

INVENTORY OF  
JAMES G. SWAN PAPERS, 1852-1907

Prepared by  
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Special Collections  
The University of British Columbia  
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## II INTRODUCTION:

The James G. Swan Papers document Swan's activities as lawyer, anthropologist and family man during the years 1852 to 1900. Most of the records were produced in the 1870s and 1880s during his active years of work as a Notary Public, Judge, Pilot Commissioner, Hawaiian Consel, and collector of Northwest Coast Indian artifacts and fish specimens for the Smithsonian Institution, and U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries and National Museum. The extensive record of Swan's outgoing mail from 1870 to 1900, and his incoming mail from 1852 to 1900 clearly document these activities. In particular, Swan's papers reveal his understanding of and reflect contemporary approaches to the anthropological study of Indian society and culture. A bibliography of Swan's published works is found in Appendix B.

Other portions of the James Swan Papers are held by various repositories. The diaries (1841, 1859-1898) have been deposited in the University of Washington Library, Special Collections Division. In addition, there are some Swan items in the Meany and Gates Papers as well as those of Isaac and Hazard Stevens. Swan's annotated copy of John Meares' Voyages Made in the Year 1788 and 1789. London, 1790, is also in Special Collections Division. Six letterpress copybooks (ca. 1883 - 1893) are located at the Seattle Museum of History and Industry (EA 4-1125) as well as some incoming letters in the Leland Stanford Papers. The Smithsonian Institute has ca. 400 letters and documents sent to them by James

Swan, (ca. 1860 - 1887). The State Archives in Honolulu has ca. 200 letters and documents (1884 - 1899) sent to Hawaii by James Swan. The Jefferson City Historical Society in Port Townsend has a few boxes of material including three Willoughby manuscripts and four scrapbooks with annotated clippings. The private collection of Frans Stenzel contains 125 drawings of James Swan. Some of the drawings were on display at the Portland Art Museum in 1959.

Other items relating to James Swan can be found in the University of Washington State Archives (Governor Ferry Papers), Minnesota Historical Society (Northern Pacific Railroad records), National Archives at Seattle and Washington, D.C. (the Sand Point Branch of NARA has a one volume "Docket and Records of James G. Swan, U.S. Commissioner, Pt. Townsend", 1892 - 1897), Burke Museum at the University of Washington (letters re: 1892 Chicago World's Fair), Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma, Stanford University Archives, Eastern Washington State Historical Society at Spokane and Central Intelligence Agency 'CIA).

After Swan's death, the papers were preserved by James Seavey, the executor of the Swan estate. They were purchased from the James Seavey Estate in 1989 with a grant from the Moveable Cultural Properties Office of the Federal Department of Communications, and the Rogers Fund of the Vancouver Foundation.

## I FONDS DESCRIPTION:

James G. Swan Papers  
Records, 1852-1907  
1.44 m.

Records of Swan produced and received during his personal and professional activities. Swan worked as a Notary Public, U.S. Commissioner, Hawaiian Consul, Pilot Commissioner of Puget Sound, and Collector for the Smithsonian Institution and U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. The records include cashbooks, legal records and an extensive correspondence series that reflects all aspects of his various functions, particularly his work and study of Northwest Coast Indian culture and the natural history of fish.

## II INTRODUCTION:

The James G. Swan Papers document Swan's activities as lawyer, anthropologist and family man during the years 1852 to 1900. Most of the records were produced in the 1870s and 1880s during his most active years of work as a Notary Public, Judge, Pilot Commissioner, Hawaiian Consul, and collector of Northwest Coast Indian artifacts and fish specimens for the Smithsonian Institution, and U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries and National Museum. The extensive record of Swan's outgoing mail from 1870 to 1900, and his incoming mail from 1852 to 1900 clearly document these activities. In particular, Swan's papers reveal his understanding of and reflect contemporary approaches to the anthropological study of Indian society and culture. A bibliography of Swan's published works is found in Appendix B.

Other parts of the Swan Papers are held at the University of Washington and the Smithsonian Institution. The UBC Library has microfilms of the records held at the Smithsonian, which include copies of Swan's reports, and correspondence from Swan to Spencer F. Baird and G. Brown Goode.

After Swan's death, the papers were preserved by James Seavey, the executor of the Swan estate. They were purchased from the James Seavey Estate in 1989 with a grant from the Moveable Cultural Properties Office of the Federal Department of Communications, and the Rogers Fund of the Vancouver Foundation.

## II BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

James Gilchrist Swan was a nineteenth century ship chandler turned lawyer who specialized in admiralty law. His early career was spent in the ship-fitting business that combined a penchant for craft and commerce, and found expression throughout his life in a variety of short lived business enterprises. Early in his career he developed a life-long passion for the study of Northwest Coast Indian culture and natural history, both of which he understood to contribute to the cause of science.

Increasingly, Swan devoted his energies to his anthropological interests, and to his constant attempts to finance his research and collecting expeditions with the financial support of the Smithsonian Institution. In many ways, Swan combined his knowledge of law and pilotage in his regular work as Notary Public and Judge with his extensive research into the native culture of the Northwest Coast. His knowledge of the ocean as developed through his work as a Pilot Commissioner led naturally into his descriptions of fish and his collection of fish specimens for the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. His knowledge of fishing assisted his understanding of native society and his collecting work for the Smithsonian Institution.

Since 1852, Swan engaged in myriad and overlapping activities that can be understood as reflecting the three primary functions of his life: personal, legal and scholarly. His personal function is preserved in the extensive family correspondence that he maintained with brothers, sisters,

cousins, grandchildren and friends. His legal function is found in his work as Notary Public, Pilot Commissioner, U.S. Commissioner of Oregon, and Hawaiian Consul. His scholarly function is found in his ethnographic and natural history writings and collections. His letters refer to his constant study of Indian habits and customs, his years of collecting and describing Indian artifacts, and his reflections on the Indians relationships to white society. Reflecting the understanding of the anthropologists of his day, Swan understood his work to be gathering evidence of a primitive society on the verge of extinction.

The following chronology of Swan's life has been derived from several brief biographical sketches and from the segment of Swan's archival papers that is held in this repository. No extensive biography of his life and work has been written.

#### CHRONOLOGY OF SWAN'S LIFE:

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1818    | Born in Medford, Mass. January 11  |
| 1838-49 | Apprenticed to ship chandler in Boston<br>Studied admiralty law<br>Established a ship-fitting business<br>Met anthropologist, Henry Schoolcraft<br>Studied the Northwest Coast<br>Started pencil drawing |
| 1841    | Married Mathilda W. Loring of Boston<br>They later had two children, Charles H. and Ellen Matilda  |
| 1850-52 | To San Francisco<br>Purchased an interest in a Marysville river steamboat that ran on the Sacramento River<br>Worked as a ship-fitter  |



- 1852-55 To Shoalwater Bay, Washington Territory  
Involved in oyster trade  
Began work on The Northwest Coast  
Worked on a dictionary of Indian dialects
- 1854 Became Collector of Customs for the coast  
from Cape Flattery to Shoalwater Bay,  
attempting to minimize smuggling operations  
with the natives
- 1855 Helped Territorial Governor Isaac Ingalls  
Stevens to formulate an Indian treaty with  
the coastal natives  
Then, returned to Boston
- 1857 To Washington, D.C.  
Secretary to Governor Stevens  
Helped with the execution of Indian treaties and the  
development of a provisional government in Washington  
Territory  
Met anthropologists Spencer F. Baird and Joseph Henry  
of Smithsonian Institution  
Published, The Northwest Coast, which  
included Swan's sketches of Indian life
- 1857 Returned to Washington Territory
- 1858 Secret Agent for the Northern Pacific Railroad.  
Did a survey of all waterways, rivers and mountain  
passes of the Washington Territory  
Recommended Port Townsend as western terminal for the  
railroad
- 1862-66 To Neah Bay, W.T.  
In charge of the Makah Indian Agency  
Taught at Neah Bay school  
Collector of Customs for Neah Bay  
Wrote, "The Indians of Cape Flattery."  
Translated Makah vocabulary
- 1864 Death of Swan's wife
- 1868-99 Secretary of the Pilot Commissioners of Puget Sound
- 1869-99 Notary Public in Port Townsend
- 1871 Elected as Probate Judge of Jefferson County
- 1873 Tacoma, W.T. chosen for western terminal  
Personal and financial crisis

- 1874 Wrote, Haida Indians of Queen Charlotte's Islands  
which included drawings of Haida artistic designs
- 1874-99 Active in the Lodge, Improved Order of Red Men
- 1875-92 Collector for the Smithsonian Institution  
Began a series of trips among the coastal Indians  
from Puget Sound to Alaska for the purpose of  
collecting artifacts for the Smithsonian's national  
Museum.
- 1875-91 Worked for the Department of the Interior as a Special  
Agent of the Census Bureau in fish and fisheries
- 1883 Major expedition to the Queen Charlotte Islands
- 1883-92 Worked for United States Fish Commission investigating  
the North Pacific fishing and seal industries  
Submitted a series of reports on seals, black cod, shad  
and trepang fishing.
- 1884-99 Hawaiian Consul in Port Townsend
- 1884 Involved with Washington Pioneer Association
- 1887-95 United States Commissioner of Oregon
- 1893-99 Involved with Port Townsend Chamber of Commerce
- 1899 Death of his son, Charles H. Swan
- 1900 Died in Port Townsend, May 18, aged 82  
The tombstone was inscribed,  
"Pioneer-Historian James G. Swan"

### III SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The records include incoming and outgoing correspondence, financial records, board minutes, legal case files and several miscellaneous items including two of Swan's maps and two photographs of him. Original order has been preserved wherever Swan has identified it. Where original order has been lost, it has been reconstructed by reference to his various and overlapping functions as collector of Indian artifacts and fish specimens, Notary Public, Pilot Commissioner, Hawaiian Consulate, and Commissioner of Oregon.

The Incoming Correspondence Series (B) reflects the integration of his personal and professional life. His work as Pilot Commissioner, Notary Public and U.S. Commissioner inform his work as collector of native artifacts and fish specimens, and influence his understanding of Indian culture. As a result, personal and official correspondence is interrelated in subject matter.

The fonds includes official records of his various public functions. Because Swan perceived these records as his, rather than of the various bodies he worked for, they have been arranged as series of his own papers.

All incoming correspondence has been arranged by author in reverse chronological order according to the last date of correspondence received. Undated items have been placed at the back of each file.

The correspondence (Series A and B) is extensive, and offers

a rich source for understanding Swan's life and work, particularly his study of Northwest Coast Indian culture and natural history. The official records of his public functions are more fragmentary, but still provide evidence of the various facets of his life.

The records are divided into twelve series, A-J. They are further divided into sub-series to reflect the inter-relationship of the records to one another. These sub-series are identified numerically, such as A.1. Box and file numbers are noted on the right hand side of the page for each sub-series.

## IV SERIES LIST:

- A. Outgoing Correspondence Series
  - A.1 Letterbooks, 1870-1900
  - A.2 Single Copies, 1858-99
- B. Incoming Correspondence Series
  - B.1 Northwest Coast Studies, 1860-1900
  - B.2 Business Affairs, 1854-99
  - B.3 Personal, 1860-1900
  - B.4 Smithsonian Institution, 1855-1892
  - B.5 U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, 1880-1893
  - B.6 Department of the Interior,
  - B.7 Inspector of Customs, 1861-81
  - B.8 Cyclone Letter Files, 1891-95
- C. Financial Series
  - C.1 Cashbooks, 1868-87
  - C.2 Invoice, 1883
  - C.3 Bills and Receipts, 1858-91
- D. U.S. Commissioner Series
  - D.1 Incoming Correspondence, 1862-1900
  - D.2 Case Files, 1866-99
  - D.3 Marine Protests, 1894-96
- E. Notary Public Series
  - E.1 Oaths and Commissions, 1855-85
  - E.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1862-86
  - E.3 Estate Records, 1876-93
  - E.4 Land Descriptions, 1869-99
  - E.5 Record Book, 1890-94
- F. Pilot Commissioners of Puget Sound Series
  - F.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1896-99
  - F.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1855-1905
  - F.3 Board Minute Book, 1888-1907
  - F.4 Shipping Register, 1869-85
  - F.5 By-Laws, 1864; 1868
  - F.6 Puget Sound Pilotage Acts, 1880; 1888; 1891
- G. Hawaiian Consulate Series
  - G.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1884-87
  - G.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1884-99
  - G.3 Shipping Articles, 1899
  - G.4 Crew List, 1895
  - G.5 Case Files, 1884-85
- H. Commissioner of Oregon for Washington Territory Series
- I. Port Townsend's Clerks Office Series

J. Miscellaneous Items

- J.1 Haida Language Workbook, 1878
- J.2 Photographs, ca1890s
- J.3 Map of Lummi Indian Reservation, n.d.
- J.4 Map of Shoal Water Bay, 1853
- J.5 Sketches, ca18887
- J.6 Historical Booklets, 1896-99

K. Swan Estate Series

- K.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1902-1903
- K.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1902-1903
- K.3 Inventory of Swan's Estate, 1900-1903
- K.4 Catalogue of Swan's Library, 1900

## V SERIES DESCRIPTION:

## A. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE SERIES, 1858-1900

7 vols.; 3 files

Arranged in reverse chronological order

Copies of Swan's outgoing correspondence regarding his various functions as Pilot Commissioner, Department of Interior Special Agent, U.S. Commissioner, Hawaiian Consul, and Collector for the Smithsonian Institution. The volumes include letters to sea pilots, Union Pacific Railroad, Indian Agents, and document his attempts to develop the fisheries of the Northwest Coast. Many letters include detailed reports of Swan's expeditions to Indian villages along the coast, and his views on museum collection strategies.

## A.1 Letterbooks, 1870-1900 . . . . . (Boxes 1-2)

7 vols.

## A.1.1 Volume #12, 1896-1900

445 p.

## A.1.2 Volume #9, 1889-91

499 p.

## A.1.3 Volume #8, 1887-88

289 p.

## A.1.4 Volume #7, 1885-87 . . . . . (Box 2)

704 p.

## A.1.5 Volume (#6), 1879-1885

472 p.

Most of the letters are to Professor Spenser F. Baird, Director of the Smithsonian Institution, regarding Swan's visits to Northwest Coast villages.

## A.1.6 Volume #4, 1883

A record of 24 letters written by Swan during his expedition to the Queen Charlotte Islands collecting artifacts and natural history specimens for the Smithsonian Institution, which financed the expedition. Stops were made at Nanimo, Alert Bay, Rivers Inlet, Fort Simpson (Port Simpson?), Masset and Skidegate. The letters also refer to Swan's activities of drawing Indian designs and recording Indian legends. Inserted in the front of the volume is an 1874 letter of introduction of Swan to "the correspondents of the Smithsonian Institution and friends of science in general."

## A.1.7 Volume #2, 1870-79

688 p.

## A.2 Single copies, 1858-99 . . . . . (Box 3:1-3)

**B. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE SERIES, 1852-1900**

Arranged in reverse chronological order

General correspondence with individuals and institutions that covers all of Swan's various functions, including his Northwest Coast studies, business affairs, and personal correspondence with friends and family. As well, the series contains correspondence to Swan in his official capacities as U.S. Commissioner, Notary Public, Inspector of Customs, Pilot Commissioner, Hawaiian Consul, and Collector for the Smithsonian Institution. Some of the letters are identified by Swan as copies of the originals that he has made. On occasion, Swan has included copies of his outgoing correspondence with the records. The time period noted refers to the first and last year of letters received, and does not necessarily indicate that each year is represented in each sub-series. Letters are grouped by author and arranged chronologically by date of receipt of last letter.

**B.1 NORTHWEST COAST STUDIES, 1860-1900. . . . .**

39 files

Correspondence from people interested in or studying Northwest Coast Indian culture or the natural history of fish. Single correspondents have been arranged separately.

**B.1.1 Northwest Coast, 1860-1894 . . . . . (Box 3:4-34)**

- B.1.1.1 Washington State Federation of  
Women's Clubs, Historical  
Committee, E.I. Denny, 1899
- B.1.1.2 National Geographic Society,  
Elizabeth R. Scidmore, 1894
- B.1.1.3 C. Carrothers, 1892
- B.1.1.4 Thomas Bulmer, 1891
- B.1.1.5 E.G. Blackford, 1888
- B.1.1.6 Captain R.J. Babson, 1888
- B.1.1.7 B.C. Inspector of Fisheries,  
Thomas Mowat, 1888
- B.1.1.8 Gutmann & Frank, 1888
- B.1.1.9 Peter Kirk, 1886-87
- B.1.1.10 A.C.A. Perkes, 1885
- B.1.1.11 Eugene Canfield, 1885
- B.1.1.12 C.L. Hooper, 1885
- B.1.1.13 W. MacMurray, 1885
- B.1.1.14 B.C. Indian Commissioner,  
Dr. J.W. Powell, 1874-85
- B.1.1.15 Andrew McGregor, 1884-85
- B.1.1.16 Prof. David S. Jordan, 1880-85
- B.1.1.17 John J. McLean, 1884
- B.1.1.18 U.S. Indian Service,  
Edwin Eels, 1884
- B.1.1.19 Wyatt Harris, 1884
- B.1.1.20 William Charles, 1883
- B.1.1.21 Alex J. Anderson, 1880-82



- B.1.1.22 Charles H. Gilbert, 1880
- B.1.1.22 Surgeon Alden, translator,  
"Hypsagomis Swanii: New Species"
- B.1.1.24 Rev. C.A. Huntington, 1876
- B.1.1.25 *A.T.* Whitford, 1869
- B.1.1.26 Governor M. F. Moore, 1868-69
- B.1.1.27 Captain R. C. Fay, 1860
- B.1.1.28 Judge E.C. Fitzhugh, 1860
- B.1.1.29 Dr. Henry R. Schoolcraft, 1856-57
- B.1.1.30 Prof. Wolcott Gibbs, 1857
- B.1.1.31 Dr. A. Kellogg, 1854

- B.1.2 Indian Letters, 1872-1899 . . . . . (Box 3:35-40)
  - B.1.2.1 Chestoqua Peterson, 1899-1900
  - B.1.2.2 William B. Mahone, 1899
  - B.1.2.3 Injin James, 1899
  - B.1.2.4 Thomas Jefferson, 1897
  - B.1.2.5 Charlie Williams, 1879
  - B.1.2.6 C. Brady, 1872

- B.1.3 Single Correspondents, 1858-1900 . . . (Box 3:41)

- B.1.4 Publications, 1869-99 . . . . . (Box 3:42)

## B.2 BUSINESS AFFAIRS, 1854-1899

23 files

- B.2.1 General, 1864-1899 . . . . . (Box 4:1-11)
  - B.2.1.1 US Engineer Office, Harry Taylor,  
1899
  - B.2.1.2 Raymond & Whitcomb's Tours, 1897
  - B.2.1.3 Puget Sound Fish Preserving Co,  
Christian Raven, 1889
  - B.2.1.4 George Walker & Co, 1888
  - B.2.1.5 Fernoline Chemical Co, 1886-87
  - B.2.1.6 Norman Smith, 1881
  - B.2.1.7 US War Department, Office of the  
Chief Signal Officer, Robert Craig,  
1881
  - B.2.1.8 William Hannigan, 1864
  - B.2.1.9 Thomas G. Fay, 1859
  - B.2.1.10 House of Representatives,  
Columbia Lancaster, 1854-55
  - B.2.1.11 Asa White, 1852
- B.2.2 Shipping, 1854-1884 . . . . . (Box 4:12-17)
  - B.2.2.1 Northern Pacific Express Co, 1884
  - B.2.2.2 Allen V Lewis, 1884
  - B.2.2.3 Ken Kead & Co, 1869
  - B.2.2.4 Bradshaw & Co, 1857-1860
  - B.2.2.5 Peley Butts & Son, 1858

B.2.2.6 Flint Peabody & Co, 1854

B.2.3 Railroad, 1869-1899 . . . . . (Box 4:18-22)

B.2.3.1 Northern Railway Co, 1896-99

B.2.3.2 Union Pacific Railroad Co, 1885-89

B.2.3.3 Port Townsend Southern Railroad Co,  
1888

B.2.3.4 Oregon Railway and Navigation Co,  
1884

B.2.3.5 Northern Pacific Railroad Co,  
General Agent, Thomas H. Canfield,  
1868-70

B.2.4 Land Claim, Shoalwater Bay, 1857-80 . . . (Box 4:23)

B.3. PERSONAL, 1860-1900

44 files

B.3.1 Siblings, 1863-1900 . . . . . (Box 4:24-30)

B.3.1.1 Hannah Swan Francis, 1868-1900

B.3.1.2 Benjamin Swan, 1888-99

B.3.1.3 Anna L. Swan, 1898

B.3.1.4 Margaret Eveleth, 1895

B.3.1.5 Samuel and Lucretia Swan, 1887-94

B.3.1.6 Loning Family, 1864-74

B.3.1.7 Caleb Swan, 1863-68

B.3.2 Son, Charles H. Swan, 1864-1898 . . . . (Box 4:31)

B.3.3 Grandsons, 1889-1899 . . . . . (Box 4:32-35)

B.3.3.1 George Swan, 1889-99

B.3.3.2 Horace Swan, 1889-97

B.3.3.3 Charles H. Swan Jr., 1889-99

B.3.3.4 Arthur Swan, 1889-98

B.3.4 Other Relatives, 1888-1900 . . . . . (Box 4:36-40

B.3.4.1 Edward Swan, 1888-1900 & Box 5:1-6)

B.3.4.2 Margaret Yardley, 1892-1899

B.3.4.3 Margaret Swan, 1888-1895

B.3.4.4 Frederick Swan, 1894

B.3.4.5 Mary A. Swan, 1891-1892

B.3.4.6 William Swan, 1890-1891 . . . . . (Box 5)

B.3.4.7 Charles Swan, 1890

B.3.4.8 Carrie Swan, 1890

B.3.4.9 Agnes Swan, 1890

B.3.4.10 Robert Swan, 1885-1889

B.3.4.11 Otis Swan, 1888

B.3.5 Friends, 1864-1899 . . . . . (Box 5: 7-23)

B.3.5.1 C.B. Johnson, 1880-1900

B.3.5.2 Lucy Lamb, 1896-99

B.3.5.3 W.F. and Ettie Tolmie, 1878-98

B.3.5.4 Myra West, 1893-96

- B.3.5.5 Biondi Family, 1884-94
- B.3.5.6 Francis W. James, 1888-92
- B.3.5.7 Kate Stevens, 1880-91
- B.3.5.8 Travers Daniel, 1880-88
- B.3.5.9 Walter S. Hanks, 1884-87
- B.3.5.10 Austin J. Roberts, 1885
- B.3.5.11 R.S. Greene, 1884-85
- B.3.5.12 Gerrish Family, 1867-84
- B.3.5.13 Charles Willoughby, 1884
- B.3.5.14 William Roach, 1880
- B.3.5.15 John Bennett, 1880
- B.3.5.16 H.H. Bancroft, 1880
- B.3.5.17 George K. Smith, 1864

B.3.6 Single Correspondents, 1857-1900 . . . (Box 5:24)

B.3.7 Associations, 1855-99 . . . . . (Box 5:25-27)

B.3.7.1 Improved Order of Redmen, 1874-99

B.3.7.2 Washington Pioneer Association,  
1884-91

B.3.7.3 California Academy of Natural  
Sciences, 1855

B.4 SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, 1855-1892 . . . . (Box 5:28-31  
12 files & Box 6:1-8)

Much of the correspondence is directly from the Smithsonian, or from a division called the Bureau of Ethnology, or people connected with it. The Bureau was created in 1879, and took over the ethnological work of the U.S. Geographical and Geological Survey of the Rocky Mountain Region. Most of the correspondence is directly from this division or people connected with it.

B.4.1 National Museum, Curator, Otis Mason, 1889-92

B.4.2 National Museum, Head, G. Brown Goode, 1888-91

B.4.3 Albert P. Niblack, 1885-91

B.4.4 Secretary, S.P. Langley, 1890-91

B.4.5 Secretary, Prof. Spencer F. Baird, 1860-84 . . . . (Box 6)

B.4.6 W. J. Hoffman, 1884

B.4.7 Prof. J. S. Hervey, 1863-81

B.4.8 Josiah Curtis, 1875

B.4.9 George Gibbs, 1855-69

B.5 U.S. COMMISSION OF FISH AND FISHERIES,  
1880-1893 . . . . . (Box 6:9-13  
1 vol., 7 files & Box 7:1-2)

In 1871, the U.S. Commission of Fish was created. Its name was changed to the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries in 1880. G. Brown Goode was its first Commissioner. The letterheads used by the correspondents suggests that there was an administrative link with the Smithsonian Institution.

B.5.1 Commissioner, Marshall McDonald, 1888-93

B.5.2 Steamer Albatross, Z.L. Tanner, 1889-93

- B.5.3 World's Columbian Commission, 1892-93
  - B.5.3.1 Director-General, Franz Boas, 1892
  - B.5.3.2 Fisheries Congress, Secretary, Tarleton H. Bean, 1893
- B.5.4 Commissioner, Spencer F. Baird, 1880-92
- B.5.5 Assistant Commissioner, G. Brown Goode, . . . . (Box 7) 1881
- B.5.6 Washington World's Fair Commission, President, N.B. Blalock, 1891
  
- B.6 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR . . . . . (Box 7:3-4)  
2 files
  - B.6.1 Census Office, Special Agent, Fish and Fisheries, C.W. Smiley, 1890-91
  - B.6.2 George W. Evans, 1888
  
- B.7 INSPECTOR OF CUSTOMS, 1861-1881 . . . . . (Box 7:5-12)  
8 files
  - B.7.1 Oaths and Commissions, 1862-81
  - B.7.2 General Correspondence,
    - B.7.2.1 Custom House, Port Townsend, H.A. Webster, 1880-81
    - B.7.2.2 Custom House, Port Townsend, William Gouverneur Morris, 1878-81
    - B.7.2.3 William, A. McCurdy, 1877
    - B.7.2.4 U.S. Treasury Department, Secretary, George S. Bontwell, 1872
    - B.7.2.5 Indian Affairs, Office Superintendent, 1860-68
    - B.7.2.6 Collector of Customs, Astoria, John Adair, 1855-56
    - B.7.2.7 Governor Stevens, 1855

B.8 CYCLONE LETTER FILES, 1891-1895 . . . . . (Box 7:13-18)  
6 files

Arrangement alphabetical by author

A record of incoming correspondence to Swan regarding his various functions as lawyer, Hawaiian Consul U.S. fish commissioner, and his work for the Smithsonian Institution and the Department of the Interior. Much of the correspondence refers to his work collecting Indian artifacts along the coast, including implements, masks, canoes, dress, fossils and fish. Several letters are from the B.C. Provincial Museum, and the B.C. Indian Office. As well, there are several letters from Franz Boas regarding a shipment of artifacts being shipped from Victoria to the World's Columbian Commission. The letters are arranged in two cyclone letter files in alphabetical order by name of author. The first alphabetical sequence is for 1891, and the second is from 1892 to 1894. Some letters are misfiled. The letters for 1895 are in a separate folder and are not alphabetized.

B.9 Letterbook, 1869-1899

Box 12:1-2

Incoming correspondence arranged chronologically covering a wide variety of Swan's activities. The letters fastened in the letterbook date from 1869 to 1876. Other correspondence was found loose at the end of the volume with some receipts and has been filed separately in chronological order.

C. FINANCIAL RECORDS SERIES, 1858-1891 (Box 5)

3 vols.; 2 files

Arranged in chronological order

A fragmentary record of some of Swan's financial personal and professional transactions. Primarily a record of artifacts and fossils purchased, and amount paid for each one. It is often noted from whom or where articles were purchased, and to where they were being sent. Sometimes shipping arrangement are included.

C.1 Cashbooks 1868-1887 . . . . . (Box 7)  
3 vols.

C.1.1 Volume 1, 1882-92

The volume is inscribed, "Diary commenced January 1, 1882 at Port Townsend, W.T., by James G. Swan." It includes brief entries that record family activity, and receipt and dispatch of correspondence, and purchase of artifacts. By page 44 it becomes strictly a cashbook for the purchase of Indian artifacts. On the last page of the book is a short translated legend entitled, "Bella Coula legend of the fish with a man in its belly as told to me by a party of Bella Coula Indians, August 25, 1882."

C.1.2 Volume 2, 1868-78 . . . . . (Box 7)

The first 32 pages record expenses in the course of various activities, including the services of individual ships, Northern Pacific Railroad Company, and the Puget Sound Telegraph Company. On page 33 it becomes a cashbook for the purchase of Indian artifacts.

C.1.3 Volume 3, 1868-87 . . . . . (Box 7)

The entries are sometimes repeated in Volume 2, indicating that perhaps this was a working ledger. The volume is inscribed, "Cash Memorandum Book, Port Townsend, Washington Territory."

C.2 Invoice From Old Woman at Masset, 1883 . . . . . (Box 7:19)  
1 file

C.3 Bills and Receipts, 1858-1891 . . . . . (Box 7:20)  
1 file

A record of purchases of goods and services for Swan's private and professional life.

## D. UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER SERIES, 1862-1900

30 files

The records indicate that the U.S. Commissioner adjudicated legal cases including the deportation of Chinese, and various pilotage issues. Several cases include Indian matters, and several others may relate to his personal legal practice.

D.1 Incoming Correspondence, 1862-1900 . . . . . (Box 8:1)

D.2 Case Files, 1866-1899 . . . . . (Box 8: 2-25)

24 files

- D.2.1 U.S. vs Lim Fun, 1899
- D.2.2 U.S. vs Charles Dine, 1899
- D.2.3 U.S. vs Chinese, 1899
- D.2.4 Bering Sea Claims, 1899
- D.2.5 Fur Seal Affidavit, 1891
- D.2.6 U.S. vs Chinese, 1891
- D.2.7 Declaration of Indian Losses, 1890
- D.2.8 Coal in Queen Charlotte Islands,  
1868-89
- D.2.9 Pachina Indian Claim, Vancouver Island,  
1884
- D.2.10 U.S. vs James Doyle, 1873
- D.2.11 Black Ball Co. vs Morgan, Swift  
and Fowler, 1873
- D.2.12 Peter Thompson vs Ship Baronesa, 1869
- D.2.13 Lakeman vs Bark Banks, 1869
- D.2.14 U.S. vs Crew of German Ship Schiller,  
1869
- D.2.15 U.S. vs James W. Foster, 1869
- D.2.16 Charles J. Carter vs Hathaway & Russell,  
1869
- D.2.17 J.P. Harbus vs Ship Crew, 1869
- D.2.18 U.S. vs Gabriel Clausen, 1869
- D.2.19 U.S. vs John E. Emerson, 1869
- D.2.20 E.S. Fowler vs Bark Leonore, 1869
- D.2.21 Peter Charley vs A.J. Yates, 1869
- D.2.22 Chinssean Massacre, 1868
- D.2.23 L.B. Hastings vs Franklin Sherman,  
1866
- D.2.24 Swell Murder Case, 1861-62

D.3 Marine Protests, 1894-1896 . . . . . (Box 8:26-30)

5 files

- D.3.1 James B. Patterson, Steamship Ali, 1896
- D.3.2 Captain Plum, Bark Southern Chief, 1894
- D.3.3 J.W. Gore, Bark R.K. Ham, 1894
- D.3.4 Thorwold Anderson, Norwegian Bark Petrus,  
1894
- D.3.5 Idiz Woodward and Light House Jim,  
Petition, 1894

## E. NOTARY PUBLIC SERIES, 1855-1899

1 vol.; 5 files

A fragmentary record of correspondence and transactions of Swan as Notary Public.

E.1 Oaths and Commissions, 1855-85 . . . . . (Box 8:31)  
1 file

E.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1862-86 . . . . . (Box 8:32)  
1 file

E.3 Estates, 1876-1893 . . . . . (Box 8:33-34) 2  
2 files

E.3.1 *George H. Gerrish, 1890-93*

E.3.2 Thomas Crammy, 1876

E.4 Land Descriptions, 1869-99 . . . . . (Box 8:35)  
1 file

E.5 Notary Public Record Book, 1890-94 . . . . . (Box 8)  
1 vol. (48 p.)

A record of daily transactions on pages 1-32.  
Starting on page 33 is an inventory of Swan's  
books and pamphlets that was taken in 1898.  
The top cover of the volume is torn off.



F. PILOT COMMISSIONERS OF PUGET SOUND SERIES,  
1855-1907

3 vols., 11 files

The board was a quasi-judicial body that was composed of three members skilled in navigation and residents of the Puget Sound area. It publicly examined pilots, granted licenses, received bonds from pilots, and adjudicated disputes between captains and crew, and had the authority to suspend pilots or revoke licenses. Swan acted as secretary to the board from 1868 until his death. He was replaced by James Seavey in 1900, who continued to make entries until 1907.

F.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1896-1899 . . . . . (Box 8)  
1 vol. (147 p.)

Copies of letters written by Swan as Secretary of the Board, on pages 123-145. Previous letters in the volume are identified as from "the old Chamber of Commerce." Pages 146-7 are letters by Swan as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Port Townsend.

F.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1855-1905 . . . . . (Box 9:1-8)  
8 files

Correspondence to the Board including general inquiries, reports of captains, applications for pilots' licenses, pilots' licenses, and pilots' bonds.

- F.2.1 Oaths and Commissions, 1855-88
- F.2.2 General Correspondence, 1868-97
- F.2.3 Captains' Reports, 1868-1905
- F.2.4 Applications for Pilots' Licenses,  
1868-96
- F.2.5 Pilots' Licenses, 1868-71
- F.2.6 Pilots' Bonds, 1868-1905

F.3 Board Minute Book, 1888-1907 . . . . . (Box 9)  
1 vol. (105 p.)

The volume includes the 1888 by-laws. The minutes include names of pilots that were licensed and pilotage charge rates.

F.4 Shipping Register, 1869-1885  
1 vol. (71 p.)

A record of vessels arriving and departing Port Townsend. The volume is inscribed, "Marine Record of Puget Sound from February 1, 1869."

F.5 By-Laws, 1864; 1868 . . . . . (Box 10:1)  
1 file

The 1868 by-laws also include a list of pilots' names and the dates they received their licenses, 1868-1905.

- F.6 Puget Sound Pilotage Acts, 1880-91 . . . . . (Box 10:2-3)  
2 files
  - F.6.1 Published Acts, 1883;188;1891
  - F.6.2 Swan's Draft of 1880 Act

G. HAWAIIAN CONSULATE OF PORT TOWNSEND SERIES,  
1884-1899

1 vol., 10 files

Records regarding Swan's function as Hawaiian Consul, which included regulation of trade with Hawaii, certification of shipments, granting bills of health, adjudicating disputes with vessels and seamen, and witnessing payment of seamen.

G.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1884-1887 . . . . . (Box 10)  
1 vol. (98 p.)

The volume is entitled, "Hawaiian Consulate, Letters unofficial Foreign. Book No. 2. Port Townsend, W.T." Fading and smudging of ink makes the letters difficult to read.

G.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1884-1899 . . . . . (Box 10:4-11)  
1/2 files

G.2.1 General, 1884-1899

G.2.2 Hawaiian Consulate, Illinois, 1899

G.2.3 Department of Foreign Affairs, Honolulu,  
1884-98

G.2.4 Hawaiian Consulate, San Francisco, 1884-95

G.2.5 Hawaiian Legation, Washington D.C., 1889-96

G.2.6 Hawaiian Consulate, Boston, 1892

G.3 Shipping Articles, 1899 . . . . . (Box 10:12)  
1 file

Two official shipping articles for two voyages that identify shipping route, seamen, and payment of wages witnessed by the Consul.

G.4 Crew List, 1885 . . . . . (Box 10:13)  
1 file

An official list of crewmen of the Hawaiian Bark Thomas R. Foster, which notes place of birth, citizenship, and place of shipment.

G.5 Case Files, 1884-1885 . . . . . (Box 10:14-15)  
2 files

G.5.1 Hawaiian Bark Kalakana vs Mutinous Crewmen,  
1885

G.5.2 Tacoma Mill Co. vs. Bark Augusta, 1884

H. COMMISSIONER OF OREGON FOR WASHINGTON TERRITORY SERIES,  
1887-1895

Record Book, 1887-95 . . . . . (Box 11)  
1 vol. (10 p.)

A record of the actions performed and fees collected regarding conveyances of real property within the State of Oregon. Swan was appointed Commissioner on May 13, 1887.

I. PORT TOWNSEND CLERK'S OFFICE SERIES, 1881-1888

Financial Records, 1881-88 . . . . . (Box 11)  
1 vol. (111 p.)

The volume records fees claimed by and paid to the clerks of the U.S. Territorial Courts in Port Townsend, Seattle and New Tacoma. Each page is inscribed, "Clerks Earnings at Port Townsend." It is not written by Swan, and it is not clear why Swan retained the volume.

## J. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, 1853-1899

1 vol.; 5 files

J.1 Haida Language Workbook, 1878 . . . . . (Box 11)  
1 vol.

A workbook in which Swan has translated approximately 60 English words into the Haida language. Inserted in the volume is a loose page with a brief reference to a Haida myth of the We'lalla demon.

J.2 Photographs, ca1860s; ca1890s . . . . . (Box 11:1)  
1 file

b &amp; w

Three photographs of Swan inscribed on the back, "Judge Swan."

## J.3 (Map of Lummi Indian Reservation). . . . . (Map Loc. 5)

-- (1885?). -- 1 map : ms. black and red ink on tracing linen ; scale not given ; 56 x 83 cm. -- Shows townships, ranges and sections, with names of property holders.

-- Area covered: Tp. 37 and 38 N, Ranges 1, 2 and 3 E.

## J.4 (Map of Shoal Water Bay). . . . . (Map Loc. 5)

-- 1853. -- 1 map : ms., ink and watercolour on drawing paper ; scale (1:221 760) ; 25 x 36 cm.

J.5 Sketches, ca1887 . . . . . (Box 11:2)  
1 file (6 sketches)

The original envelope is inscribed, "Willoughby", possibly referring to Charles Willoughby, a friend of Swan's from Neah Bay who might be the artist. Each of the sketches is labelled with a title and number.

J.5.1 School House and Palace of Agent, #1

J.5.2 Warehouse and Blacksmith's Shop, #3

J.5.3 Government Buildings as Seen from  
the Beach, #4J.5.4 Residence of Cultus James the  
Mail Carrier, #5

J.5.5 Bitzoltza, Amy, #6

J.5.6 Fish without Scale, Year 1887, #8

J.6 Historical Booklets, 1896-1899 . . . . . (Box 11:3)  
1 file

J.6.1 "Memorial Sermon to Charles H. Swan, 1899"

A sermon given at the funeral service of Swan's son.

J.6.2 "On the Banks of the Mystic, 1630-1896"

A brief history of Medford, Massachusetts.

## K. SWAN ESTATE SERIES, 1900-1903

Records, 1900-1903

3 vols.; 3 files

The estate records of Swan. The executor of the estate was James Seavey who was a member of the Pilot Commissioners of Puget Sound.

K.1 Outgoing Correspondence, 1902-1903 . . . . . (Box 11:4)  
1 file

Letters of Seavey regarding requests for information.

K.2 Incoming Correspondence, 1902-1903 . . . . . (Box 11:5-6)  
2 files

K.2.1 Washington State Historical Society,  
President, Ezra Meeker, 1903-1904

K.2.2 Eva Emery Dye, 1903

K.3 Inventory of Swan's Estate, 1900-1903 . . . . . (Box 11)  
1 vol.

A financial record of Swan's estate that lists sale prices of effects and cost of services rendered. A separate list compares appraised prices to prices received.

K.4 Catalogue of Swan's Library, 1900 . . . . . (Box 11)  
2 vols.

A list of titles of 185 monographs, 7 packages of letters received, 12 copy books of outgoing correspondence, and 4 copy books of the Hawaiian Consulate. A second list is arranged by subject, and includes 32 monographs on "Indians and Indian Affairs."

## APPENDIX A

## INDEX TO NAMES

Corporate and personal names are listed alphabetically, and include all names, except those grouped in "Single Correspondents". In cases where both a corporate and personal name are entered in the Inventory, both are indexed separately. The index lists Inventory page number that describes the corresponding record, and the box and file number where document can be located.

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Anderson, Alex J.	p. 13	3-24
Anderson, Thorwold	p. 19	8-29
B.C. Indian Commissioner	p. 13	3-17
B.C. Inspector of Fisheries	p. 13	3-10
Babson, R.J., Captain	p. 13	3-9
Baird, Spencer F.	p. 16-17	6-1,2,3,4, vol.
Bancroft, H.H.	p. 16	5-22
Bark R.K. Ham	p. 19	8-28
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Bean, Tarleton H.	p. 17	6-12
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Bradshaw & Co.	p. 14	4-15
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## APPENDIX B:

## BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SWAN'S PUBLICATIONS

The Northwest Coast: or Three Years Residence in Washington Territory. New York: Harper & Brothers Pub., 1857.

"The Indians of Cape Flattery at the Entrance to the Strait of Fuca," Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, 16, 8 (1870).

"The Haidah Indians of Queen Charlotte's Islands, British Columbia," Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, 21, 4 (1874).

The Amoor River: The Countries Drained by the Amoor River and its Tributaries and the Immense Trade Now Lying Dormant in Siberia, Mongolia, Manchuria, Northern China, Korea and Japan. Seattle: W.T. Lowman & Hanford Stationery & Printing Co., 1885.

APPENDIX C

**Guide to the James G. Swan Papers**

**Published by  
Manuscripts, Special Collections, University Archives  
University of Washington Libraries  
2000**

University of Washington Libraries  
 Manuscripts, Special Collections, University Archives

Swan, James Gilchrist  
 James G. Swan Papers  
 1841-1909  
 3 cubic feet  
 Accession No. 1703

BIOGRAPHY

James Gilchrist Swan--anthropologist, judge, political advisor, school teacher, and promoter of Port Townsend (to mention just a few of his occupations)--was one of the most colorful personalities of the Washington Territory. Swan was born in Massachusetts in 1818 and married Mathilda Loning in 1841. He left his wife and two children in 1850, heading to gold rush San Francisco. In 1852 Swan departed for Shoalwater Bay (now called Grays Harbor). He learned the Chinook jargon, and this knowledge led Washington Governor Isaac Stevens to pick Swan as one of several translators for treaty negotiations with the Indians of Western Washington during 1854 and 1855. Swan then returned East and wrote a book, *The Northwest Coast; or Three Years Residence in Washington Territory*. He later worked as Isaac Stevens's personal secretary when Stevens served his first term as the Washington Territory's delegate to the US Congress in 1857 and 1858.

When Congress adjourned, Swan returned to Washington. He spent the next three years shuttling back and forth between Port Townsend and the Makah Indian Reservation at Neah Bay, supporting himself by writing for a variety of newspapers. In 1862 the Indian Service made Swan the first school teacher at the Makah Reservation. Swan supervised construction of the school while convincing Makah parents to send their children there. Believing in acculturation, yet still valuing native ways, Swan taught English, farming, and sewing in his school. He was well-liked and respected by the Makah. Swan, who was probably the first white person to learn the Makah language, spent his spare time writing an ethnography of the Makah which the Smithsonian Institution later published. Under criticism for failing to teach Christianity to the Makah, Swan resigned in 1866 and moved to Port Townsend.

Swan passed the bar in 1867 and began practicing admiralty law. The following year, he was appointed to the Pilotage Commission of Puget Sound, the agency which examined sea pilots and issued licenses. In 1882 he became a U.S. Commissioner (district court judge). He also took the position of Hawaiian Consulate to the United States at Port Townsend in 1882. Swan held these jobs for the rest of his life, but he was not particularly fond of them. They paid poorly, and Swan frequently took leaves of absence to go in search of further adventures. He worked as a special agent for the Northern Pacific Railway from 1869 to 1871, surveying potential terminuses. (Not surprisingly, he recommended Port Townsend.) The Smithsonian hired Swan to collect Indian artifacts

for the 1876 World's Fair in Philadelphia, the 1884 Fair in London, and the 1893 Exposition in Chicago. The Smithsonian thus funded Swan's collecting trips to British Columbia and Southeast Alaska in 1875 and 1883. He published two articles on the Haida Indians from the notes he took on these trips. An appointment as Deputy Customs Collector for Neah Bay allowed Swan to live at the Makah Reservation again from 1878 to 1881. The US Fish Commission asked Swan to write a series of reports on the fish and fisheries of the northern Pacific, permitting him to visit Neah Bay intermittently between 1882 and 1891. Swan spent the rest of his life in Port Townsend, dying there in 1900..

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Swan collection is composed primarily of 63 volumes of Swan's diaries. The diaries run from 1859 to 1898, although Swan occasionally went many weeks without making an entry. Richard Berg has created an inventory that summarizes which volumes cover which time periods. Berg's inventory also indicates that some volumes have material in addition to diary entries. Volume #10, for example, contains Swan's notes on different potential terminuses for the Northern Pacific. The Swan collection also contains typed transcripts of diary volumes #1-10 (January 1859-October 1866) and volume #33 (May-September 1883); these transcripts are easier to read than Swan's often cramped handwriting. Lucile McDonald prepared the transcripts in the course of researching her book, *Swan Among the Indians*. Volumes #20 and #33, which Swan kept while he was in British Columbia and Southeast Alaska in 1875 and 1883, have been microfilmed; they may be borrowed through inter-library loan.

In addition to the diaries, the Swan collection contains drafts of his articles on the Makah and Haida, as well as drafts of some of his fisheries' reports and newspaper articles. The collection includes an apparently unpublished manuscript written in 1881: "History of the Commencement of the Makah Indian Agency at Neah Bay, Washington Territory." Also present are a sketch and notebook dealing with Haida mythology and art; a small handful of Swan's correspondence (1869-1900); financial records of Swan's collecting for the Smithsonian (1875-76); and business records of the Hawaiian consulate (1884-89).

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The bulk of the Swan collection was given to Professor Edward Meany by Hamilton Platt, an executor of Swan's will. Meany donated this material to the University of Washington in 1927, and it later became an unnumbered accession in Manuscripts and University Archives. Researchers later added photocopies of materials held by Swan's descendants on the East Coast. Lucile McDonald donated copies of six of Swan's letters and two Swan family histories in 1971. This material was initially designated accession 1703, but was later merged into the unnumbered accession. In 1987 Richard Berg donated a typed copy of a diary that Swan kept while visiting England in 1841. The diary, originally labeled accession 1703-2, was also later incorporated into the

unnumbered accession. There was a single subtraction from the Swan collection: Swan's annotated copy of John Meares, *Account of Voyages Made in the Year 1788 and 1789*, was transferred to the UW Libraries' Rare Book Collection. The entire accession was reboxed and reinventoried in the fall of 2000. Richard Berg's inventory was updated to reflect any changes in box numbers.

### RELATED MATERIALS

Microforms and Newspapers has one microfilm reel of Swan's correspondence with the Smithsonian Institution (1860s-90s), copied from the Smithsonian records in the National Archives. Microfilms and Newspapers also contains microfiche copies of Swan's address to the legislature of British Columbia and his report to the Smithsonian, both dated 1884 and both regarding the Haida Indians. Also kept here are nine microfilm reels of Swan's case files and correspondence from 1852 to 1900 (bulk 1870s and 1880s). These are copies of the James G. Swan papers at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver. The Swan papers at UBC are the single largest collection of Swan's correspondence. Researchers may find it necessary to visit UBC since some letters are illegible on microfilm.

Smaller collections of Swan's correspondence are scattered throughout the state. The Museum of History and Industry in Seattle has five of Swan's letterpress copybooks containing outgoing letters regarding his government positions from 1883 to 1891 and personal correspondence from 1890 to 1896. The Eastern Washington Historical Society in Spokane has copies of Isaac Stevens's correspondence with Swan. The Jefferson County Historical Society in Port Townsend has a dozen or so Swan letters, as well as series of newspaper clippings about him. Many of Swan's drawings, as well as his diaries from 1898 to 1900, are in private hands and currently inaccessible to researchers. Some of his drawings, however, have been published in Franz Stenzel, *Early Days in the Northwest: Prints, Paintings; Drawings by James G. Swan* (Portland: Portland Art Museum, 1959).

Lucile McDonald, *Swan Among the Indians: Life of James G. Swan, 1818-1900; Based Upon Swan's Hitherto Unpublished Diaries and Journals* (Portland, OR: Binford & Mort, 1972), provides a good, detailed biography. Ivan Doig, *Winter Brothers: A Season at the Edge of America* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980) also offers an interesting, but less detailed, interpretation of Swan's life. William Katz, ed., *Almost Out of the World: Scenes from Washington Territory, 1859-1861* (Tacoma: Washington State Historical Society, 1971) reprints many of Swan's newspaper articles and contains a list of all of Swan's publications. The University of Washington Libraries have copies of Swan's three major works: *The Northwest Coast; or Three Years Residence in Washington Territory* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1857; reprint, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1972); "The Indians of Cape Flattery at the Entrance to the Strait of Fuca," *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge* 16 (1870); and "The Haidah Indians of the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia," *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge* 21 (1874).



University of Washington Libraries  
 Manuscripts, Special Collections, University Archives

James Gilchrist Swan  
 JAMES GILCHRIST SWAN PAPERS  
 1841 – 1909  
 3 cubic ft.  
 Accession No. 1703-1

INVENTORY

<u>Box/Folders</u>		<u>Dates</u>
<b>DIARIES</b>		
1/1	#1 Daily Journal	1859
1/2	#2 Daily Journal	1859
1/3	#3 Daily Journal	1860
1/4	#4 Daily Journal	1861
1/5	#5 Daily Journal	1861-62
5/1	#6 Daily Journal	1862
1/6	#7 Daily Journal	1863
5/2	#8 Daily Journal	1864
5/3	#9 Daily Journal	1865-66
6/1	#10 Daily Journal, Invoices, Letters and "General Description of Country West of Hoods Canal"	1866-80
6/2	Enclosures from Diary #10	1861, 1880, n.d.
1/7	#11 Daily Journal	1867
6/3	#20 Account Book [and] Journal of Cruise on U.S. Revenue Steamer Wolcott	1867-69 1875
1/8	#12 Daily Journal	1868
1/9	#13 Daily Journal	1869
1/10	#14 Daily Journal	1870
1/11	#15 Daily Journal	1871
1/12	#16 Daily Journal	1872
1/13	#17 Daily Journal	1873
1/14	#18 Daily Journal	1874
1/15	#19 Daily Journal	1875
2/1	#21 Daily Journal	1876
2/2	#22 Daily Journal	1877
4/1	#23 Daily Journal	1878-79
2/3	#24 Daily Journal	1879
7/1	#25 Daily Journal	1879
2/4	#26 Daily Journal	1879
2/5	#27 Daily Journal	1879-80
2/6	#28 Daily Journal	1880
7/2	#29 Daily Journal	1880-81
2/7	#30 Daily Journal	1881
2/8	#31 Daily Journal	1882
2/9	#32 Daily Journal	1883
4/2	#33 Journal of Trip to Queen Charlotte Islands	1883

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Box/Folders.Dates

## DIARIES (continued)

4/3	Enclosures from Diary #33	
Misc. Oversize	Enclosure from Diary #33:	1883
Box 7	"Statement of the Sealing Buisness at Neah Bay" <u>OVERSIZED</u>	1880
2/10	#34 Daily Journal	1883-84
2/11	#35 Daily Journal	1884
2/12	#36 Daily Journal	1884
2/13	#37 Daily Journal	1884
2/14	#38 Daily Journal	1885
2/15	#39 Daily Journal	1886
2/16	#40 Daily Journal	1887
2/17	#41 Daily Journal	1887
2/18	#43 Daily Journal	1888
3/1	#44 Daily Journal	1888
3/2	#45 Daily Journal	1888-89
3/3	#46 Daily Journal	1888-89
3/4	#47 Daily Journal	1889
3/5	#48 Daily Journal	1889
3/6	#49 Weather Data	1889
3/7	#50 Daily Journal	1890
3/8	#51 Daily Journal	1890
3/9	#52 Daily Journal	1890
3/10	#53 Daily Journal	1890
3/11	#54 Meteorological Record	1890
3/12	#55 Daily Journal	1891
3/13	#56 Daily Journal	1892
3/14	#57 Daily Journal	1892
3/15	#58 Daily Journal	1892
3/16	#59 Daily Journal	1893
3/17	#60 Daily Journal	1894
3/18	#61 Daily Journal	1895
3/19	#62 Daily Journal	1896
3/20	#63 Daily Journal	1897
3/21	#64 Daily Journal	1890,1898
DIARY TRANSCRIPTS		
8/1	Table of Contents	n.d.
8/2-12	Transcript of Diaries 1-6, 8-10 (by Lucile McDonald)	1859-66
9/1	Extract from Diary of Cruise to Queen Charlotte Islands, B.C. for Smithsonian	1883
9/2	SWAN FAMILY HISTORIES	n.d.

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<u>Box/Folders</u>		<u>Dates</u>
	<b>INCOMING LETTERS</b>	
9/3	Holden, Luther L.	1901
	McKeon, W. J.	1892
	Newman, H. W.	1901
	Washington World's Fair Commission (Blalock, Nelson G.)	1891
	<b>OUTGOING LETTERS TO</b>	
9/4	Blinn, Marshall	1869
	Race, H.	1892
	Swift, Emily	1888, 1892
	Swift, J.H.	1886
	Tolmie, William F. (ts.)	1879
9/5	Swan, Ellen M. (ts. & photocopies)	1893-94, 1897
	<b>GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE OF H. RACE</b>	
9/6	H. Race to Lucile McDonald, re: Family History	n.d.
	<b>WRITINGS</b>	
9/7	"Journal of a Voyage to Liverpool & Notes of a Journey Through Great Britain in 1841" ms. & ts. by R.W. Berg	1841
9/8	"History of the Commencement of the Makah Indian Agency At Neah Bay"	1881
9/9	Trepang Fisheries	n.d.
9/10	"The Haidah Indians of Queen Charlotte Islands, B.C." "Tattoo Marks of the Haidah Indians of Queen Charlotte Islands, B.C."	n.d.
9/11	Index to Haidah Indian Memoirs	n.d.
9/12	"Reminiscence of a Pipe" Misc. Fragments	n.d.
	<b>REPORTS</b>	
10/1	The Eulachon or Candle Fish	n.d.
	<b>FINANCIAL RECORDS</b>	
10/2	Swan's collections for 1876 World's Fair	1875-76
10/3	Expenses of Propagation of Food Fishes	1882
10/4	Rent Book (#42)	1884
10/5	Misc. Accounts, Including: U.S. Fish Commission, U.S. National Museum, & New Orleans Centennial Exposition	1869-87
Misc. Oversize Box #7	<b>LAND CERTIFICATES</b> <u>OVERSIZED</u>	1868, 1870
	<b>NEWSPAPERS</b>	
10/6	<i>California Courier</i> (Photostats)	1850
11/1	<b>SKETCH AND NOTEBOOK</b>	1882-83

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<u>Box/Folders</u>		<u>Dates</u>
	<u>Subgroup</u>	
	HAWAII. CONSUL. PORT TOWNSEND, WA	
11/2	Business Record	1884-89
11/3	Cash Book	1884-87
	<u>Subgroup</u>	
	HAWAII. CONSUL. PORT TOWNSEND, WA (continued)	
11/4	List of Hawaiian Books or Pamphlets formerly of the James G. Swan Estate	n.d.
	SEAVEY, JAMES	
	Incoming Letters re: Swan Estate	
11/5	Swan, Charles F.	1900
11/6	Swan, Charles H.	1900-03, 1909
11/7	Swan, Ellen, M.	1900, 1902-03
11/8	Outgoing Letters re: Swan Estate	1901-02, 1909, n.d.