Their Own Yukon Project collection

acc# 82/429

YUKON ARCHIVES PHOTO CAPTION LIST

Caption information taken from book titled "Their Own Yukon: a photographic history of Yukon Indian people / manuscript by Julie Cruickshank; photos collected by Jim Robb". Information in square brackets [] provided by Archivist.

Note: The numbering (YA#) for this collection begins at #94.

Further details about these photographs are available in the Yukon Archives Descriptive Database at www.yukonarchives.ca

PHO 060

| YA# | orig# | Description: |
|------------|-------|---|
| 82/429 #94 | 196 | By the 1930s, Teslin was firmly established as a permanent village site and residents began building a dance hall. Mr. Johnston says that lumber had to be imported from Whitehorse, more than 100 miles away by water, and the carrying charges were so high. Source: from George Johnston. [ID by George Johnston's daughter Dolly Porter: Teslin July 1. Left to right: kids on left?, ?, Mrs. Frank Morris (Annie?), ?, Maggie Morris (Frank's sister), Mary Morris. Houses left to right: new building to be a dance hall, Bobby Jackson's, Shorty Johnston's.] [Photo of a group of people in front of a building under construction. Two other newly built houses are also visible.] |
| 82/429 #95 | 22 | The introduction of guns brought a number of changes to hunting. These men are leaving a camp twenty miles south of present day Teslin sometime early in this century. Source: from George Johnston. [ID by George Johnston's daughter Dolly Porter: Hunting porcupine! Largest ever.] [Two men hunting.] |
| 82/429 #96 | 138 | For many years, grave houses were built to mark graves. The earliest were plain picket fences. These pictures were taken in 1918 at Whitehorse where a Teslin man died. His people travelled from his village for the funeral. They carried this grave marker across the Yukon River by boat and placed it on his grave in the Indian cemetery. Source: from George Johnston. Post Card [on reverse.] [People around boat Aurora. Grave marker balanced on back.] - 1918. |
| 82/429 #97 | 151 | This photo was taken at a potlatch after a funeral in Teslin. Potlatch ceremonies are common to the northwest coast from Alaska to northern Washington, but they vary in different areas. Potlatches in the Yukon were less competitive than those on the coast and were usually given after funerals. (see Chapter 9). Source: from George Johnston. |

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| 82/429 #98 | 95 | Young boys accompanied men on hunting and trapping expeditions and learned from their fathers the skills necessary to provide for a family. In those days, education was part of family life and it prepared children for the life they would lead as adults. Source: from George Johnston. |
| 82/429 #99 | 161 | This photo shows how moosehide is laced to a horizontal frame. The children hold the poles to which scrapers are lashed for tanning the hide. Later the children are identified left to right as Dolly Porter and Isaac Johnson. Source: from George Johnston. |
| 82/429 #100 | 195 | This photo was taken at a sports day at Teslin, about 1930. Later people identified left to right as Gladys Sydney-Johnston, Ruth Jackson, Dora Henry, Dorothy Tom, Lilly Morris-Fox, Mary, Bessie J., Daisy Fox, Margaret Sydney, Martha Van Heel, and in front, Harry Morris, George Johnston, and Walter Fox. This is the same photo as in George Johnston 82/428 #24. Source: from George Johnston ca. 1930. |
| 82/429 #101 | 139 | Some personal clothing and other belongings were buried with the person who died. Remaining possessions were then burned. Later the woman on the far left identified as Mrs. Morris. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #102 | 50 | A number of lynx pelts on stretching boards were photographed by Mr. Johnston at a trapping centre, Johnstontown [Johnston Town], on the southeast side of Teslin Lake, about forty miles south of Teslin. Mr. Johnston explained that this was a summer headquarters for Teslin and Atlin people, rather than a permanent settlement. When Nisutlin Post was built in 1904, it became the more permanent headquarters for these people. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #103 | 54 | These photos show the results of a beaver hunt in 1934 "to the east of Teslin." Later the middle man identified with Andrew James of Carcross, Yukon. Source: from George Johnston - 1934. |
| 82/429 #104 | 44 | These furs were brought back to the trading post in Teslin. The two children are home after spending winter at the residential school. Source: from George Johnston |

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| 82/429 #105 | 42 | This spring catch, taken from the area south of Teslin, consists of fox and lynx. During the First World War, fur prices were high. Mr. Johnston remembers when a silver fox was worth \$700.00. Later children identified as Moses Jackson (boy holding gun) and Ida Jackson (Bob). Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #106 | 60 | Ties with the coast have always been a source of pride for Inland Tlingit families. This photo was taken in Juneau in 1899. George Johnston (plate 40) at that time fifteen years old, stands second from the right. He remembers that this particular trip to Juneau was made "so that we are sure of who we are." While there, they were photographed in ceremonial dress. Source: from George Johnston - 1899. |
| 82/429 #107 | 77 | An automobile meant that at least a few men could hunt more efficiently, though they were limited to travel on ice. This first stage of mechanized hunting had begun, some forty years before the snow-mobile was invented. Later the man in the middle holding the stick or gun is identified as Edward T. Jack of Atlin, BC. Two wolves are lying in front of the men. |
| 82/429 #108 | 65 | In summer, dogs were used to pack supplies and trade goods. This man "originally from Tlingit people but raised at Lower Post" came to visit and trade at Teslin. (credit: George Johnston) [Later identified as Liard Tom.] |
| 82/429 #109 | 75 | In 1928, George Johnston brought the first automobile into Teslin - a four door Chevrolet sedan. He had it shipped to Whitehorse on the White Pass Railway, and then to Teslin on the Taylor and Drury barge. |
| 82/429 #110 | 76 | The absence of roads was not really a problem in winter, since the lake is frozen much of the year. Mr. Johnston put chains on the wheels and used this car for lake and river travel. He said that of all the trucks and cars he has driven since that time, this one was the best to handle on ice. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #111 | 43 | The man standing on the right holds a wire snare used in trapping. Their pelts included silver fox, grey fox and coyote. Later identified left to right: Edward T. Jack of Atlin, BC and George Johnston. Source: from George Johnston |

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| 82/429 #112 | 55 | Mr. Johnston told us how beaver skins were stretched to make this oblong shape in those years: now marketable beaver must be stretched to form a circle. A camera case hangs from one of the frames. Later the man on the right identified as Andrew James, Carcross, Yukon. |
| 82/429 #113 | 140 | Similar grave fences have been built to mark graves in Teslin for many years. After transportation improved, lathes were imported and more intricate grave fences were made. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #114 | 86 | This man, originally from Telegraph Creek, married an Atlin girl and moved to Atlin. Here they hitch up their dog team, preparing to leave for spring trapping. This photo was taken about 1915. Later people identified as left to right, Johnny T. Jack of Atlin, Tom Carlick of Telegraph Creek, and Eva Carlick of Telegraph Creek. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #115 | 87 | A Teslin family, moving their camp during the 1940s. [Later the man in the middle identified as Shorty Johnson of Teslin, YT.] Source: from George Johnston - 194 |
| 82/429 #116 | 27 | Moose is the chief large game animal hunted near Teslin. Mr. George Johnston, who took many of the photos in this album, stands here with the head of a bull moose he shot. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #117 | 81 | Sometimes people planted gardens at summer camps. George Johnston took this photo at Johnstontown [Johnston Town]. Because of the long days of sunlight in summer and the rapid growing season, some of these turnips weighed 14 and 15 pounds. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #118 | 118 | "In the old way" when a man married, it was customary for him to move to live near his wife's home. Big Salmon Pat from Big Salmon married a girl from Atlin and the couple lived between Atlin and Teslin for many years. Here they are photographed in Teslin by George Johnston. Later identified left to right as Big Salmon Pat's daughter, Big Salmon Pat and Jessie Paddy of Atlin. Source: from George Johnston |

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| 82/429 #119 | 88 | This family spent much of the year on the upper Pelly River and traded at Pelly Banks, south of Ross River. This picture was taken when they visited Teslin in 1952. The mother was living in Ross River in 1970. Source: from George Johnston. Source: from George Johnston Post Card [on reverse.] - 1952. |
| 82/429 #120 | 78 | Because there were no roads in Teslin, Mr. Johnston decided to build one himself. He constructed a three mile long road (which was used as part of the Alaska Highway fifteen years later) and began charging one dollar for the ride. Here he poses with two assistants. he painted the automobile white to make it more efficient for winter hunting. Source: from George Johnston [82/428 #19, and 82/429 #120 and 2000/37 #78 photographed at same time.] |
| 82/429 #121 | 104 | The Anglican Church became a major force in many settlements in the Yukon early in the twentieth century. Mr. Julius Kendi, originally from Fort McPherson, was ordained as a minister in Mayo in 1928. He and his wife lived in Mayo for ten years, then moved to Old Crow. (see Plate 211). This photo was taken about 1918 ca. 1918. |
| 82/429 #122 | 183 | This photo was taken at the beginning of fall hunting season in 1909. The moustached man standing at the right is Taku Jack, then chief of the Atlin people. He was forty years old when gold was discovered seven miles from Atlin. His wife sits at his feet. The small boy is his son, later a chief at Atlin. Source: Maggie Ward [Later, the people were identified left to right as: Atlin Shorty, Jack Sakoon (sitting), Billy Atlin, Taku Charlie, Henry T. Jack (boy being held), Shorty Johnson, Chief Taku Jack, Emma Taku Jack and baby on swing is Johnny T. Jack.] - 1909. |
| 82/429 #123 | 63 | The Burwash Landing Post was established in 1904 by two French brothers named Jacquot. This picture was taken at the old Burwash trading post early in the century. Two of the men wear 'Captain's hats' which they had bought at the Carmacks trading post. These distinctive hats are said to have carried considerable prestige in the community. Source: from Jessie Joe |

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| 82/429 #124 | 85 | This photo was taken south of Teslin at a camp where Teslin and Atlin families came together after winter to prepare for spring trapping. Source: from George Johnston |
| 82/429 #125 | 99 | This picture was one on an old roll of film taken sometime in the 1940's and not developed. The film was found on a cabin floor and was processed in 1969. Source: from Joe James |
| 82/429 #126 | 160 | Women living at Tagish, Teslin, Atlin and Carcross tanned skins somewhat differently. Instead of hanging skins over a pole for tanning, they laced hides onto a rectangular wooden frame for stretching and tanning. They used an end scraper which was tightly to a pole about five feet long. The frame could be placed either vertically or horizontally while tanning was done. These women smoked the skin only after the final tanning. This photo which illustrated the method so well, was taken about thirty years ago. The film was found and developed in 1969. (credit: Joe James [Slightly different version than published in book.] - 194 |
| 82/429 #126A | 160 | Women living at Tagish, Teslin, Atlin and Carcross tanned skins somewhat differently. Instead of hanging skins over a pole for tanning, they laced hides onto a rectangular wooden frame for stretching and tanning. They used an end scraper which was tightly to a pole about five feet long. The frame could be placed either vertically or horizontally while tanning was done. These women smoked the skin only after the final tanning. This photo which illustrated the method so well, was taken about thirty years ago. The film was found and developed in 1969. (credit: Joe James - 194 |
| 82/429 #127 | 147 | In 1943 an epidemic of flu and measles brought death to a number of communities along the newly built Alaska highway. Fatalities were not as high as in the 1918 epidemic, but entire villages fell ill and many people died. These three photos were taken at a funeral in Burwash. Source: from Jessie Joe |
| 82/429 #128 | 134 | Atlin funeral, 1918. Later people identified left to right as Taku Sam (Peters), Harry Johnson, Henry T. Jack, unknown, Shorty Jackson, Taku Jim, Eva Taku Jim, Chief Taku Jack, James Schotty, Johnny T. Jack, and Leo T. Jack. Funeral was for Emma Taku Jack. Source: from Mrs. John Good - 1918. |

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| YA# 82/429 #129 | orig# 39 | Description: The 1920s and 1930s are remembered as good years in Teslin. This photo was taken by Mr. George Johnston. For more of his photos, see chapter 4. Later identified as Edward T. Jack of Atlin and Daisy Johnson of Teslin. Source: from George Johnston - 1920-1939. |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 82/429 #130 | 49 | Members of the Hammond family at Marsh Lake sit sewing and fleshing muskrat. Probably as much as any other fur, muskrat shows the instability of the fur market during this century. The economic boom during the First World War put muskrat from \$.40 in 1914 to \$.75 in 1917. By 1918, muskrat were worth \$1.00 each in 1920 they brought \$1.50. From 1917 onward, fur prices reflected world market prices: in 1935 a pelt was worth about \$.70: in 1939, \$1.10: in 1945, \$4.50: in 1950, \$3.00. In 1970, a trapper received about \$.95 for a muskrat pelt. Later man on right with pipe identified as John Joce of Marsh Lake, Yukon. Source: from David Hammond |
| 82/429 #131 | 119 | About nine or ten families lived on Lake Laberge in the years when sternwheelers were on the rivers. Most of these people moved to Whitehorse after road transportation replaced river travel. Source: from Willie Broeken |
| 82/429 #132 | 217 | This is the crew of the same boat. Later the crew identified (Standing left to right) Tomy Inkster, unknown, Jimmy Vance, Andrew Dick, (Sitting left to right) Mike Williams, William La Claw[?], Howard Vance, and man at very front is unknown. Source: from Willie Broeren |
| 82/429 #133 | 216 | Frank Slim (centre, seated) and family members were photographed in 1940. Mr. Slim and his crew were just about to leave to travel down the Dease River to Lower Post to "open up Watson Lake". He told us that pictures from this period are rare because the American Army forbade the use of cameras for security reasons. Later the man behind Frank Slim was identified as Howard Vance, and the woman right of the girl beside Frank as Susie Carlick from Telegraph Creek. Source: from Willie Broeren - 1940. |
| 82/429 #134 | 35 | Mr. Hammond took this photo of a young hunter at the top of the Chilkoot Pass in 1922. Source: from David Hammond - 1922. |

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| YA# 82/429 #135 | orig# 41 | Description: Here trappers display part of their catch. Furs arranged from left to right are: one wolverine, two cross fox, some mink, marten, two more cross fox, and a final wolverine. Mr. Johnston sits on the left in this photo taken sometime early in this century. Later identified left to right: George Johnston, William Johnston, and Jake Jackson. Source: from George Johnston |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 82/429 #136 | 181 | Ceremonial clothing is very important to people in Teslin because it links them with their past. Chief Joe Squan [Squam?], once a Teslin chief, was photographed "many years ago" in his ceremonial dress, mixed with some modern clothing. Behind him is draped a British flag brought to the village by an Indian agent (approximately 1914). Later the two women were identified as his wives. Source: from Mrs. Sophie Hall (same as Mrs. Billy Hall) |
| 82/429 #137 | 180 | This potlatch photo was taken in Atlin in 1917, by Mr. Johnny Johns. Two coastal descent groups, Crow and Frog, are represented in the background. Mr. Johns says that 1918 was mistakenly written on the photograph. (credit: Johnny Johns) [Slightly different version than published in book.] - 1917. |