

**MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT MUSEUM AND
RESEARCH CENTER**
Archives & Special Collections

**Bibliography of
Arctic and Sub-Arctic Natives**

Introduction

Viking explorers were among the first Europeans to encounter the indigenous populations of the frigid territories of this planet's northern extremities. Engaged for centuries afterward in a search for the shortest possible maritime route to Asia, the Norsemen's successors frequently contacted the Inuit peoples, and often relied on them for survival in the unfamiliar climate. Over the years, maps, books, engravings, and photographs have answered the popular fascination with these hardy tribes, which continues unabated today.

This bibliography features items in Archives & Special Collections that document the history and culture of these peoples. (JA)

Books

Akweks, Aren and Harold Conklin. *Cultural Areas of North American Indians.* Malone, NY: Printed by Roy Smalley, 1948. MSS 156.

Aren Akweks (b. 1910) (who has also used the names Ray Fadden and Tehanetorens) is a member of the Wolf Clan of the Mohawk Tribe. Following anthropological practice, Akweks here divides the United States and Canada into nine separate cultural areas, each of which includes several tribes. The brief descriptions of the tribes inhabiting each region include notes about their clothing styles, and the arts and crafts for which they are known. Region One encompasses the "Eskimo Area" of Alaska, northern Canada, the Arctic islands, and Greenland. Akweks states that "one language stock served the whole area," and suggests that, since they existed in small, isolated familial units (rather than large tribal units), they "figure less prominently in the history of European domination of the North American continent." (JA)

Ballantyne, R. M. (Robert Michael) (1825-1894). *Hudson Bay, or, Everyday Life in the Wilds of North America, During Six Years' Residence in the Territories of the Hon. Hudson Bay Company.* London: Thomas Nelson and Sons, 1879. RARE F1060.8 .B19 H83 1879.

Scion of a family of Scottish publishers and printers, Ballantyne traveled to Canada in 1841 at the age of sixteen. For the next six years, he worked as a clerk for the Hudson Bay Company. Returning to Scotland in 1847, he then embarked on a literary career, writing works of non-fiction and nearly one hundred adventure stories for young readers.

First published in 1848, *Hudson Bay* is Ballantyne's first book. In it, he describes his experiences in northern Canada, devoting particular attention to the local Native population. (JA)

Bancroft, Hubert Howe (1832-1918). *The Native Races of the Pacific States of North America.* London: Longman, Greens, and Company, 1875-1876. RARE E78 .P2 B215 1875.

Born in Ohio, Bancroft migrated to the newly added state of California in the 1850s, where he opened a bookshop in San Francisco in 1856. Three years later, he began assembling what became a massive collection of Californiana, and then expanded his scope to include the entire Pacific Coast between present-day Panama and Alaska. In 1874, with the help of hundreds of assistants, he commenced

writing a comprehensive history of the western half of North America, which spanned thirty-nine volumes by the time of its completion in 1890. It remains a standard work on the subject.

Featured in the first five volumes of this monumental study are two chapters on the "Hyperborean" peoples (defined as those living north of the fifty-fifth parallel). The chapter in Volume I addresses Inuit material culture, social structures, folklore, and burial ceremonies. The chapter in Volume III examines Inuit languages and dialects. (JA)

Franklin, John, Sir (1786-1847). *Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, in the Years 1819, 20, 21, and 22.* London: John Murray, 1823. Accession Number 2003-0100.

An officer in the British Navy who had served during the Napoleonic Wars and the Anglo-American War of 1812, Franklin also continued the centuries-old search for the Northwest Passage (a maritime shortcut to East Asia via the Arctic region). His first exploratory effort, which began in 1819, coincided with another British expedition to the area led by another Royal Navy officer, William Edward Parry (1790-1855) (see below). Over the course of an extremely arduous three-year odyssey, during which Franklin and his crew nearly starved to death, they traveled westward from Hudson Bay into what is now Canada's Northwest Territories. Reduced to subsisting on lichen, rotted deerskin, and their shoes by the time they reached the Coppermine River in 1822, the explorers were forced to return. Meanwhile, Parry successfully located and charted several previously unknown estuaries in northern and western Canada. Over two decades later, in 1845, Franklin was selected (despite his advanced age) to lead another expedition, an attempt to link the waterways which Parry had discovered and the Simpson Strait (on the northern coast of the present Canadian province of Nunavut). Franklin left England on his mission with two ships and 128 hands in May 1845. Their fellow Englishmen never saw them alive again. In the late 1840s and early 1850s, joint rescue operations by British and American crews failed to find Franklin and his men. Uncertainty still surrounds their fate. Rumors held that they fell victim to cannibalism, or to food poisoning (canned meat, then a new invention, was contained in cans soldered with lead), or to starvation.

In this book, Franklin recounts his first voyage of exploration, describing the Natives that he and his men encountered and employed as guides en route. Illustrating the text are color portraits of Inuits and drawings of local flora and fauna by Lieutenant Robert Hood (who was killed during the expedition in October 1821). (JA)

Grönlandske Folkesagn, Opskrevne og Meddeelte af Indfødte, med Dansk Oversoettelse. Godthaab: Trykt I Inspectoratets Bogtrykkeri af L. Møller, under Tilsyn af Hjelpelaerer R. Berthelsen, 1859-1863. MSS 267.

In 1853, Denmark sent geographer Hinrich Johannes Rink (1819-1893) to its colony of Greenland to oversee business dealings there. (He later served as Royal Inspector for South Greenland before health reasons compelled his return in 1868.) While there, Rink also strove to preserve original Greenlandic culture, which European colonization had seriously jeopardized. Enlisting the aid of a Native named Rasmus Berthelsen, Rink began several publications that were printed in Greenlandic and Danish. A newspaper, *Atuagaglliutt*, reported on world events and provided useful news on hunting conditions and official decrees for the benefit of its readership. Among Rink's other publications were these four volumes, which recounted traditional Greenlandic myths and stories. For the first time, indigenous Greenlanders (children, as well as adults) had the opportunity to read literature written in their own language. Appearing throughout each volume are hand-colored woodcuts by Native artists; these depict hunting scenes, village life, and other topics. (JA)

Highwater, Jamake. *The Sweet Grass Lives On: Fifty Contemporary North American Indian Artists.* New York: Lippincott & Crowell, 1980. RARE N6538 .A4 H5 1980.

Jamake Highwater (1942-2001) authored over thirty books on a wide variety of topics, including popular music, dance, and the visual arts. He has been hailed as one of the most important chroniclers of Native American culture in the second half of the twentieth century. In this anthology, Highwater

profiles fifty twentieth-century Native American painters and sculptors and provides illustrations of sample works from them. One of the artists profiled here is Alaska-born John Hoover (b. 1919), of partial Aleut descent. After a beginning in painting, he became an award-winning sculptor; illustrations accompanying the brief biography showcase two of his triptychs. (JA)

Ilisagvik College. Course catalog and newsletters, 1997-1998. MSS 111.

This community college, located in Barrow, Alaska, was created by the Inupiat tribe of the North Slope. In 1972, this tribe had successfully incorporated the North Slope Borough, a local home-rule governmental body. In conjunction with the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, the North Slope Borough established the North Slope Higher Education Center in 1986. Five years later, in 1991, the Center was renamed the Arctic Sivunmun Ilisagvik College. While its focus is primarily upon vocational education, it is also dedicated "to preparing and strengthening Inupiat culture, language, values, and traditions." (This information was obtained at the college's Web site: ilisagvik.co.north-slope.ak.us/) (JA)

International Polar Expedition (1882-1883). *Report of the International Polar Expedition to Point Barrow, Alaska, in Response to the Resolution of the House of Representatives of December 11, 1884.* Washington, DC: GPO, 1885. RARE Q115 .I6 U6 1885.

International interest in Arctic exploration burgeoned through the second half of the nineteenth century, particularly in the wake of the sad fate of Sir John Franklin (see above). In October 1879, the first International Polar Conference convened in Hamburg, Germany. It proposed establishing eight scientific observation stations throughout the region, where participants could record their findings about the climate, the tides, the earth's magnetic field, the indigenous population, and the animals. Two years later, at the third conference, the United States joined this consortium, and the International Polar Year (during which the studies would be conducted) was scheduled to begin in August 1882 and end in September 1883. The United States established its station at Point Barrow on the northern coast of Alaska. Commanding the American expedition to Point Barrow was Lieutenant Patrick Henry Ray (1842-1911). While there, Ray's crew collected many specimens of local flora and fauna. Although he was not a trained ethnologist, Ray also completed an important study of the area's Inuits.

This large volume contains Ray's reports on the indigenous population, along with estimated census information and vocabulary listings. Chapters by other members of the expedition examine the region's birds, insects, fish, plants, meteorology, and magnetism. (JA)

Jackson, Sheldon (1834-1909). *Facts About Alaska: Its People, Villages, Missions, and Schools.* New York: Woman's Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, [1903]. RARE F909 .J15 1903.

Ordained as a Presbyterian minister, Sheldon Jackson traveled extensively throughout the United States west of the Rocky Mountains, establishing over one hundred missions and schools. Starting in 1877, he devoted himself to the material and spiritual welfare of the indigenous Alaskan population. He imported nearly 1,300 Siberian reindeer into the territory of Alaska to improve the residents' livelihoods, and founded numerous schools and missions there. Jackson was instrumental in securing the passage of the Organic Act of 1884, which, among other things, provided federal aid for education in Alaska. The following year, he was named the territory's first General Agent for Education. (This information was obtained from the Web site www.netstate.com/states/peop/people/ak_sj.htm.)

In this booklet, Jackson presents a history of the late nineteenth-century efforts to build schools and churches in Alaska, and includes a map depicting the missions' locations. However, he opines that persistence of indigenous cultural mores make the tasks of education difficult. He notes that "(school) attendance for the most part is very irregular, owing to the trips that are made (to hunt for deer and whales)." Further, the Inuits "pride themselves on knowing English, but manifest little desire to speak it, as that would be breaking off from their traditions." (JA)

Kane, Elisha Kent (1820-1857). *Arctic Explorations: The Second Grinnell Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin, 1853, '54, '55.* Philadelphia: Childs & Peterson, 1856-1857. RARE G665 .K3 1857.

Trained as a physician, Philadelphia-born Elisha Kent Kane had served in the United States Navy during the Mexican War. Seeking postwar adventure, he contacted the Secretary of the Navy in 1849 with a proposal to rescue British explorer Sir John Franklin in the Canadian Arctic (see above). As a result, in May 1850, Kane joined the first Grinnell Expedition, under the command of Lieutenant Edwin DeHaven. Because of his medical background, Kane served as ship's surgeon. (The expedition was named for whaling magnate Henry Grinnell, who supplied the two whaling brigs *Advance* and *Rescue* after having them converted for Arctic duty.) Although the expedition found the graves of three of Franklin's crew members near Wellington Channel (in the present-day province of Nunavut), they found no survivors before they returned to New York in September 1851. Subsequently convinced that Franklin was trapped in the Open Polar Sea north of Greenland, Kane successfully lobbied for a second rescue attempt, which began in May 1853. This time, he commanded the brig *Advance*. The second Grinnell Expedition reached what is now Kane Basin (named for Kane), off the northwestern coast of Greenland by the end of August. There, ice incarcerated them for nearly two years. Although two crew members perished from exposure in 1854, local Inuits helped the remainder to survive. Meanwhile, Kane conducted several geographical surveys and meteorological studies of northwestern Greenland. Finally, in May 1855, the expedition began its return trip home.

In this two-volume set, Kane recounts the events of the second expedition, whose hardships contributed to his early death in 1857. (JA)

Rink, H. (Hinrich) (1819-1893). *Tales and Traditions of the Eskimo, with a Sketch of their Habits, Religion, Language, and Other Peculiarities.* Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons, 1875. VAULT E99 .E7 R56 1875.

Before returning to Denmark from Greenland in 1868, Rink (see above) authored this book, which begins with a brief ethnographic profile, and then retells many of these Natives' folkloric tales. Originally published in Danish in 1866, this is an English translation. (JA)

Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (Great Britain). *A Kwagutl Translation of Hymns as Sung in the C.M.S. Missions on the North of Vancouver Island.* London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1916. Accession Number 2003-0057.

Established in 1698, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge is the Anglican Church's oldest mission agency. Although its initial priority was combating the "growth of vice and immorality" in English America, it soon broadened the geographical scope of its proselytizing activities, establishing churches throughout the British Empire through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. (This information was obtained from the following Web site: www.spck.org.uk/ .)

Originally published in 1889, this book is a new edition of hymn lyrics translated into the Kwakiutl language for the use of the indigenous population of northwestern British Columbia. (JA)

Maps

A Map of the Five Great Lakes, with Part of Pensilvania (sic), New York, Canada and Hudsons Bay Territories &c. ca. 1755. Accession Number 1997-0128.

This mid-eighteenth century map shows the Great Lakes region of North America, including parts of Canada and the colonies of New York and Pennsylvania. Territories then claimed by various tribes are also denoted, among them the "Antient Hurons," "Northern Iroquois," and the "Illinois." (JA)

Bellin, Jacques Nicolas (1703-1772). *Carte de l'Amérique Septentrionale*, 1755. MSS 235.

Carte de l'Amérique Septentrionale encompasses most of North America (excepting most of Mexico), showing the French, English, and Spanish spheres of influence (and the Native territories therein) on the eve of the Seven Years' War. Among the depicted tribal domains is the "Pays des Esquimeaux" in northeastern Canada. Coastal settlements and outposts appear on Labrador and Greenland. (The word "septentrionale," a now-obsolete term for the "northern regions," or North America, is derived from the seven principal stars of Ursa Major.) (EC/JA)

Blaeu, Willem Janszoon (1571-1638). *America Nova Tabula*, ca. 1630s. MSS 234.

----- *America Nova Tabula*, 1642. Accession Number 1996-0056.

The Blaeu family was arguably the most famous of all the seventeenth-century Dutch publishers of maps, globes and atlases. They were also cartographers, instrument-makers, and booksellers.

America Nova Tabula, which depicts both North and South America, first appeared in 1617. MSS 234 is a copy of the third state, originally issued in 1621 and appearing with printed text on the reverse side after 1630. Although this map focuses upon the Iberian empire in the Western Hemisphere, an inset depicts the territory of Greenland. Images of Natives from the hemisphere's various regions then under either English, Spanish, or Portuguese control, as well as from Greenland, adorn the left and right margins. (JA)

Accession Number 1996-0056 is a copy of the fourth state of *America Nova Tabula*, which appeared in 1642.

Châtelain, Henri Abraham (1684-1743). *Carte de la Nouvelle France*, 1719. MSS 228.

Châtelain created this 1719 map of the eastern half of North America as part of his *magnum opus*, *Atlas Historique*. Included are New England and eastern Canada, and the tribes therein. "Les Micmaques" populate what is now the state of Maine, and the future Canadian province of New Brunswick features the "Terre des Petits Esquimeaux." North of New Brunswick (in present-day Québec Province) lies the "Terre des Grands Esquimeaux." (EC/JA)

Fer, Nicolas de (1646-1720). *L'Amérique, Divisée Selon l'étendue de ses Principales Parties*, 1717. MSS 274.

L'Amérique, one of de Fer's wall maps, originally appeared in 1698. (This copy is a 1717 reprint.) It portrays the entire Western Hemisphere. It denotes several tribal territories, among them the "Esquimeaux" of the north. This map remains justifiably famous for the rich array of illustrative cartouches around its border. Engraver Nicolas Guérard likely created these often fanciful images of the indigenous peoples and fauna of the Western Hemisphere. Notably, this is the first European map to feature a detailed illustration of the Canadian beaver. (EC/JA)

L'Isle, Guillaume de (1675-1726). *Carte du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France et des Découvertes qui y ont été Faites Dressée sur Plusieurs Observations sur un Grand Nombre de Relations Imprimées ou Manuscrites*, 1703. MSS 144.

The de L'Isle cartographic house was founded by geographer and historian Claude de L'Isle (1644-1720), and led by his eldest son Guillaume. The de L'Isle house dominated the mapping of North America from the end of the seventeenth century through the first quarter of the eighteenth, and its maps were copied by others for years afterward.

This map's scope encompasses much of the northern half of North America, as well as Greenland and the Arctic Circle. Numerous tribal territories appear. East of Hudson Bay is "Terre Labrador ou des Esquimeaux." Around the Great Lakes region are the "Kicapou," the Algonquins, the Iroquois, and

"Les Illinois." "Micmaques" and "Abnakis" inhabit the area now occupied by the state of Maine and the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. (EC/JA)

Robert de Vaugondy, Didier (1723-1786). *Partie de l'Amerique Septentrionale qui Comprend la Nouvelle France ou le Canada*, 1755. MSS 231.

Gilles Robert de Vaugondy (1688-1766) and his son Didier were French mapmakers, both of whom served as Royal Geographers to the French court. In the 1750s, father and son collaborated on their *magnum opus*, a world atlas published as *Atlas Universel* in 1757.

This map depicting the northeastern corner of North America likely appeared in the *Atlas Universel*. It provides abundant information about the locations of the region's tribes at the time. Surrounding Lake Ontario are the Hurons, the "Iroquois du Nord," and the "Oneydoes." Straddling the future state of Maine and the future province of New Brunswick are the "Micmas." The northern part of the future province of Québec is labeled "Pays des Esquimeaux." Native place names appear throughout, along with English and French place names. (JA)

Programs

MPTN. Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center. Public Programs. *Holiday Time at the Pequot Museum, 24 November Through 31 December 2000.* Unaccessioned.

This program describes the public events that the Museum hosted at the end of the year 2000. Between 27 and 29 December, the Native Alaskan a cappella group Pamyua performed several times in the Gathering Space. Their repertoire features songs from the Inuit tradition, as well as gospel and folk music. All four members autographed this program. (JA)

Visual Materials

Flaherty, Robert Joseph (1884-1951). Photographs, 1913-1914. MSS 43.

Robert Joseph Flaherty was a key filmmaker in the early years of motion-picture photography. He is perhaps best known for his 1923 film *Nanook of the North*, a documentary focusing on the Natives of the Hudson Bay region. Often considered the first full-length film documentary, *Nanook* remains a milestone in cinematic history.

A decade earlier, Flaherty had traveled to that area under the auspices of the Canadian railroad firm Mackenzie and Mann, which in 1910 sought to investigate iron ore resources on the coast of Hudson Bay. The firm sponsored four such expeditions between 1910 and 1916. Aware of the widespread popularity of images of exotic people and places, Flaherty used these missions as opportunities to capture on film the indigenous populations of the Hudson Bay vicinity. On each occasion, Flaherty brought a still photograph camera and diaries, and, beginning with the third expedition in 1913-1914, he also included a motion picture camera among his equipment.

This collection includes fifty of Flaherty's photographs from the 1913-1914 expedition. He subsequently gifted them to Eugene LaDuke, who had accompanied and assisted him on the journey. Individual Inuits posed for many of the photographs. Others depict their dwellings, vehicles, and surroundings. (JA)

Lyon, G. F. (George Francis) (1795-1832). "Nakahu, an Eskimaux" and "Eskimeaux Children" (pencil drawings), ca. 1822. Accession Number 2003-0099.

British naval officer George Francis Lyon served as second-in-command during William Edward

Parry's second exploration of the Canadian Arctic in 1821-1823 (see above). Because of his drawing ability, Lyon also became the expedition's unofficial artist. Stranded by impassable ice for nearly a year in the Inuit village of Igloodik (north of Hudson Bay) in 1822, Parry's crew (Lyon in particular) acquainted themselves with their hosts' lifestyle and folklore. At this time, Lyon also created some of the earliest life portraits of the Inuits, including these two drawings. He used as his medium either pencil or charcoal for his many portraits, since the cold temperatures would have rendered paints unusable. Nakahu (who acquired the nickname "Kettle") served as Lyon's cultural guide in Igloodik. The second portrait depicts three Inuit children. (JA)

Introduction and annotations by Jonathan Ault (JA) and Elliott Caldwell (EC).

This bibliography was first compiled in July 2003, and will be updated quarterly. Any omissions or errors are deeply regretted by the bibliographers who have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this document.

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