

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center  
Bob and Evangeline Atwood Resource Center  
625 C Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: 907-929-9235  
Email: [resourcecenter@anchagemuseum.org](mailto:resourcecenter@anchagemuseum.org)

Guide prepared by: Heather McClain, Archivist

**TITLE:** Harris Postcards

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B1970.016

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: 1900-1940

Extent: 37 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Winter and Pond

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

This collection includes color postcards of Alaska Railroad and Alaska towns including Sitka, Wrangell, Ketchikan, Valdez, Juneau, and Skagway.

**Scope and Content Description:**

This collection consists of 37 color postcards

Arrangement: Original order maintained.

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE**

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

#### Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation: Harris Postcards, Anchorage Museum, B1970.016

### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

#### Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by R.E. Harris of Portland, Oregon in May 1970.

#### Processing Note

Guide updated from original inventory and finding aid.

### **RELATED MATERIALS**

B1963.x.011 CIHS Reeve Collection

B1967.013 CIHS Sundberg

B1988.003 Don Ingalls Postcard Collection

B2013.003 Mt. McKinley Postcard

B2013.019 Paxson Postcard

### **SUBJECTS**

Alaska-Juneau Gold Mining Company

Alaska Railroad

Chilkoot Pass – Alaska

Denali, Mount (Alaska)

Douglas (Alaska)

Haida art – Alaska

Haines (Alaska)

Houston (Alaska)

Juneau (Alaska)

Ketchikan (Alaska)

Mendenhall Glacier (Alaska)

Peterburg (Alaska)

St. Michael's Cathedral

Sitka (Alaska)

Skagway (Alaska)

Stikine River (Alaska)

Taku Glacier (Alaska)

Tlingit art – Alaska

Tlingit wood-carving – Alaska  
Valdez (Alaska)  
Wrangell (Alaska)  
Yukon River (Yukon and Alaska)

#### Detailed Description of the Collection

##### F1

.1 – 5622. Keystone Canyon near Valdez, Alaska. Back, Keystone Canyon. Keystone Canyon is one of the narrow defiles through which all must pass to gain the interior of Alaska, via the Valdez-Fairbanks Trail. [postcard, dog sled team with musher and passengers on ice with snow covering rocks and trees. Keystone Canyon, Valdez, Alaska]

.2 – C104. Memorial Totem in Sitka, Alaska. Back, Memorial Totems, Sitka, Alaska. The Sitka Totems are nearly all Haida. They have been donated by the different chiefs to the Sitka Museum. The most famous of all is the Sitka Memorial Totem. It was donated by Chief Sunnyheart. (It is surmounted by the Fog Woman and her children.) Below that is the Wolf, Eagle and the Bear. It is a memorial of the potlatch feast when all these families were present [postcard, carved pole and house posts. The pole was likely gifted by Chief Saanaheit from the K'áyk'aanii (Kaigani) Haida village of K̄asa'áan (Kasaan) on Prince of Wales Island in 1901. Sheet'ká K̄wáan (Sitka), Alaska]

.3 – C108. Kicksetti Totem and Sun House in Wrangell, Alaska. Back, Kiksetti Totem and Sun House. This totem is surmounted with a face representing a mountain. Below is a frog, the emblem of the Kiksetti tribe. Below is the old Raven, talking to the young Raven that created man. The lowest figure is that of the Killisnoo beaver, whose father belonged to the beaver family and the mother of the frog family. The house has the symbol of the sun. [postcard, carved Kiks.ádi pole in front of Ḡagaan Hít (Sun House), Shtax'héen K̄wáan (Wrangell), Alaska]

.4 – C151. Ketchikan, Alaska and Tongass Narrows. Back, Ketchikan. Ketchikan is the southernmost town in Alaska, and being the port of entry it is sometimes spoken of as the “first city.” It is probably the most prosperous town in Alaska, for salmon and halibut have made it rich and given it large canneries and cold storage plants. It has a population of about 6,000. [postcard, aerial view of Taant'a K̄wáan, Kichxáan (Ketchikan), Alaska]

.5 – C128. Russian Church, Sitka, Alaska. Back, St. Michael's Cathedral. This remarkable edifice built in 1817 in the form of a cross, is the most historic shrine of religion on the Pacific Coast. The cathedral is equipped according to lavish customs of imperial Russia, with gold and silver trimmings, jeweled crowns, robes of costly texture, and paintings of rare beauty and inestimable value. [postcard, St. Michael's Cathedral. Sheet'ká K̄wáan (Sitka), Alaska]

.6 – C109. The Raven Flood Totem, Ketchikan, Alaska. Back, The Raven Flood Totem. The raven circle at the top represents heaven. The legend is that the raven at flood time flew up to heaven with children in his arms to save them. When the flood subsided, he descended (two figures from top) and lighted on a piece of Kelp, represented here by a frog. [postcard, The Raven Flood carved pole and other poles, possibly memorial, in front of a structure. Taant'a K̄wáan, Kichxáan (Ketchikan), Alaska]

.7 – C121. Over Chilkoot Pass during the Gold Rush in Alaska. Thousands of gold seekers used this trail. Back, Chilkoot Pass – “Trail of ’98.” This view brings back memories of the old days when thousands took this trail into the Yukon district in search of the precious yellow gold. [postcard, miners at the base of mountain pass with pack line to the summit. Jiḻkooṯ Kwáan, A Shakée (Chilkoot Pass), Alaska]

.8 – C148. Juneau, Alaska, looking down Gastineau Channel. Back, Juneau, Alaska. Juneau, the Capital of Alaska, is situated on Gastineau Channel about 1,033 miles northwest of Seattle. It has a population of about 4,500. The settlement and development of Juneau depend largely on mining, it being situated in what is known as the “Juneau Gold Belt.” [postcard, aerial view of Áak’w Kwáan and T’aakú Kwáan, Dzantik’i Héeni (Juneau) and Sayéik (Douglas) facing south, Alaska]

.9 – 15343. Totem pole of Thlinget Chief Kian, Ketchikan, Alaska. Back, Totem Pole of Thlight Chief Kian. One of the most noted of the Totem Poles of Ketchikan is the famous Totem Pole of Chief Kian. It is surmounted by the fabled bird Kajuk. Below this bird is the eagle and below the eagle is the wolf. [postcard, carved pole of Tlingit Chief Kyan with buildings visible to the left and right. Taant’a Kwáan, Kichxáan (Ketchikan), Alaska]

.10 – C100. Mt. McKinley, Mt. McKinley National Park, Alaska. Back, Mt. McKinley. Mt. McKinley National Park, one of the newest of our national playgrounds, has an area of 2,645 square miles. Superb Mt. McKinley, rising to an altitude 20,300 feet above sea level and some 17,000 feet above the plateau at its base, is the highest and most lordly mountain on the North American continent. [postcard, scenic view of Denali, Denali National Park]

.11 – C106. Famous Chief Shake’s Totem, Wrangell, Alaska. Back, Geo. Shake’s Totem. Geo. Shake’s Totem, sometimes called The Raven Totem is surmounted by the Raven Creator. The box is the chief’s box, supposed to have spiritual power. Below is the young Raven, the Creator of man. Below is the daughter of the Creator and the mother of the young Creator. [postcard, Chief Shakes or Raven carved pole in front of house. Shtax’héen Kwáan, Kaachxan.áak’w (Wrangell), Alaska]

.12 – C107. The Kadashan Totems, Wrangell, Alaska. Back, The Kadashan Totems. These Totems are very old. The time of their erection dates soon after the days of the Russian occupation. The right hand one is surmounted by a figure of a man. This represents the creator. The left hand Totem is surmounted by the Eagle, the crest of the Kadashan family [postcard, Shtax’héen Kwáan, Kaachxan.áak’w (Wrangell), Alaska]

.13 – 5612. Haines and Chilkoot Barracks. Back, Haines and Chilkoot barracks. Construction of the military post, was commenced in 1903. Two companies of infantry are now stationed here. Haines was established soon after the discovery of placer gold in the Porcupine District, fifty miles northwest of this point. It has since been the base of supplies for the district. [postcard, aerial view of Fort William H. Seward and Haines. Jiḻkát Kwáan, Deishú (Haines), Alaska]

.14 – C144. Juneau and Douglas, Alaska. Showing new bridge. Back, Juneau-Douglas Bridge. For many years communication between these two pioneer Alaska cities was entirely by ferry. Recently there has been a modern bridge built across the channel greatly simplifying travel between these cities. [postcard, aerial view of Douglas and Juneau facing northeast. Áak’w Kwáan and T’aakú Kwáan, Dzantik’i Héeni (Juneau) and Sayéik (Douglas), Alaska]

.15 – C105. Shake’s grave totems, Wrangell, Alaska. Back, Shake’s Grave Totems. These totems mark the grave of the uncle of the present chief. Titles always pass to the sister’s son. [postcard, carved poles of kéet (killer whale) and grave. Shtax'héen K̄wáan, K̄aachx̄an.áak'w (Wrangell), Alaska]

.16 – 15342. Totem Poles and Residences of Haida Indians, near Ketchikan, Alaska. Back, Totem poles and residences of Haida Indians near Ketchikan, Alaska. [postcard, view of carved poles and at least two houses. K'áyk'aanii (Haida country), Alaska]

.17 – C136. Midnight sun on the Yukon. Back, here in Alaska we must readjust ideas of a lifetime. During the summer months there is continual daylight, and the one may enjoy outdoor recreation even at midnight in some of the northern regions. [postcard, landscape view of Yukon River]

.18 – C138. Taku Glacier, Alaska. Back, Taku Glacier. Taku Glacier at the head of Taku inlet, thirty miles from Juneau, is one of the most picturesque ice fields of the North. Advancing at the rate of eight feet per day and depositing in the deep water channel an ice mass equivalent to its advance, the Taku Glacier presents the same front from year to year. [postcard, landscape view of T'aaḱú K̄wáan Sít'i (Taku Glacier). T'aaḱú K̄wáan, Alaska]

.19 – C118. Ice Cave, Mendenhall Glacier, near Juneau, Alaska. Back, Ice Cave, Mendenhall Glacier. Mendenhall Glacier is probably one of the best known glaciers in Alaska on account of its easy accessibility. It is reached by a beautiful highway out of Juneau. A very good idea of the size is obtained by comparing it with the figure of a man standing at the base. [postcard, ice caves at Sít' (Mendenhall Glacier). Áak'w K̄wáan (Juneau), Alaska]

.20 – 5614. Sitka, Alaska. Back, Sitka is a seaport town, nestled at the base of the coast range mountains and protected from islands. Mt. Edgecumbe, an extinct volcano, as viewed from Sitka, has much the appearance of the majestic Fujiyama, the sacred mountain of Japan. [postcard, view of Sheet'ká K̄wáan (Sitka), Alaska]

.21 – C116. Alaska Juneau Mine and Juneau, Alaska. Back, Alaska Juneau Mine. Juneau is situated in what is known as the “Juneau Gold Belt.” Placer gold was first discovered in the Juneau district in the early [18]80's in Gold Creek. Later prospectors discovered gold quartz deposit in the hills back of Juneau. The development of these prospects resulted in operations of a number of mining properties, the principal one of which is the Alaska-Juneau gold mine. [postcard, view of Alaska Juneau Gold Mine and Dzantik'i Héeni (downtown Juneau) facing north. Áak'w K̄wáan and T'aaḱú K̄wáan, Alaska]

.22 - [missing] Muir Glacier, postcard [Muir Glacier. Xunaa K̄áawu (Hoonah), Sít' Eetí Geeyí (Glacier Bay), Alaska]

.23 – C152. Ketchikan, Alaska, and Tongass Narrows. Back, Ketchikan, Alaska. Ketchikan is probably the largest and wealthiest city in Alaska. Its population is estimated at 6,000 and it has an assessed valuation of approximately \$7,000,000. It is often termed the gateway city of Alaska on account of being the first port of call in Alaska. [postcard, view of Taant'a K̄wáan, Kichx̄aan (Ketchikan) and Kichx̄aan X'áak (Tongass Narrows), Alaska]

.24 – C-149. Juneau, Alaska. Winter and Pond Photo. Back, Juneau, Alaska. Juneau, the Capital of Alaska, is situated on Gastineau Channel about 1,033 miles northwest of Seattle. It has a population of about 4,5000. The settlement and development of Juneau depend largely on mining, it being situated in what is known as the “Juneau Gold Belt.” [postcard, view of

Dzantik'i Héeni (downtown Juneau), Alaska, and the bridge to Deishú Áak'w (Douglas Island).  
Áak'w K̄wáan (Juneau), Alaska ]

.25 – C115. Airplane view, Petersburg, Alaska. Photo by U.S. Navy. Back, Petersburg, Alaska.  
Petersburg, established as a cannery site in 1897, has grown steadily until it is now one of the  
important and prosperous towns in southeastern Alaska. Its principal industry is fishing, and it  
is the center of the crab and shrimp industry of Alaska. [postcard, aerial view of Séet Ká  
(Petersburg). Shtax'héen K̄wáan (Wrangell), Alaska]

.26 – 5605. Scene on Stikine River, Alaska. Back, Scene on Stikine River. At trip up the Stikine  
River can accomplished by launch from Petersburg or Wrangell. Lovers of nature will enjoy a  
rare treat in the wonderful scenic beauty encountered on every hand. [postcard, landscape  
view of Shtax'héen (Stikine River), Shtax'héen K̄wáan (Wrangell), Alaska]

.27 – C137. "The Loop" Alaska Railroad near Seward. Back, The Loop, Alaskan Railroad. In the  
building of the Alaska Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks, many obstacles had to be overcome  
and one of the greatest engineering feats in the construction of this railroad was the building  
of the famous Loop at mile 50. [postcard, view of the Loop at mile 48 of the Alaska Railroad  
between Moose Pass and Portage]

.28 – C119. Lynn Canal and Skagway, Alaska. Back, Lynn Canal and Skagway. Lynn Canal  
provides 80 miles of most wonderful scenery. It varies in width from one to five miles and  
both sides are walled with snowcapped mountains, glaciers and gushing waterfalls. Skagway,  
at the head of Lynn Canal, sprang to life during the early Klondike gold days. [postcard, view  
of Shgagwei (Skagway), Alaska facing south towards L̄kootká (Chilkoot side of Lynn Canal.  
Jil̄koot K̄wáan, Alaska]

.29 – C101. Mendenhall Glacier and Auk Lake, near Juneau, Alaska. Back, Mendenhall Glacier.  
It is situated about 15 miles north of Juneau on a beautiful boulevard built and maintained by  
the U.S. Bureau of Roads. From the Glacier the highway continues and crosses the Mendenhall  
River and around the "Loop" affording a view of beautiful Auk Lake [postcard, view of Áak'w  
(Auke Lake) with Sít' (Mendenhall Glacier) in the background. Áak'w K̄wáan (Juneau), Alaska]

.30 – C126. Lover's Lane, Sitka, Alaska. Back, Lover's Lane. This name has been applied to part  
of the trail through Indian River Park. In this Park are many interesting totems. Nearly all were  
placed there by the Government for preservation. [postcard, trail with two carved poles on  
the right side. Sheet'ká K̄wáan (Sitka), Alaska]

.31 – C122. Soapy Smith Skull, Skagway, Alaska. Back, Soapy Smith's Skull. This peculiar rock  
formation in Skagway was so named for Soapy Smith, the well-known character of early  
Klondike mining days, He had a notorious career in various other mining sections before  
coming to Alaska, and it was here he met his death in a gambling hall fracas. [postcard, rock  
painted to look like a skull with lettering that reads, "Soapy Smith's Skull, FM." Shgagwei  
(Skagway), Jil̄koot K̄wáan, Alaska]

.32 – C133. Eskimo boys carving ivory, Alaska [postcard, three Indigenous youth carving ivory]

.33 – C117. Mendenhall's Glacier, near Juneau, Alaska. Winter and Pond Juneau. Back  
Mendenhall Glacier. Mendenhall Glacier, situated about fifteen miles north of Juneau, can be  
reached by auto. This Glacier perhaps is the greatest attraction to tourists inasmuch as they  
are able to get a much better idea of the formation of a glacier in general. [postcard, view of  
Sít' (Mendenhall Glacier). Áak'w K̄wáan (Juneau), Alaska]

.34 – C-147. Night view of Juneau, Alaska. Winter and Pond Photo. Back, Juneau at Night. Moonlight on the waters of Gastineau Channel presents a scene of unsurpassed beauty. Electrical illumination of the city and surroundings are modern in every respect. [postcard, view of Dzantik’i Héeni (downtown Juneau) at night. Áak’w Kwáan (Juneau), Alaska]

.35 – C120. Skagway, Alaska. Back, Skagway. Skagway is the terminal of the White Pass & Yukon Railroad in the North, giving service between salt water and the navigable waters of the Yukon river. Skagway is often referred to as the garden spot of the North, a city of beautiful homes and a most attractive place to spend a vacation. [postcard, view of .” Shgagwei (Skagway), Jilkoot Kwáan, Alaska]

.36 – Back, Houston Lodge, milepost 57 – “Beside the Little Sue,” Houston, Alaska. Café, Bar & Liquor Store, Cabin and Trailer Space, Air Strip, Recreation Room, Free Riverside Camping, Boat Launching Ramp, Headquarters for River Boat Excursions. Basil and Mildred Bryant, owners. [postcard, log building with cars parked outside. Houston, Alaska]

.37 – Sitka Hotel. Back, Sitka Hotel, Downtown Sitka, Alaska, adjoining the Alaska Air Lines office. 60 modern rooms, \$10.00 to \$20.00, Ted & Russ Clithero. [postcard, street view of Sitka Hotel with three cars in the street. Alaska Airlines office in lower right. Sheet’ká Kwáan (Sitka), Alaska]

Guide updated: September 7, 2022