



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Copies of Franz Boas photographs
of Kwakiutl Indians, circa 1894

Sarah Ganderup

2012 December 18

National Anthropological Archives
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland 20746
naa@si.edu
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Copies of Franz Boas photographs of Kwakiutl Indians
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.R97-19
Date:	circa 1894
Extent:	3 copy prints
Creator:	Boas, Franz, 1858-1942
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Donated by Valerie Pinsky, 1996.

Location of Originals

Originals possibly held by Valerie Pinsky or in the American Philosophical Society archives.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional Boas photographs held in National Anthropological Archives Photo Lot 24.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Northwest Coast Indian legends and vocabularies by Boas held in the National Anthropological Archives in MS 948, MS 1753, and other Numbered Manuscripts.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Correspondence from Boas held in the National Anthropological Archives in MS 4846, MS 4558, MS 1746, MS 4821, American Ethnological Society records, Bureau of American Ethnology records, and collections of personal papers.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The American Philosophical Society holds the Franz Boas Papers.

Preferred Citation

Photo Lot R97-19, Copies of Franz Boas photographs of Kwakiutl Indians, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

This copy collection has been obtained for reference purposes only. Contact the repository for terms of use and access.

Biographical Note

Franz Boas (1858-1942) was a German-American anthropologist and pioneer of modern anthropological practice. He studied physics and geography at the universities at Heidelberg and Bonn before completing a doctoral program in physical geography at Kiel in 1881. After graduation, he joined an expedition of Baffin Island (1883-1884), which influenced his decision to him to focus on cultural tradition rather than biological and physical influences. In 1885, Boas emigrated to the United States, where he took an editorial position with the journal *Science* and started what would become his most famous ethnographic project, working among the Kwakiutl (Kwakwaka'wakw) Indians, in 1886. Boas spent three years teaching at Clark University in Massachusetts, then took an appointment at the Field Museum in Chicago in 1892. Boas then moved to New York, where he joined the American Museum of Natural History (1895-1905) and began teaching at Columbia University in 1896. For 37 years, Boas established himself as an academic and mentored numerous future influential anthropologists, including Margaret Mead, Alfred Kroeber, Edward Sapir, and Zora Neale Hurston. He also served as one of the founders of both the American Anthropological Association and the *International Journal of American Linguistics*.

Scope and Contents

Photographs probably depicting Kwakiutl Indians, including a man in a blanket, a man wearing a bird mask and cedarbark dress, and a woman holding up a cradle or load.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot R97-19

Reproduction Note

Copy prints made by Smithsonian Institution, 1996.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Kwakiutl Indians

Cultures:

Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Kwakiutl Indians

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Addl. KW Subj

Kwakiutl (Kwakwaka'wakw)

Koskimo