



Guide to the Chinook Collection, 1921-2009, bulk 1921-1948

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Chinook Collection, 1921-2009, bulk 1921-1948

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

2009.025

Author of Finding Aid:

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing

Creator:

Walden, Arthur Treadwell, 1871-1947

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box, 1 reel of film, and 1 oversized folder ; 0.41 linear feet

Abstract:

The Chinook Collection contains photographs, newspaper clippings, and correspondence about the Chinook dogs from 1921 to 2009, including their use as part of the Byrd Antarctic Expedition.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Chinook Collection was a gift of Rick Skoglund and Martha Kalina in March 2009.

This accession came with a number of museum objects, including harnesses and dog sleds used by Chinook and his offspring and relating to Richard Byrd's famous Antarctic Expedition in 1929. See museum accession 2009.001.

A book, *A Dog-Puncher on the Yukon* by Arthur Walden, was donated at the same time and moved to the library. See: 636.7 W162.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unidentified person at an unknown date and reformatted by Korrena Cowing in May 2020. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The majority of materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use. A CD of images requires the use of a computer with a CD/DVD drive. The 16 mm film requires a 16 mm film projector and permission from the library to use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish material from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Chinook Collection, 2009.025. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Administrative Information:

In 1896 Arthur Walden left New Hampshire and went to Alaska where he worked with sled dogs. Walden returned to Wonalancet, New Hampshire, in 1902 and began breeding sled dogs to achieve a combination of strength, endurance, speed, and good nature. He produced the results he wanted in the early 1920s and named it the Chinook breed in honor of one of his lead dogs in Alaska. One of his first dogs, named Rikki, was renamed *Chinook*.

Walden's team won the 1922 Eastern International Dog Derby 123-mile race. He created the New England Sled Dog Club in 1924. He continued to win races and his breed grew in popularity, until 1927 when the Siberian Huskies of Leonhard Seppala won a race at Poland Springs, Maine.

Walden's next adventure was to train and supply the dogs for the 1928-1930 Byrd Antarctic Expedition led by Rear-Admiral Ricard E. Byrd. Chinook, at age twelve, was one of the dogs selected. One day while in the Antarctic he disappeared and his body was never located. When Walden returned to New Hampshire in 1930 his Chinook Kennel was acquired by Milton and Eva Seeley. The new owners concentrated on raising Alaskan Malamutes and Siberian Huskies.

Walden supplied Julia Lombard, a neighbor, with some Chinook dogs, and she established the Wonalancet-Hubbard Kennel. In 1940 Julia sold the Kennel to Perry Greene who moved it to Warren, Maine. A new lodge, kennel, and store were built in 1947 at Waldoboro, Maine. Perry marketed his dogs as the "ideal companion dog," not as sled dogs. He died in 1963 and his wife continued the kennel until her death in 1968. The stock was then sold to Peter Orne of Connecticut who moved the kennel to Warren, Maine, where it was continued for two years. The remaining twelve dogs were then split between two families, one in Ohio and one in California. Those families established the Chinook Owners Association (COA) in 1982.

Rick Skoglund and Stan Victor began the "Victor Chinook" breed in 1985. A year later they purchased the unused Perry Greene Kennels and began offering pedigrees for their Chinooks. In 1988 some of the dogs went to Alaska to train for the Iditarod but became snowbound. They were rescued and left in June 1989.

The first "Chinook-Round-Up" took place in 1990 at Dayton, Ohio, with thirty dogs and fifty people attending. The Chinook breed has been listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* three times as the breed with the fewest population. The Northdown Kennel in Waldoboro, Maine, was purchased by Martha Kalina in 1993. She restored its name to the Perry Greene Kennel. In 1995 a Chinook rescue and retirement home was established by Stan Victor at Bridgewater, New York, which can hold a dozen older Chinooks.

The NH Department of Transportation replaced the signs on the Chinook Trail in New Hampshire with a likeness of the original Chinook in 1996. The Perry Greene Kennel and the Remick Museum of Tamworth, NH, created a display of the breed's history and offered sled dog rides at the 2002 winter carnival. This has become an annual event.

The Chinook population was about 500 in 2007. The Perry Greene Kennel is mostly a boarding kennel, but, along with about twenty-five other US kennels, breeds Chinooks. The Chinook breed became the New Hampshire State Dog on June 8, 2009.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Chinook Collection contains photographs, correspondence, printed materials, and a 16 mm film related to the famous sled dog Chinook, his offspring, and Arthur Walden, the person most responsible for developing this unique breed, which is now the New Hampshire State Dog. The

materials in this collection date from 1921 to 2009, with the bulk of materials dating from 1921 to 1948. The later materials, 1992 to 2009, are predominately general histories of the breed.

Old photocopied newspaper clippings make up a portion of the collection. Many of the newspaper clippings relate to the Byrd Antarctic Expedition, which took place in 1928 to 1930. There are also numerous photographs of the Chinooks, their kennels, Arthur Walden, and the Byrd Arctic Expedition.

Printed material, including brochures, bulletins, and postcards, provide images and information on sled dogs, the Chinook breed, and the New England Sled Dog Club. The correspondence in this collection is primarily to and from Arthur T. Walden and Julia Lombard. The Walden correspondence, dated 1927 to 1928, deals mainly with breeding Chinook and the sale of dogs, with a few references to Byrd's Antarctic Expedition. The Lombard correspondence, dated 1932 to 1939, also deals with breeding and the sale of dogs, as well as training and showcases. Also included in this collection is a 16 mm film titled "Chinook's Children," dated 1939.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are organized by subject.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 0 General history, 1992-2009
- Folder 1 Chinook photos, "Kim Chinook's Sire," undated
- Folder 2 Chinook photos, Wonalancet, 1935-1938, undated
- Folder 3 Chinook photos, Walden/Lombard, 1922-1934, undated
- Folder 4 Chinook photos, Byrd Antarctic Expedition (BAE), circa 1928-1930
- Folder 5 Chinook photos, miscellaneous, 1922-1939, 2008, undated
- Folder 6 Chinook correspondence, Arthur Walden, 1927-1928
- Folder 7 Chinook correspondence, Julia Lombard, 1932-1939
- Folder 8 Chinook printed material, postcards, brochures, magazine articles, 1924-1939, undated
- Folder 9 Chinook newspaper articles, Walden, Wonalancet, 1921-1935, undated
- Folder 10 Chinook newspaper articles, Walden, 1922-1937
- Folders 11-12 Chinook newspaper articles, Byrd Antarctic Expedition (BAE), 1928-1931, 1948
- Folder 13 Chinook newspaper articles, Perry Greene, 1944, undated
- Folder 14 Wonalancet-Hubbard Kennels, including info on "Chinook's children," 1936, 1939-1940

Separated Materials:

The following item was moved to the A/V Room:

16mm film "Chinook's Children," 1939

The following items were moved to Oversized Manuscripts Box 'C':

Ed Moody with Chinook Team, circa 1931

Dog Sled Rides Chinook Kennels poster, undated

Subject Terms

People:

Byrd, Richard Evelyn, 1888-1957
Greene, Perry, circa 1891-1963
Lombard, Julia
Walden, Arthur Treadwell, 1871-1947

Organizations:

New England Sled Dog Club, Inc.
Perry Greene Kennels
Wonalancet Farm
Wonalancet-Hubbard Kennels

Subjects:

Byrd Antarctic Expedition (1st : 1928-1930)
Dogs
Dogsledding
Dogs--Breeding

Locations:

Antarctica
Waldoboro, ME
Wonalancet, NH

Occupations:

Dog breeders
Mushers

Related Materials

Archives

Photograph Collection – Tamworth, New Hampshire

Library

Cowan, Nancy. *Following the Chinook Trail: Photographs from the Wonalancet Years*. 2005.
Call number: 636.7 C874f

Cowan, Nancy. *The Great Chinook: Wonalancet Years*. Nancy Cowan, 2002. Call number: 636.7
C874

Harkness, Mary Gane. *The Tamworth Narrative, New Hampshire*. Freeport, ME: Bond
Wheelwright Co., circa 1958. Call number: 977.8b T159h

Pagel, David. *The First Chinook: The Adventures of Arthur T. Walden and His Legendary Sled
Dog, Chinook*. Duluth, MN: the Keepsake Letterpress, 2005. Call number: 636.7 P134

Seeley, Eva Brunell and Martha A.L. Lane. *Chinook and His Family: True Dog Stories*. Boston,
MA: Ginn & Co., 1930. Call number: 636.7 S452

Snyder, John. "The Chinooks." *AAA Northern New England* 13, no. 6 (November/December 2007): 14-17. Call number: 636.7 S675

Walden, Arthur Treadwell. *A Dog-Puncher on the Yukon*. Boston, New York: Houghton, Mifflin Co., 1928. Call number: 636.7 W162

Walden, Arthur Treadwell. *Harness and Pack*. New York, Cincinnati, [etc.]: American Book Company, circa 1935. Call number: 656 W162

Walden, Arthur Treadwell. *Leading a Dog's Life*. Boston, MA: Houghton, Mifflin Co., 1931. Call number: 813 W162

Museum

Cap, 2010.002.02

Chinook Trail Sign, 2009.001.06

Dogsled, 2009.001.01

Dogsled, 2009.001.02

Doll, 2009.005.01

Harness, Dog, 2009.001.03

Harness, Dog, 2009.001.04

Harness, Dog, 2009.001.05

Medal, Commemorative, 1966.058

Medal, Commemorative, 1966.065

Pen, Ball-point, 2010.002.01

We Visited Dog Town, Wonalancet, N.H., Sign, 2009.001.07