



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to Inuit drawings collected
by Captain John O. Spicer

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Inuit drawings collected by Captain John O. Spicer
Date:	before 1894
Identifier:	NAA.MS168997
Creator:	Spicer, John O. (John Orrin) (Collector)
Extent:	3 Drawings (visual works) (pencil, laminated)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Inuit drawings collected by Captain John O. Spicer
Container:	Folder 168997

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The drawings were received as a gift from Captain John Spicer, Groton, Connecticut through O. T. Mason, USNM, September 11, 1894, along with lamp and fire making apparatus (USNM Accession number 28,480).

Provenance

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Related Materials

Related objects collected by Captain Spicer are held in the Department of Anthropology object collections under Accession 28480.

Preferred Citation

Inuit drawings collected by Captain John O. Spicer (MS 168997), National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.
Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Biographical Note

John O. Spicer was a whaling captain based in Connecticut. He was master of the sailing ships *S. B. Howes*, *Nile*, and *Era*. Several of his voyages were to the Arctic, and he became acquainted with Franz Boas during his fieldwork on Baffin Island in the 1880s.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of three (3) drawings by an unidentified native artist. Two drawings are inscribed or signed "Doctor." The drawings were collected by Captain John O. Spicer near Cumberland Sound, Nunavut, Canada.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 168997

Variant Title

Eskimos hunting, Eskimo family, animals, and white men by Eskimo artist from Cumberland Gulf, (Northwest Territory (?), Canada)

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Hunting
- Inuit
- Marriage and family

Cultures:

- Inuit

Types of Materials:

- Drawings
- Works of art

Places:

- Arctic regions
- North America

Container Listing

Scene of hunting, family group, non-native men and various animals
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil, laminated; 18 x 7 inches)
[Image\(s\): Family Group in Costume and with Four Non-Native Men; Scenes Of Hunting and Various Animals Around Edges Painting](#)
Notes: NAA INV 08599600
NAA MS 168997

Seal hunting and dog sled
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil, laminated; 24 x 7 inches)
[Image\(s\): Group in Costume with Weapons Hunting Seals on Ice; Dog-Drawn Sled in Background Drawing](#)
Notes: NAA INV 08599700
NAA MS 168997

Man with rifle stalking reindeer and man and woman
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil, laminated; 24 x 7 inches)
[Image\(s\): Woman and Two Men in Costume, One with Rifle Stalking Reindeer? Drawing](#)
[Image\(s\): Woman and Two Men in Costume, One with Rifle Stalking Reindeer? Drawing](#)
Notes: NAA INV 08599800
NAA MS 168997