Alaska Discovery Portal

Steve Rollins

University of Alaska Anchorage
THE MOTHER LODE OF ALASKA RESOURCES INFORMATION

Home

ARLIS provides information in person and around the world through its website, online document servers, and international library networks. ARLIS is physically located on the University of Alaska Anchorage campus in the Library Building.

ARLIS invites you to use our website, contact us by e-mail or telephone, or visit in person. For hours and parking information, click here or call 27-ARLIS (272-7547) We look forward to serving you!

Collection Highlights

- **Sanborn Digital Maps, Alaskan Cities**
  Digitized insurance maps of selected cities and towns in Alaska, circa 1915 onwards.

- **Alaska Geologic Data Index (AGDI)**
  The Alaska Geologic Data Index (AGDI) is again available as a web-based tool, now with a map-enabled interface.

- **ADNR RS2477 Records and Aerial Photos**
  This collection, compiled by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, pertains to state land associated with Revised Statute 2477. Enacted by Congress as Section 8 of the Mining Law of 1866, and repealed in 1976, RS 2477 granted states and territories unrestricted rights-of-way over federal lands that had no existing reservations or private entries.

- **Anaconda Minerals Exploration Collection**

News

Parking enforcement changes
UAA Autumn Emmiker parking enforcement began Monday, August 29th at 9:30 am. Parking codes or hang tags should be used.

Upcoming Holiday Closures
ARLIS will be closed in observance of the holidays on these upcoming dates:
- Monday, December 26
- Tuesday December 27, 2016
- Monday, January 2
- Tuesday, January 3, 2017

We wish you all very happy holidays and a happy, healthy new year!

More about the Susitna Doc Finder
The Susitna Doc Finder is a comprehensive catalog of documents that have resulted from every phase of hydroelectric project proposed for the Susitna River watershed.

Federal Depository Library
ARLIS selects federal depository items and provides free public access.
To make a **tax-deductible donation** to AMIPA using a major credit card, just click on the "donate" button below.
Polar Libraries Bulletin

The Polar Libraries Bulletin is published at least twice yearly in the Fall and Spring. The editors are Juli Braund-Allen (Senior Editor) and Daria Carle. Members receive the Bulletin as part of their membership. News items may be sent to either editor at:

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3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Current Issue

- Fall 2016, Issue 77

Past Issues

2010s, 2000s, 1990s, 1980s, 1970s

2010s

- Spring 2016, Issue 76
- Fall 2015, Issue 75
- Spring 2015, Issue 74
- Fall 2014, Issue 73
- Spring 2014, Issue 72
- Fall 2013, Issue 71
Alaska State Library-Historical Collections

Established in 1900, the Alaska Historical Collections (AS 14.56.080) in the Alaska State Library is a major repository for historical manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, maps, books, and other publications, along with significant personal collections.

The Alaska Historical Collections preserves the first copy of any state...

more...

University of Alaska Anchorage

Archives and Special Collections at the UAA/APU Consortium Library collects, preserves, and makes available for research records that document Alaska’s past and present.

University of Alaska Fairbanks

The University of Alaska Fairbanks’s Alaska and Polar Regions Collections contain one of the world’s largest collections of historic photographs, manuscripts, moving images, rare books, maps, oral histories, and printed materials pertaining to Alaska and the Polar regions. Spanning six centuries, the materials document a wide...

more...

About the collections

Alaska’s Digital Archives presents a wealth of historical photographs, albums, oral histories, moving images, maps, documents, physical objects, and other materials from libraries, museums, and archives throughout our state.

If you're experiencing problems with your video please download the video by clicking on the download button at the right above the embedded video player. Your downloaded video will then play in most video players, if your still having problems download the quicktime player.

The land now known as the state of Alaska has been continuously inhabited by Native peoples for thousands of years. We invite you to view images of the indigenous people of our state. GO »

The United States acquired Alaska in 1867. The territory became the 49th state in 1959. These images document people, events and places in Alaska from the 1860s through the early years of statehood. GO »

Statewide Library Electronic Doorway: Information resources for, about, and by Alaskans

Powered by CONTENTdm®
Welcome to SLED, Alaska’s Information Dividend!

SERVICES DISCONTINUATION NOTICE
Due to budget cuts, Teen Health & Wellness will be discontinued on January 15, 2017. Mango Languages was discontinued on June 30, 2016.

SLED Websites
We all love search engines, but sometimes the best quality websites are hard to find amidst the ads. We’ve collected outstanding, but sometimes hard to find, resources on Alaskan topics.

- Arts and Literature
- Battle of the Books
- Business & Commercial
- Daily Living, Recreation, & Sports
- Environment & Natural Resources
- Genealogy
- Government & Law
- Health, Disabilities & Social Services
- History
- Job & Employment Resources
- Library Catalog & Indexes
- Native & Indigenous Peoples
- News & Weather
- Science
Climate Variability, Oceanography, Bowhead Whale Distribution, and Ilulissat Subsistence Whaling near Barrow, Alaska

by CARIN J. ASHJIAN; STEPHEN R. BRAUND; ROBERT G. CAMPBELL; more...

Arctic, 06/2010, Volume 63, Issue 2

The annual migration of bowhead whales (Balaena mysticetus) past Barrow, Alaska, has provided subsistence hunting to Ilulissat for centuries...

Journal Article: Full Text Online

Alaska History Nuggets: Commercial whaling

06/2005

61 second film clip, black & white with audio track narrationClips of the commercial whaling industry.

Streaming Video: Available Online

Kiavalliklikput Agviq (Into the Whaling Cycle): Cetaceousness and Climate Change Among the Innuait of Arctic Alaska
Climate Variability, Oceanography, Bowhead Whale Distribution, and Inupiat Subsistence Whaling near Barrow, Alaska.

Authors: Ashjian, Carin J.  
Braund, Stephen R.  
Campbell, Robert G.  
George, J. C.  
Kruise, Jack  
Maslowski, Wieslaw  
Moore, Sue E.  
Nicolson, Craig R.  
Ookpik, Stephen R.  
Sherr, Barry F.  
Sherr, Evelyn G.  
Spitz10, Yvette H.


Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: *BOWHEAD whale  
*OCEANOGRAPHY  
*NUNAVUT  
*EUPHANIDAE  
*COPEPODA

Geographic Term: BARROW (Alaska)  
ALASKA

Author-Supplied: Beaufort Sea
White Killer Whales (Orcinus orca) in the Western North Pacific.

Authors: Filatova, Olga A., Fedotin, I. V. 1, Titova, Olga V. 2, Struzik, Braz 2, Burdin, Alexander M. 2, Hoyt, Erin 2


Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: *KILLER whale
* AQUATIC animals
* MARINE mammals
* SPECIES distribution
* NORTH Pacific Region

Abstract: The article discusses the discovery of White Killer Whales in the Western North Pacific Region. It states that three different white killer whales were encountered around the Commander Islands, Russia, from 2008 through 2015. It mentions that the White Killer Whales discovered belong to the resident or fish-eating ecosystem.

Author Affiliations: 1Faculty of Biology, Moscow State University, Vorobyovy Gory 1/2, Moscow 119992, Russia
2Kamchatka Branch of Pacific Institute of Geography FEB RAS, Pr. Rybalkov 19a, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky 683024, Russia
3Silversea Cruises, G Shed Path Center, 7 Rue du Gabian, MC 98000, Monaco
4Whale and Dolphin Conservation, Park House, Allington Park, Bridport, Dorset DT6 5DD, UK
The Relationship between Vessel Traffic and Noise Levels Received by Killer Whales (Orcinus orca).

Authors: Houghton, Juliana
Holt, Mark M.
Giles, Deborah A.
Hanson, M. Bradley
Emmons, Candice K.
Hogan, Jeffrey T.
Branch, Trevor A.
VanBlaricom, Glenn R.


Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: *HARBORS -- Traffic control
*WHALE watching
*ECOTOURISM
*NOISE
*ENVIRONMENTAL education
*KILLER whale

Abstract: Whale watching has become increasingly popular as an ecotourism activity around the globe and is beneficial for environmental education and local economy. Communal (mass)...
HUMPBACK WHALE (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) ENTANGLEMENT
IN FISHING GEAR IN NORTHERN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA

By

Janet L. Neilson

RECOMMENDED:
Two whaling wrecks found off Alaska

The Washington Post, January 6, 2018

Byline: Michael E. Ruane

When the ice opened for the last time, the local inhabitants urged the ship's captains to get out before it returned and trapped the whalers against the northwest coast of Alaska for the deadly Arctic winter.

It was September, late in the season, but the wind had always kept an escape channel open that time of year. Plus, the whaling was finally going well. The Yankee skippers decided to wait.

It was a poor decision, which could have claimed hundreds of lives.

On Wednesday, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said that it had discovered the wrecks of two of the 32 ships that were crushed by the ice that late summer of 1871 in one of the 19th century's worst whaling disasters.

More than 1,200 mariners and their families barely escaped in small whale boats through narrow and rapidly closing channels in the ice to reach rescue ships 80 miles away, according to NOAA and old newspaper reports.

But the trapped whalers, many of whom were owned by merchants of New Bedford, Massachusetts, were destroyed, ruining the owners financially and damaging the 19th century whaling industry, NOAA said.

The loss of the ships equaled about $33 million in today's dollars, Brad Barr, the project's co-director, said Wednesday.

The vessels, with names such as Concordia, Eugenia and Minerva, were left behind in the ice with their American flags flying upside down, a sign of distress, according to an old account in the New York Times.

NOAA said the discoveries, near Wasatch, Alaska, were made possible, in part, because climate change had melted ice in the area and made wreck sites more accessible to archaeologists.

Barr said that scientists had gone to the remote shores of the stormy Chukchi Sea, above the Arctic Circle, in August aboard a chartered research vessel.
1800s WHALING FLEET DISCOVERED

NOAA archaeologists have discovered the battered hulls of two 1800s whaling ships nearly 144 yrs after they and 31 others sank off the Arctic coast of Alaska in one of the planet’s most unexplored ocean regions.

The shipwrecks, and parts of other ships, that were found are most likely the remains of 33 ships trapped by pack ice close to the Alaskan Arctic shore in September 1871. The whaling captains had counted on a wind shift from the east to drive the ice out to sea as it had always done in years past.

The ships were destroyed in a matter of weeks, leaving more than 1200 whalers stranded at the top of the world until they could be rescued by seven ships of the fleet standing by about 80 mi to the south in open water off Icy Cape. No one died in the incident but it is cited as one of the major causes of the demise of commercial whaling in the United States.

With less ice in the Arctic as a result of climate change, archaeologists now have more access to potential shipwreck sites than ever before. In September, a team of archaeologists from the Maritime Heritage Program in NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries scoured a 30-mi stretch of coastline in the nearshore waters of the Chukchi Sea, near Wainwright, Alaska. Previous searches for the ships had found traces of gear salvaged from the wrecks by the local Inupiat people, as well as scattered timbers stranded high on the isolated beaches that stretch from Wainwright to Point Franklin.

Using state-of-the-art sonar and sensing technology, the NOAA team was able to plot the “magnetic signature” of the two wrecks, including the

Abandonment of the whalers in the Arctic Ocean, September 1871, including the George, Gayhead, and Concordia. (Harper's Weekly 1871, courtesy of Robert Schwemmer Maritime Library)
The 1871 Shipwreck That Ended Yankee Whaling

In 1871, 32 American whaling ships got trapped or crushed in pack ice in the Chukchi Sea off the northernmost edge of Alaska. Aboard were 1,200 passengers, including whalers and family members. In January researchers from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced they had found remnants of the disaster using sonar and sensing technology. Among the debris were parts of two hulls, anchors, fasteners, ballast, and brick-lined pots used to boil the blubber of bowhead whales into oil. The searchers also noted that the reduction in sea ice due to climate change has made finding shipwrecks easier.

The accident miraculously claimed no lives. Captains of the vessels unanimously agreed to abandon the ships, and passengers were evacuated into small boats used for chasing whales. After rowing 80 miles south through sea ice, they reached seven whaling vessels that rescued them. But waiting room for the shipless passengers also meant jettisoning the whale oil, bone, and gear aboard the rescue ships. The catastrophe also meant the end of the whaling
Whaler Alexander

Item Metadata for: http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cdmg11/id/1168
Collection Name: S.R. Bernardi Photographs;
Harpoon Head, Whaling before 1741?
Whaling Captain

Item Metadata for:  http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cdmg11/id/1159
Collection Name: S.R. Bernardi Photographs;
Whaling at Pt. Barrow

Item Metadata for:  http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cdmg11/id/15973
Collection Name: Ernie Carter Photographs
Whaling feast

Item Metadata for: http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cdmg11/id/5519
Collection Name: Mary Cox Photographs, 1953-1958;