



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Guy Kakarook drawings, circa 1900

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Guy Kakarook drawings
Date:	circa 1900
Identifier:	NAA.MS316702
Creator:	Kakarook, Guy (Artist) Jackson, Sheldon, 1834-1909 (Collector)
Extent:	2 Volumes (disbound and laminated; 64 drawings; crayon, ink, and watercolor; 10 x 8 inches)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Guy Kakarook drawings
Container:	Box 316702/316703, Folder 1-12; Box 316702/316703, Folder 1-12

Administrative Information

Provenance

The drawings were part of an Alaskan ethnological and geological collection made by Rev. Sheldon Jackson. The Bureau of American Ethnology (BAE) purchased the collection from Jackson's daughter, (Elizabeth) Lesley Jackson, in July 1921. The collection was transferred from the BAE to the United States National Museum (Accession Number 66880). The drawings were transferred from the object collections of the Department of Anthropology to the National Anthropological Archives in 1969.

Related Materials

Other Sheldon Jackson materials purchased by the Bureau of American Ethnology are held by the National Anthropological Archives in MS 316703 and by the Department of Anthropology object collections (Accession 66880).

Preferred Citation

Guy Kakarook drawings (MS 316702), National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Biographical Note

Guy Kakarook was a Inupiat artist born in the 1860s in Atnuk, a small village 75 miles north of St. Michael, Alaska. He is known for his engraved ivory, as well as his drawings in watercolor, ink, and crayon on paper. Kakarook traveled to St. Michael to trade and to find work on the many Yukon River steamers owned by traders and Russian missionaries.

Biographical Note

Sheldon Jackson (1834-1909) was a Presbyterian minister, missionary, and political leader. In 1885, Jackson was appointed General Agent of Education in the Alaska Territory.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of two books of drawings by Guy Kakarook. The books have been disbound and the pages laminated. The drawings depict life along the Yukon River and the area of St. Michael between 1894 and 1903. Volume 1 contains winter scenes and Volume 2 contains summer scenes. The date 1895 appears in pencil on the cover of Volume 1 and may be the date of production or of collection.

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 316702
USNM Accession 66880
OPPS NEG MNH 2039
OPPS NEG MNH 2039-A--O
OPPS NEG MNH 2040
OPPS NEG MNH 2040-A--N
OPPS NEG MNH 1712
OPPS NEG MNH 1712-A--Z
OPPS NEG MNH 1713
OPPS NEG MNH 1713-A--D
OPPS NEG MNH 37193-A
OPPS NEG MNH 37193-B

Variant Title

Drawings of Eskimo scenes

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Iñupiaq

Cultures:

Iñupiaq

Types of Materials:

Watercolors
Works of art

Places:

Alaska
North America