

# CAPTURING CHANGE:

THE NORTHWEST VIEWED  
THROUGH THE LENS  
OF PRESERVATION

## Arthur Churchill Warner

(1864-1943) was a Seattle-area photographer who captured extensive images throughout the Pacific Northwest, both alone and in collaboration. In addition to focusing on the city of Seattle's growth during the 19th and 20th centuries, Warner also documented the Alaskan Gold Rush, the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, and early images of the summit of Mt. Rainier.



# THE A.C. WARNER COLLECTION PHOTOGRAPHS C. 1880s - 1940s

### Project Scope:

The University of Washington's Arthur Churchill Warner Collection was partially digitized between 2002 & 2003. A rudimentary digital finding aid was created, as well. However, only a few hundred out of several thousand photos were digitized, and the full collection was not processed according to archival standards. As a result, much of the collection was not housed in appropriate archival containers, and many photos were absent from the finding aid. Our project goal was then to improve and complete the archival process.

### Special Collections Archival Process:

Following UW Special Collections procedures, we:

- Collocated and categorized duplicate photographs
- Merged unsorted photos into the collection
- Removed photos outside of the collection's scope
- Rehoused items in archival folders and sleeves
- Developed an organization scheme to classify items by location and image subject
- Created a new digital finding aid using the Encoded Archival Description (EAD) encoding standard which incorporates the now-fully inventoried collection and the new classification scheme

### Outcomes:

- Fully inventoried collection
- Improved housing of materials to ensure continued preservation
- More accurate, usable finding aid for patron use

