner Broadway and Hamlin Streets</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.20: Large two story brick house unknown location</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.21: House owned by Dr. Nils A. Johanson at 2801 Broadway East, exterior view[view] N.E. corner Broadway and Hamlin Streets</td>
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<td>2016.59.22: Columbia Lutheran Home exterior view[view] Phinney Avenue</td>
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<td>2016.59.23: Southern Pacific Lines exterior view 314 Union Street</td>
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<td>2016.59.24: Scandinavian American Steamship Line, interior view 116 Cherry Street</td>
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<td>2016.59.25: Scandinavian American Steamship Line, exterior view 116 Cherry Street</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>Description</td>
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<td>2016.59.26: Yellow cab in front of Perfection Tires Shop</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.27: Swedish Tabernacle</td>
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<td>Pike and Bellevue Streets</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.28: House, unknown location</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.29: House, unknown location</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.50.30: Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church exterior view</td>
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<tr>
<td>7400 Woodlawn Avenue</td>
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<td>2016.50.31: People boarding the Leschi ferry</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.32: Leschi ferry dock</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.50.33: University of Washington Husky Stadium Wayfarer Stage</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.34: University of Washington Husky Stadium Wayfarer Stage</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>construction</td>
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<td>2016.59.35: Street construction with pipe</td>
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<td>2016.59.36: Building construction scene</td>
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<td>2016.59.37: Ship Kirketin from Kristiania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pier 11, Virginia Street</td>
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<td>2016.59.38: Ferry Leschi at Leschi Landing</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.39: Kirkland ferry dock</td>
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<td>2016.59.40: Metropolitan Theater exterior view</td>
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<td>University Street and Fifth Avenue</td>
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<td>2016.59.41: Railroad car on track</td>
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<td>2016.59.42: House on rural street</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Sasse&quot; on mailbox</td>
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<td>2016.59.43: Logs stacked on railroad cars</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.44: Man standing next to a large tree</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.45: Logging operation</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.46: Logging camp</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.47: Office interior Heiden's Mailing Bureau</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.48: Heep's Lunch with men eating at a counter [view] 1207 3rd Avenue</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.49: Women typing at a table</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.50: Interior view of warehouse</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.51: Strom and Olsen Hardwood Floors exterior view [view] 1618 12th Avenue</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.52: Alaska Steamship Company exterior view 707 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.53: Interior view of warehouse</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.54: Ferry Issaquah launch [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.55: Ferry Issaquah launch</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.56: Kirkland ferry dock</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.57: Unidentified church</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.58: House location unknown</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.59: Choir and musicians onstage [view]</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.60: Wallin and Nordstrom shoe display exterior view [view] 1422 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016.59.61: Display cases and stairway, possibly the Olympic Hotel 105 Yesler Way</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>1422 2nd Avenue</td>
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<td>2016.59.63: Wallin and Nordstrom shoe store interior view 1422 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016.59.64: Man, woman and boy in front of unidentified house</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.65: People, car and two unidentified houses</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.66: Swedish-American family on porch of house[view]</td>
<td>circa 1925</td>
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<td>2016.59.67: Family group in front of unidentified house</td>
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<td>2016.59.68: The Switzerland Furnished Rooms 1443 West 51st Street</td>
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<td>2016.59.69: Family group in front of farm house</td>
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<td>2016.59.70: Farm house and orchard</td>
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<td>2016.59.71: Family group in front of unidentified house</td>
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<td>2016.59.72: Office interior</td>
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<td>2016.59.73: Bank interior</td>
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<td>2016.59.74: Steam plant interior</td>
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<td>2016.59.75: Swedish Hospital room</td>
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<td>2016.59.76: Beach camp with small cabins</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.77: Beach camp with small cabins</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.78: Swedish-Americans having a picnic[view]</td>
<td>circa 1925</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.79: The Humpfrey apartment building 2205 2nd Avenue</td>
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<td>2016.59.81: Swedish Hospital exterior view</td>
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<td>Description</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.82: Interior view of large barber shop</td>
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<td>2016.59.83: Waiting room, possibly photo studio</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.84: Doctor's office interior</td>
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<td>2016.59.85: Doctor's office examining room</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.86: Crowd at University of Washington stadium</td>
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<td>2016.59.87: Side view of tractor trailer truck</td>
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<td>2016.59.88: Side view of truck</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Coast Hauling Company</td>
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<td>2016.59.89: Summer camp one-story buildings</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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<td>2016.59.90: Richfield's Gas Station on a rural road</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.91: Studio portrait of unknown man</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordlands Foto Co.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2016.59.92: Funeral Home with open casket and flowers</td>
<td>circa 1920</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Find Related Collections

**Subject Terms:**
- Buildings--Washington (State)--Seattle
- Churches--Washington (State)--Seattle
- Swedish Americans

**Corporate Names:**
- Swedish Hospital Medical Center

**Geographical Names:**
- Ballard (Seattle, Wash.)
- Seattle (Wash.)

**Form or Genre Terms:**
- Photograph albums