A guide to the Carl Christensen photographs, 1956-1958

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A Guide to the Carl Christensen photographs

P78-319a

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, National Park Service

2013, National Park Service

Title: Carl Christensen photographs
Date: 1956-1958
Identifier/Call Number: P78-319a (SAFR 23357)
Creator: Christensen, Carl M. (Carl Mobius)
Hoskins, Emmett A.
Physical Description: 4 items.
Repository: San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, Historic Documents Department
Building E, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
Abstract: The Carl Christensen photographs, 1956-1958, (SAFR 23357, P78-319a) are comprised of snapshots of Carl Christensen and the Eureka Fire Department boat CAPTAIN PUDGY DAVIS. The collection has been processed to the Item level and is open for use.
Physical Location: San Francisco Maritime NHP, Historic Documents Department
Language(s): In English.
Access
This collection is open for use unless otherwise noted.
Publication and Use Rights
Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the researcher's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.
Processing Note
The descriptions in this collection guide were compiled using the best available sources of information. Such sources include the creator's annotations or descriptions, collection accession files, primary and secondary source material and subject matter experts. While every effort was made to provide accurate information, in the event that you find any errors in this guide please contact the reference staff in order for us to evaluate and make corrections to this guide.
Please cite the title and collection number in any correspondence with our staff.
Preferred Citation
[Item description], [Location within collection organization identified by Collection Number/Series Number/File Unit Number/Item Number], P78-319a (SAFR 23357), Carl Christensen photographs, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
Acquisition Information
SAFR-00001
GOGA-00789
These photographs were donated to the San Francisco Maritime Museum by Emmett A. Hoskins in August 1974, who received them from Carl Christensen. The photographs were formally accessioned on May 17, 1978.
SAFR-00001 is a blanket accession that was transferred from the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) to the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park in September 1988. GGNRA had previously acquired the collection from the San Francisco Maritime Museum when it became a unit of the National Park Service in 1977.
GOGA-00789 was transferred from the J. Porter Shaw Library to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in February 1985.
Historical or Biographical Note
Carl Christensen (1906-1986) lived in Eureka, California for many years, and was a photographer, photograph collector, and a maritime historian specializing in steam schooners of the Pacific Coast.
Carl Mobius Christensen was born May 28, 1906. He was a native of Humboldt County, California and was born and raised on the Samoa Peninsula near the U.S. Coast Guard Station. Christensen lived in Eureka for many years before moving to Grove City and then to Arroyo Grande. He was a photographer, photograph collector, and a maritime historian specializing in steam schooners of the Pacific Coast. He was a member of the Humboldt County Historical Society and the Humboldt Maritime Museum. Christensen was a member of the Eureka Firefighters Local No. 652 and his father worked for years at the Humboldt Bar life-saving station.

During the 1930s-1940s, Carl and his brother Art Christensen both piloted the launch MADAKET (ex NELLIE C.), ferrying passengers and freight from Samoa to Eureka. MADAKET was built in Fairhaven in 1909, launched in 1910 and refurbished in 1989. She is the oldest continuously operating passenger vessel in the United States, celebrated her 100th birthday on June 6, 2010, and is the last survivor of seven original ferries that transported mill workers and families around Humboldt Bay. The completion of the Eureka-Samoa bridge in 1971 put the ferry service out of business. Ironically, the second span of the California 255 Samoa Bridge is named in honor of Carl L. Christensen Jr., a democratic District Attorney and Justice in Humboldt County who died in September 1976.

Carl Christensen was very knowledgeable about steam schooners and corresponded with both Karl Kortum and Harold Huycke, among other maritime historians. In a letter that Harold Huycke wrote to Carl's brother Art in 2004, Huycke says that "upon reflecting on the numerous people I have known who have been very important in the accumulation of the entire steam schooner history, as far as I know, Carl is close to the top of the list of preservers and historians . . . I think it is very important that some space be dedicated to the biographies of those people, like Carl, who did so much in the very earliest years of this research."

Carl Christensen died on January 6, 1986, in Arroyo Grande, California at the age of 79. He was survived by his wife Frankie B. Christensen, daughter and son-in-law Beth and Isam Zamamiri, son David R. Christensen, brothers Arthur E. Christensen and George Christensen, and sister Anna McGrew.

Written by Amy Croft, December 2011.

References:


Collection Scope and Content

The Carl Christensen photographs, 1956-1958, (SAFR 23357, P78-319a) are comprised of snapshots of Carl Christensen and the Eureka Fire Department boat CAPTAIN PUDGY DAVIS. The collection has been processed to the Item level and is open for use.

Contains 3 photographic prints of Carl Christensen, 1956-1958, and 1 photographic print of CAPTAIN PUDGY DAVIS (fireboat), 1958.

Collection Arrangement

Not arranged due to small size of collection.

Related Materials

Carl Christensen photograph collections:
- Carl Christensen photographs (SAFR 18548, P78-085a)
- Carl Christensen photograph albums (SAFR 19519, P78-478a) (Previously SCR 9 a-vvv)
- Carl Christensen photograph collection (SAFR 19543, P79-093a)
- Carl Christensen photograph collection (SAFR 00311, P83-057a)
- Carl Christensen photograph collection (SAFR 14390, P85-035)

A guide to the Carl Christensen photographs, 1956-1958
Harold Huycke collection (SAFR 22224, HDC 1600), Subseries 12.1.03: Carl Christensen photograph collection, circa 1880s-1965, 2002 (bulk 1934-1955). Contains Carl Christensen photographic prints and negatives of a variety of both American and foreign vessels (schooners, steamships, etc.). Includes photos of CAPTAIN PUDGY DAVIS (fireboat).

This material is located at San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Shipwrecks--California
Christensen, Carl M. (Carl Mobius)
Captain Pudgy Davis (fireboat)
Joe, Point (Monterey County, Calif.)
Eureka (Calif.)
Black-and-white prints (photographs)

Shared Collection Box

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Carl Christensen standing in front of an unidentified launch or tugboat, 1956 December 29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>1 photograph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>1 black-and-white photographic print, 3.5 x 5 in. &quot;140B&quot; stamped on the back of the print.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Material</td>
<td>See HDC 1600, Series 12.1.03, File Unit 02, Item 112 in Box 21, envelope 107 for &quot;Carl Christensen and his new boat. At Humboldt Bay, California. 1956 April 1&quot;.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shared Collection Box

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Carl Christensen standing next to a sign at Point Joe, 1957 April 30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>1 photograph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>1 black-and-white photographic print, 3.5 x 5 in. &quot;676B&quot; stamped on the back of the print.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Point Joe is in Monterey County, California. Sign says: &quot;Point Joe. The meeting of two ocean currents. S.S. CELIA wrecked here August 28, 1906.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shared Collection Box

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Carl Christensen sitting on board an unidentified vessel in Eureka, California, 1958 October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>1 photograph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>1 black-and-white photographic print, 3.5 x 5 in. &quot;217B&quot; stamped on the back of the print.</td>
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Shared Collection Box

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item No.</th>
<th>Captain Pudgy Davis (fireboat) spraying water, 1958 October</th>
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<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>1 photograph.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Description:</td>
<td>1 black-and-white photographic print, 3.5 x 5 in. &quot;217B&quot; stamped on the back of the print.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Eureka Fire Department boat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Material</td>
<td>See HDC 1600, Series 12.1.03, File Unit 02, Items 088-093 in Box 22 for photographs of CAPTAIN PUDGY DAVIS (fireboat) launching on October 2, 1958.</td>
</tr>
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