

## PRESS RELEASE

### Sheldon Jackson Museum

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### MUSEUM FEATURES A COMB FROM FATHER KASHEVAROFF

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Sheldon Jackson Museum's Artifact of the Month for January is a silver comb that was once in the private collection of Father Andrew Kashevaroff, a Russian Orthodox priest who was also Curator of the Alaska State Museum in Juneau from 1919-40.

The comb bears a Northwest coast formline design engraved silver plaque. The silver is attached to a celluloid or tortoise shell comb. This is an unusual example of a silver carver's traditional design affixed to a non-traditional object.

The comb is part of the Calvin/Kashevaroff collection acquired by the Alaska State Museums in 2001. This group of artifacts also includes a tea kettle basket, two sets of telescoping spruce root baskets, a Tlingit bow, and an Aleut grass mat, all of which are now at the Sheldon Jackson Museum. Father Kashevaroff ministered to congregations from Sitka to Kodiak before settling in Juneau. Some of the artifacts in his collection likely came to him through his Alutiiq heritage; he received other pieces as gifts or purchased them during his travels and assignments throughout Alaska.

