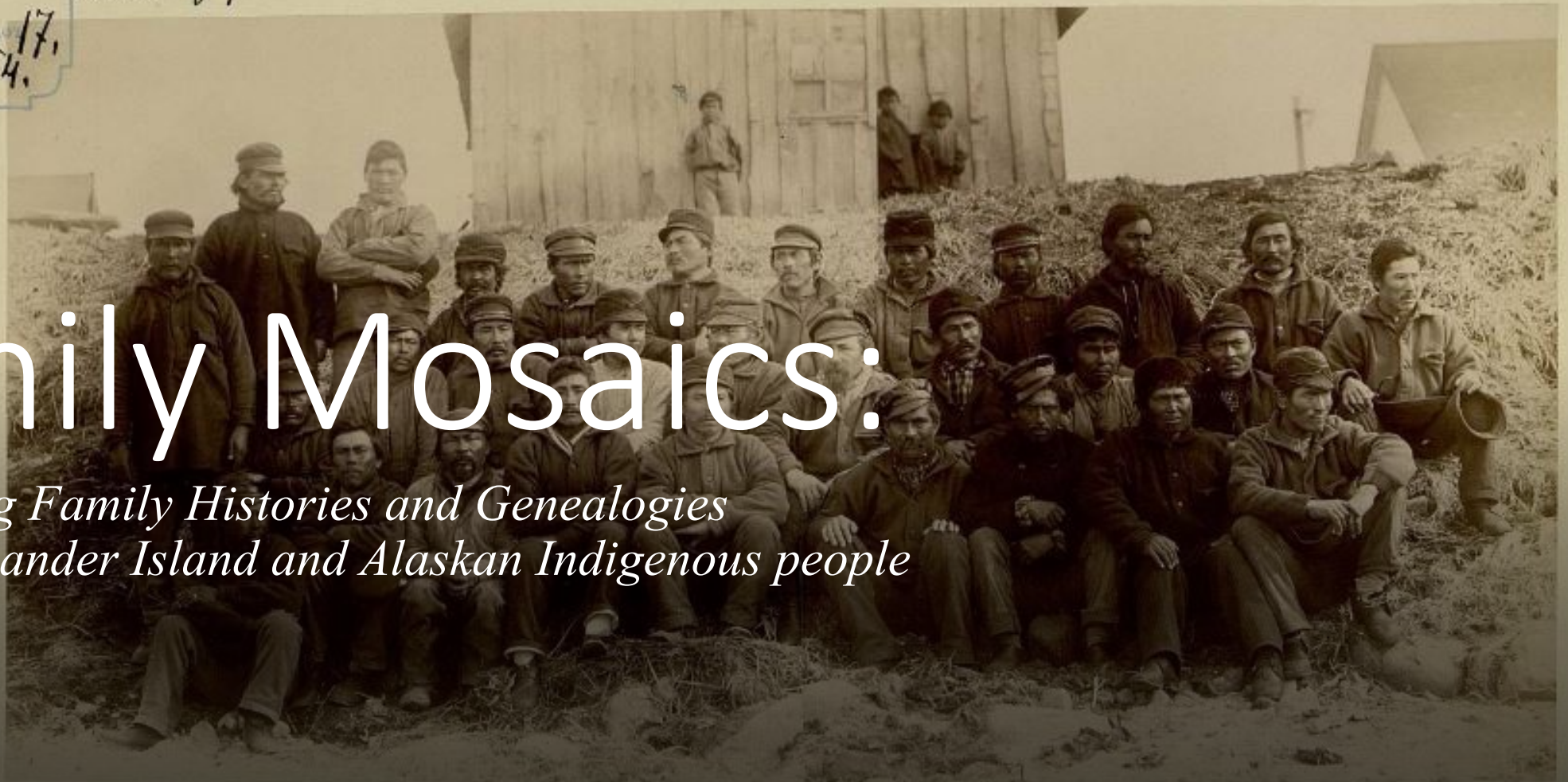


Family Mosaics:

*Reconnecting Family Histories and Genealogies
of the Commander Island and Alaskan Indigenous people*



Казенная Приамурская фотография.

Фотографировалъ Подполковникъ Велосининъ.

Мужчины на островъ Берингъ.

Evguenia (Jenya) Anichtchenko, Virginia Hatfield, Natalia Tatarenkova





Russia

Alaska

Bering

Sea

Sea
Of
Okhotsk

Kamchatka

Alaska
Peninsula

Petropavlovsk

Paramushiro

Sakhalin

Kuril Islands

Shimushu

Attu

Shemya

Kiska

Amchitka

Tanaga

Adak

Alka

Umnak

Unalaska

Unimak

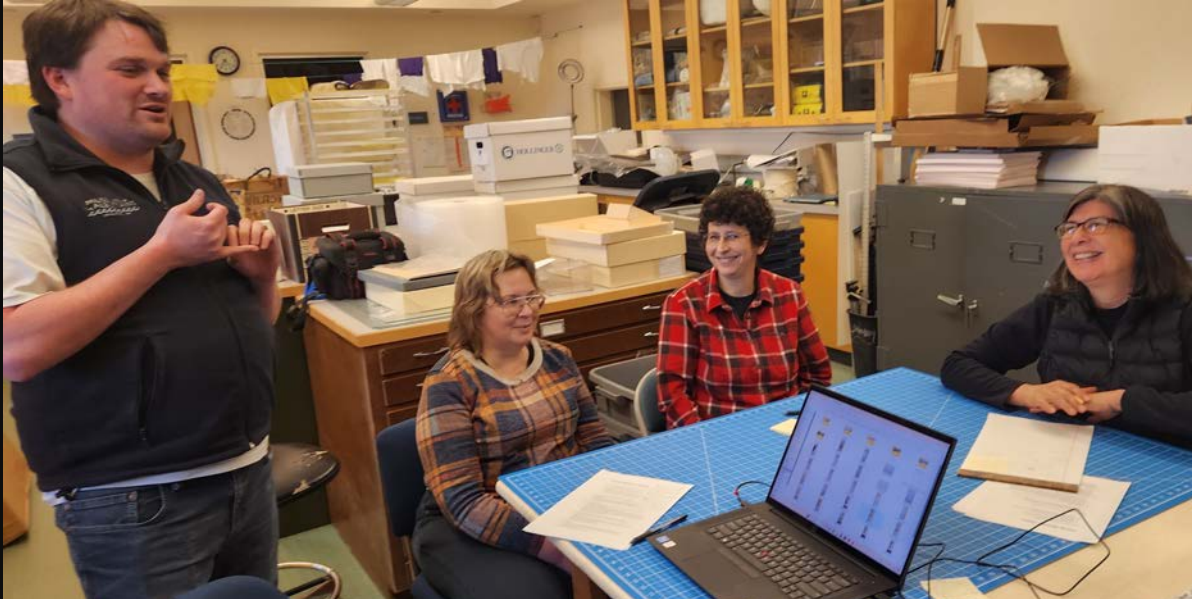
Cold Bay

Dutch Harbor

Aleutian Islands



The North Pacific



Our Team

PI: Virginia Hatfield

Lead Researcher: Natalia Tatarenkova

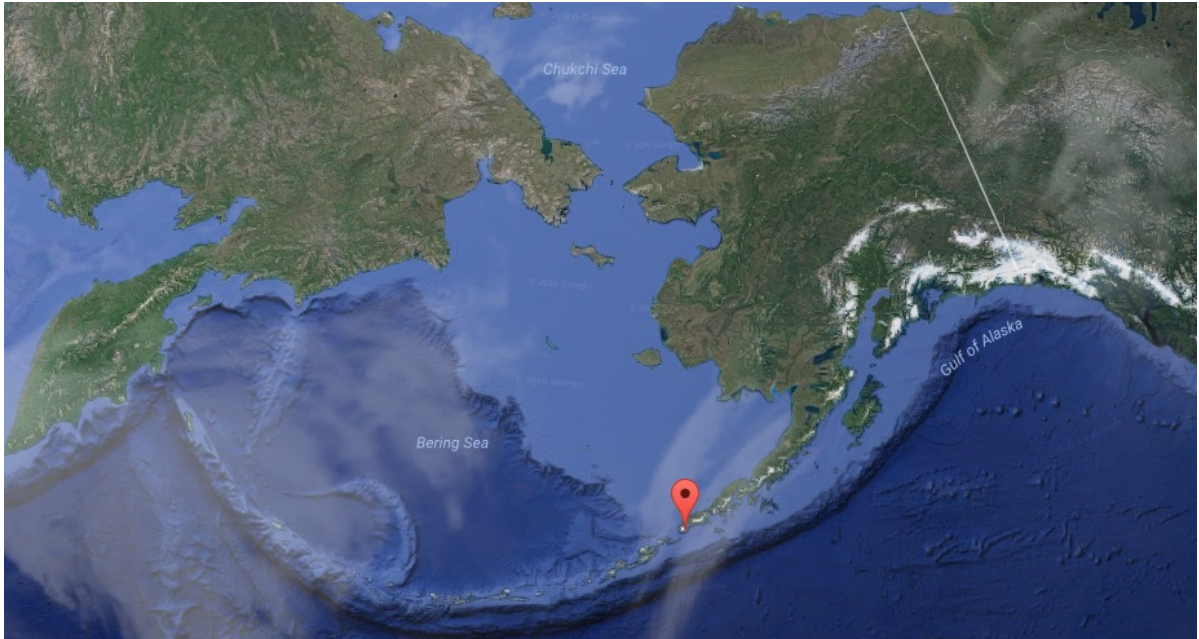
NPS lead: Evguenia Anichtchenko

Exhibit curator: Ray Hudson

Project team:

Moses Dirks, Crystal Dushkin, Sally Swetzof,
Denis O'Hearn, Michael Livingston, Rachel
Mason, Risa Causey, Viktoria Chilcote,
Thomas McLenigan

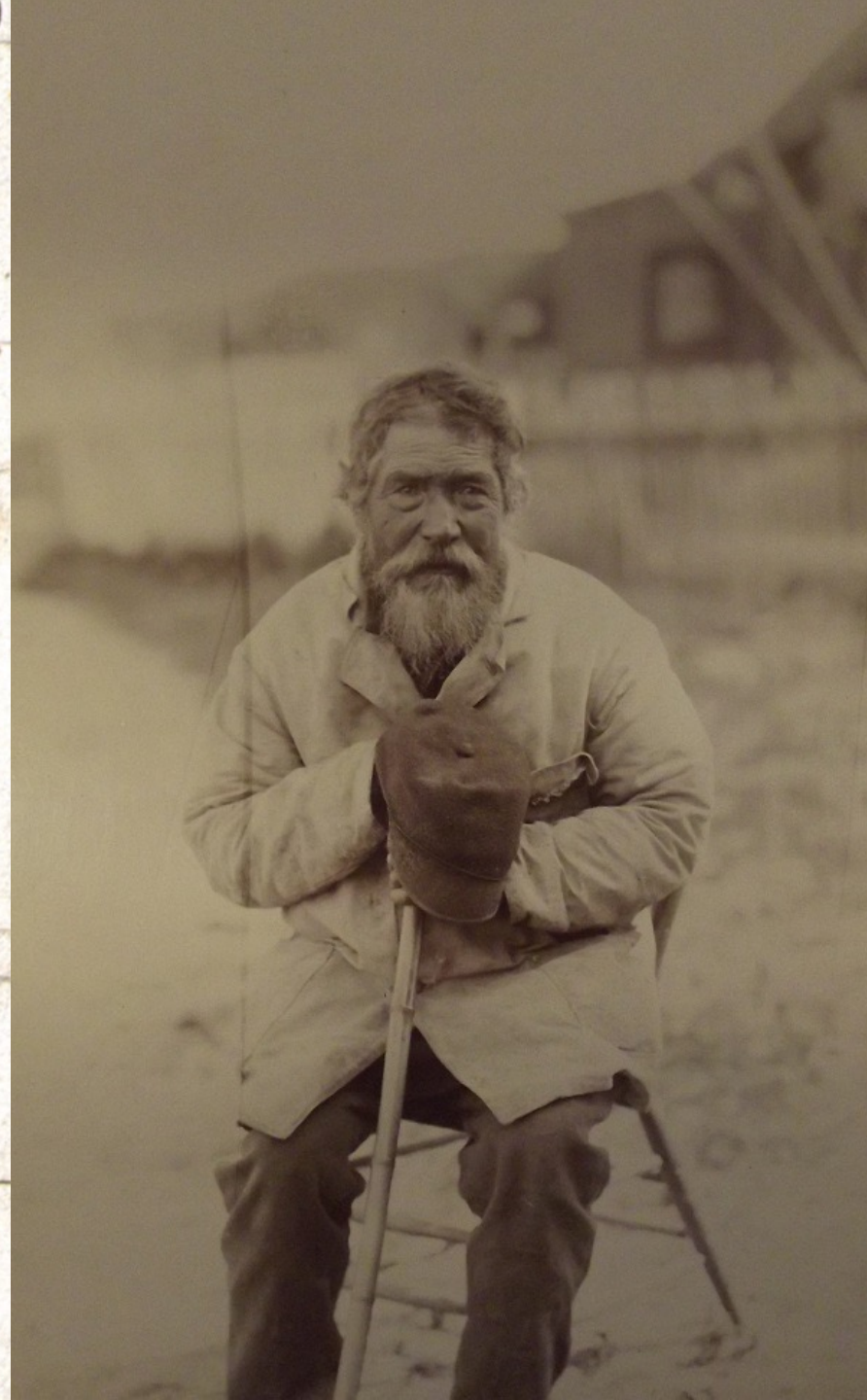
Washington, DC Office of International
Affairs: Linda Bennett and Rudy D'Alessandro





Commander Bay, Bering Island

St. Peter's crew camping site and graves of Captain Vitus Bering and several of his crew members



Commander Islands 1827:

17 Russians

13 Creole men

35 Creole women

24 "Aleut" men

21 "Aleut" women

Burdokovsky,
Golodov,
Nevzorov,
Berezin,
Pankov,
Zaikov,
Aksenov,
Sinitsin,
Snegirev and others



6.



Намного Прокруткина фотограф.

Алеутка съ острова Беринга.



Семья старшины Беринга.

Семья старшины въ сел. у мыса Желтого.



Намного Прокруткина фотограф.

Мальчики въ селении у мыса Желтого.

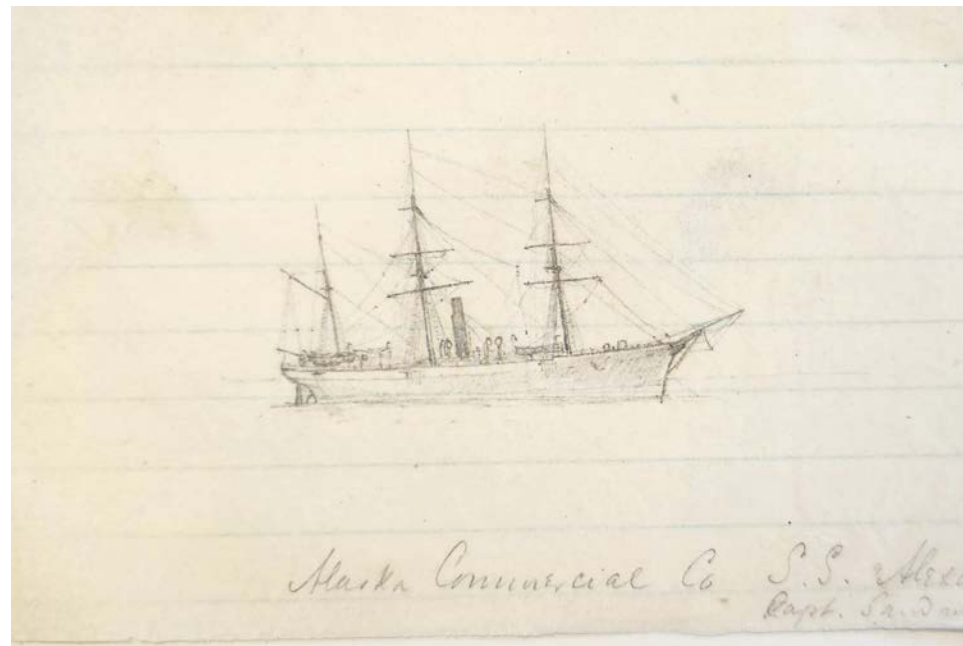


Старикъ съ ост. Надьяна.

Старинъ съ ост. Надьяна.



Benjamin Steiner 1885



В Р О С С И И



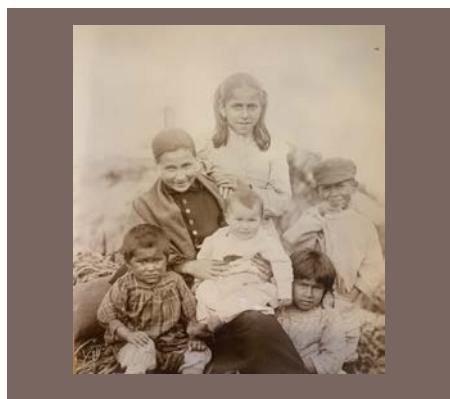


Project objectives:

- increase knowledge about historic connections and family ties between the people of the Commander Islands and Indigenous communities of the Aleutian Islands
- to re-energize these connections
- and to create engaging and lasting resources and mechanisms for preserving, sharing, and expanding this important cultural knowledge.



Research: Smithsonian Institution and Library of Congress in Washington DC, archival collections in Alaska





Community outreach Anchorage, May 2023



FAMILY MOSAICS: FAR. CLOSE. RELATED.

About 110 miles east of Kamchatka and 200 miles west of Attu, the Commander Islands were put on the map by Russian seamen in the 18th century. The Russian-American Company established Unanga communities on Bering and Copper Island in the early 19th century just as they did on St. Paul and St. George in the Pribilof Islands.

Following the 1867 sale of Alaska, Bering and Copper Island remained under Russian jurisdiction while the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands passed to U.S. control. Distance and different governments led to separation between these two Unangat groups. Nevertheless, they had much in common including language, subsistence practices, religion, economic conditions, and family ties.

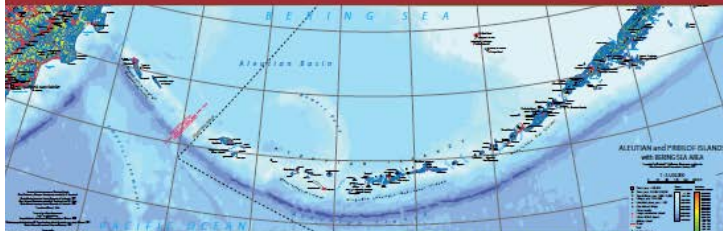
This exhibit showcases genealogical connections and explores shared histories and cultural traditions. Building on years of research on Bering Island and throughout Russia, Natalia Tatarskaya recently consulted holdings in Washington, D.C., Anchorage, and Unalakleet. She is writing a book that will be invaluable for anyone seeking to better understand the deep family and historical ties between the Commander, Aleutian, and Pribilof Islands.

GEOGRAPHY

Dagger-shaped Bering Island is about 55 miles long and 15 mile wide. Copper Island is about 35 miles long and 4 miles wide. The Commander Islands are similar in weather and topography to the Aleutians.

THE 1867 SALE OF ALASKA

In 1867 the Russia sold its holdings in Alaska to the United States. Bering and Copper Islands remained under Russian jurisdiction. All other Unanga settlements fell under U.S. control.



Crop of map: Abandon and Pablos' lands with Haring Sea Area, nature and landscape possible, green, white, and blue, 2000

RUSSIA		United States	
Tanaŋin	Nikolski Village on Bering Island	Tanaŋ Amlit	St. Paul
		Anġoaaxhaluut	St. George
	Preobrazhenskoye	Uŋnaasaqaq	Unga
Kanuyam tanaŋin	Village on Copper Island	Tanaŋaanuk	Karovin
		Unatbuut	Wosnesnski
		Taittamaŋ	Belkayski
		Tachit	Pavlovski
		Uŋŋilaak	Morzhovoi
		Sanaŋaax	Sanak
		Shiŋaŋux	Ulinak (Shishaldin)
		Chulkaŋ	Atun
		Qilaŋŋan	Tigaida
		Agutanaŋ	Avatanak
		Qakliux	Blarka
		Chatuuknaŋ	Sevvshehenskii
		Iluuut	Unalaska
		Ignichilikaŋ	Makushlin
		Qusib	Kashega
		Ikaŋŋa	Chernofski

EXHIBIT



FIRST RUSSIANS



Cross on the symbolic grove of Vilnius Bering, 1830
 A&B-9. 1830 paper, 1830-1830. 1830-1830-1830

Vitus Bering's ship *St. Paul* wrecked on Bering Island at the end of his 1741 voyage to Alaska.

After survivors reached Kamchatka, subsequent fur-hunting expeditions used the Commander Islands to rest and restock their food supplies before venturing into the Aleutian Islands in pursuit of sea otters, fur seals, and fox.

Foremost among food sources was the sea cow, hunted to extinction by about 1768.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS IN COMMANDER AND PRIBILOF ISLANDS

The first workers stationed on the Commanders were Russians taken to Copper Island in 1805. The Russian-American Company, chartered in 1799, recognized Unalga as unmatched sea otter hunters and brought them to the Islands. Initially, fur seals were of less value than sea otters, but as sea otter populations declined the harvesting of fur seals assumed more importance. Permanent Unalga settlements on both islands began in the 1820s with the arrival of families from Atka, Attu, and other locations where Unalga lived.

The Russian-American Company initially brought people from Atka to work in the Pribilof Islands. They were replaced by Unangut from the Fox Islands. The transient population shifted until the 1820s when permanent villages took root.



SEA OTTERS AND FUR SEALS

For the first half of the 19th century, men hunted **sea otters** with spears thrown from atlatls. Later, men hunted at night, luring males ashore and clubbing or shooting them. Hunting with nets became common beginning in the 1870s with the introduction of suitable rope and continued into the 20th century. After harvesting fur seals dominated the local economy, men supplemented their income by hunting sea



See offer slide on Copper Islets
pgs. 28, 29, 30

By the 1890s sea otters were nearing extinction in the Aleutian Islands. However, they continued to flourish around Copper Island, and young men from Bering Island would visit there for this purpose. An international treaty to protect fur seals and sea otters was signed in 1911. The last sea otter hunting season in the Commander Islands occurred around 1925.

Northern fur seals hauled out on the Commander and Pribilof Islands to breed and give birth. Various conservation practices were developed by the Russian-American Company to ensure this resource continued in good health on both groups of islands.

After the 1867 sale of Alaska, the Alaska Commercial Company of San Francisco received a contract to harvest fur seals in the Pribilof Islands. A sister company of the ACC contracted with the Russian government to take fur seals in the Commander Islands. Each company introduced changes in the management of the herds and in the life-styles of the residents. Each faced challenges from other firms and from pelagic hunters who took fur seals on the open seas.


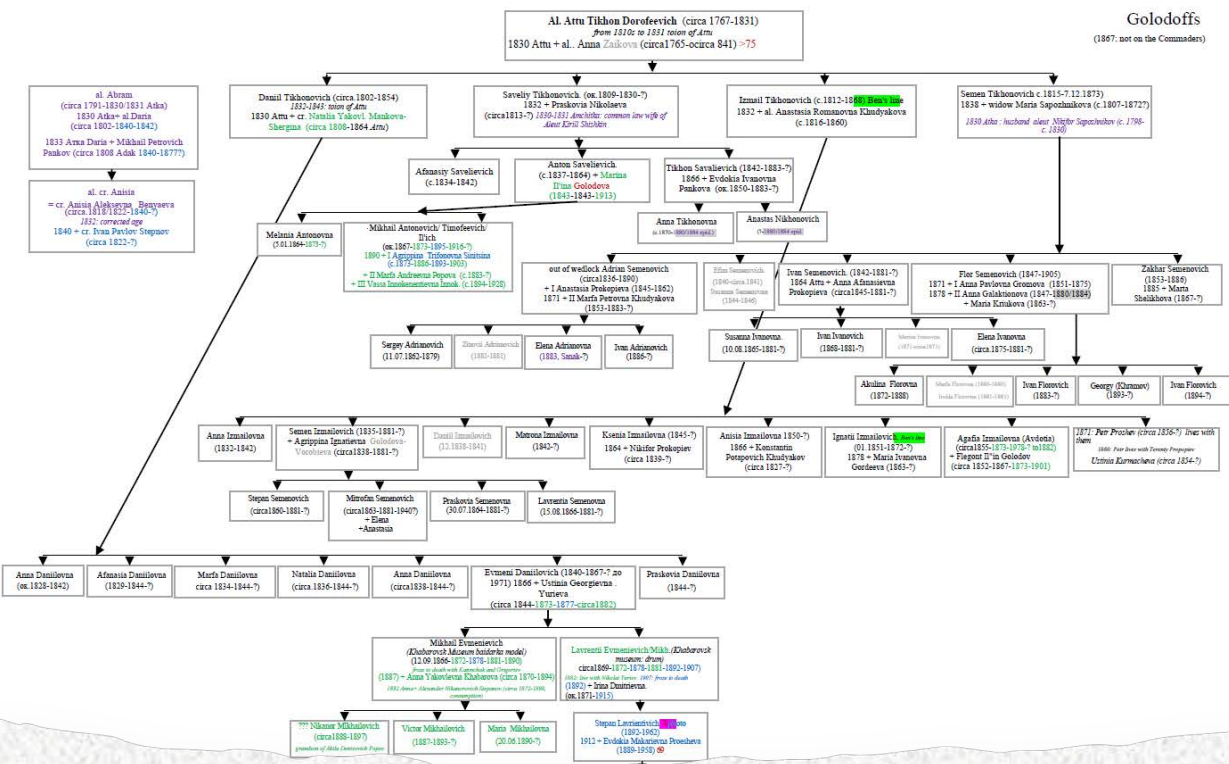
The contracts with ACC and its sister company ended in 1889 and 1891. The North-American Commercial Company received the contract in the Pribilof Islands for 20 years after which management of fur seals passed to the U.S. government. A ten-year contract in the Commander Islands with the Russian Seal Skin Company was followed by similar contracts with private Russian companies until the Soviet system reached the islands in the early 1920s.



Caption about fur seal

Sea otter hunting in the Aleutian Islands
resumes because we still can't find another way





John Golodoff
In the Aleutians, Ivan (John) Golodoff (1892-1965) was renowned as a choir leader in the church, a master of subsistence, and a fine traditional dancer. His father was from Attu, but he was raised at Chemsfski and spent most of his life at Unalaska. Home Family Photograph.



Stepan Lavrentievich Golodov
Members of the extended Golodoff family were masters of subsistence. Stepan Lavrentievich Golodov (Birth and death years) from Bering Island was a noted fisherman. [What else could we say about him?]
Photograph from early 1950s, AKM Archives

Genealogical research

Golodof family tree: Bering Island/Unalaska



Reaching out to families:

www.aleutians.org/family

FAMILY MOSAICS

The Museum of the Aleutians is pleased to present the Family Mosaics project, which seeks to reconnect the family histories of families from the Russian Commander Islands to their American relatives. Researcher Natalia Isenchenko has compiled a list of the Unangan residents of the Commander Islands based on Russian archival sources.

To complete the family and personal histories of these names, we're soliciting community feedback! If you're a member of one of these families or know about any of these names, please fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

As we gather responses and continue our research, names and individuals will be added to this page.

Family Names

Aksunov (Аксунин)	Mykashov (Мыкашин)
Anisov (Анисов)	Nosov (Носов)
Antamirov (Антанмиров)	Nikolov (Николов)
Budarev (Бударев)	Nichkov/ Narkov (Ничков/Нарков)
Berezin (Березин)	Ogin (Огин)
Budakov (Будакوف)	Parkov (Парков)
Burdakovsky (Бурдаковски)	Pakhomov (Пахомов)
Volkov (Волков)	Petrov (Петров)
Galkin (Галкин)	Pichakov (Пичаков)
Golodov (Голодов)	Pogov (Погов)
Gribov (Грибов)	Prodanov (Проданов)
Doroshin (Доросин)	Rogov/Rogin (Рогов/Рогин)
Ernstov (Эрнстов)	Serov/Serov (Серов/Серов)
Zakov (Заков)	Sinitsin (Синицин)
Ivanov (Иванов)	Singov (Сингов)
Ismailov (Исмаилов)	Skatov (Скатов)
Kadin (Кадин)	Stepanov (Степанов)
Katynchak (Катунчак)	Stepanov (Степанов)
Karov (Каров)	Sunov (Сунов)
Kichin (Кичин)	Tevanov (Теванов)
Klunov (Клунов)	Udachin (Удачин)
Kontopov-Sakunov (Контупов-Сакун)	Udachin (Удачин)
Korakovsky (Кораконский)	Khakunov (Хакун)
Kukalov - Ishku, Ishuk (Кукалов-Ишкур-Ишук)	Khakunov (Хакун)
Lafogin (Лафогин)	Khudakov (Худак)
Lambert (Ламберт)	Khudakov (Худак)
Lomov (Ломов)	Shangin - Pashuk (Шангин-Пашук)
Makunov (Макунов)	Shangin - Pashuk (Шангин-Пашук)
Marchenko (Марченко)	Shapov (Шапов)
	Yarov (Яров)
	Yakovlev (Яковлев)

Individuals

Let Us Know here

Name (required)
First Name Last Name

E-mail (required)

Name (required)
What names do you recognize from this list?

Thank you!



Наземная Приамурская фотография.

Стереоскопическая фотография.

Женщины на острове Медный.

