



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Wolf Robe Hunt papers

Gina Rappaport

February 2025

National Anthropological Archives
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1310
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.2883
naa@si.edu
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical Note	2
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	3
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	
Series 1: Correspondence	4
Series 2: Writings	6
Series 3: Subject files	7
Series 4: Ephemera and printed material	9
Series 5: Photographs	10

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Wolf Robe Hunt papers
Date:	1927-1979
Identifier:	NAA.1979.0402
Creator:	Hunt, Wolf Robe, 1905-1977
Extent:	6 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The papers of Wolf Robe Hunt were donated to the National Anthropological Archives in 1979 by Glenal Davis Hunt.

Related Materials

The National Anthropological Archives holds MS 4290, Wolf Robe Hunt drawings of Acoma katsinas and ceremonial objects.

The National Anthropological Archives also holds transcripts of interviews with Wolf Robe Hunt conducted by Herman J. Viola, in the Herman J. Viola papers.

Processing Information

The collection was initially minimally processed by Jill McC. Watson, April 1980 and finding aid created by Judith S. Engelberg, August 1992.

Collection fully processed and new finding aid created by Gina Rappaport in February 2025.

Preferred Citation

Wolf Robe Hunt papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The Wolf Robe Hunt Papers are open for research. Access to the Wolf Robe Hunt Papers requires an appointment.

Folder 14, box 7 in the Subject Files series is restricted until 2048 due to the presence of PII.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Wayne Wolf Robe Hunt, also known as Wolf Robe Hunt, was an artist, craftsman, and performer of Native American cultural expression, and a businessman. Born in Acoma Pueblo on October 14, 1905 to Edward Proctor Hunt (Chief Day Break) and Morning Star, Hunt grew up involved with the cultural traditions of his community. His father served as "'Chief of the Delight Makers,' an Acoma religious order invested with the duties of following and announcing the dates of the Tribal ceremonial Calendar", and Wolf Robe assisted with these duties. Edward Proctor Hunt was also a rancher, and Wolf Robe worked as a cowboy, often riding along the mesa cliffs where rock art of the ancient cliff dwellers was visible. These paintings inspired him to develop his talents as an artist, and he studied under Carl Redin and Frank Von Der Lancken. He also learned silversmithing from his brother.

In addition to painting and jewelry making, Hunt began performing dances and other presentations on Native American life at schools, fairs, community and private events, and later, national and international expos. Though from Acoma, Hunt's work reflected a pan-Indian perspective. He owned and operated two Indian trading posts in Oklahoma (the first of which opened in 1936), where he sold his jewelry, paintings, leather crafts, and other material. Regularly participating in fairs, expos, and other events, Hunt became sought after for performances and custom jewelry and made a name for himself as a Native performer and artist. Hunt's paintings won awards at art shows, including the "Grand Award" of the Philbrook Art Center in 1967.

In the 1960s Hunt made a number of overseas trips to perform at various events and programs, often bringing with him a troupe of Native performers who would exhibit ceremonial dances and other traditional displays. Between 1964 and 1969 Hunt visited Germany, France, Ireland, Spain, Australia, and a few other places, some trips under the auspices of the US Department of Commerce's "Made in America" events. In 1973 Hunt was named "Oklahoma's Indian of the Year" by the Council of American Indians.

Hunt married Glenal Davis in 1932 and the two had a daughter, LoWayne. Hunt passed away on December 10, 1977.

Sources consulted:

Papers of Wolf Robe Hunt, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Scope and Contents

The papers of Wolf Robe Hunt document the life and work of a busy artist and businessman, and reflect Hunt's dedication to illuminating Native American traditions and lifeways through his arts, crafts, and performances. The papers consist of correspondence, writings, photographs, subject files, printed programs, ephemera, and memorabilia.

Much of the correspondence deals with requests, logistics, and arrangements for his programs and performances, as well as orders for and correspondence about his jewelry and other crafts. Also included are letters between Wolf Robe and Glenal Hunt, mostly from his travels.

Writings primarily contain drafts of stories, some of which were collected in *The Dancing Horses of Acoma*. Subject files contain information on a variety of topics, and include material from Pueblo sculptor Nabor Feliz Netzahault. The ephemera and printed material include programs and advertisements for various events and illuminate the range of things Hunt was involved in.

Photographs are fairly extensive and include professional and publicity photos as well as photos of family and friends.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Arrangement

The Wolf Robe Hunt papers are organized into five series: 1. Correspondence; 2. Writings; 3. Subject files; 4. Ephemera and printed material; and 5. Photographs.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Acoma Pueblo

Cultures:

Acoma Pueblo

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence

Scope and Contents: Series 1: Correspondence primarily consists of incoming correspondence, arranged chronologically, and largely dealing with Hunt's sales of arts and crafts and arrangements for performances. General correspondence pertaining to Hunt's various travels is also included, as is one file of correspondence between Wolf Robe and Glenal Hunt.

Box 1, Folder 1	Incoming correspondence, 1930-1939
Box 1, Folder 2	Incoming correspondence, 1940-1949
Box 1, Folder 3	Incoming correspondence, 1950-1959
Box 1, Folder 4	Incoming correspondence, 1960
Box 1, Folder 5	Incoming correspondence, 1961
Box 1, Folder 6	Incoming correspondence, 1962
Box 1, Folder 7	Incoming correspondence, 1963
Box 1, Folder 8	Incoming correspondence, 1964
Box 1, Folder 9	Incoming correspondence, 1965
Box 2, Folder 1	Incoming correspondence, 1966
Box 2, Folder 2	Incoming correspondence, 1967
Box 2, Folder 3	Incoming correspondence, 1968
Box 2, Folder 4	Incoming correspondence, 1969
Box 2, Folder 5	Incoming correspondence, 1970
Box 2, Folder 6	Incoming correspondence, 1971
Box 2, Folder 7	Incoming correspondence, 1972
Box 2, Folder 8-9	Incoming correspondence (2 folders), 1973
Box 3, Folder 1-2	Incoming correspondence (2 folders), 1974

Box 3, Folder 3	Incoming correspondence, 1975
Box 3, Folder 4	Incoming correspondence, 1976
Box 3, Folder 5	Incoming correspondence, 1977-1978
Box 3, Folder 6	Incoming correspondence, undated
Box 3, Folder 7	Outgoing correspondence, 1960-1971
Box 3, Folder 8	Correspondence between Wolf Robe and Glenal Hunt, 1967-1971
Box 4, Folder 1	Correspondence - Germany travel, 1964
Box 4, Folder 2	Correspondence - France travel, 1966
Box 4, Folder 3	Correspondence - various travel arrangements, 1966-1967
Box 4, Folder 4	Correspondence - Israel and Ireland travel, 1967
Box 4, Folder 5	Correspondence - Sweden and Belgium travel, 1967
Box 4, Folder 6	Correspondence - Spain travel, 1968

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Writings

Scope and Contents: Series 2. Writings primarily consists of drafts of stories, including stories collected for *The Dancing Horses of Acoma*. Also included are drafts and published versions of a column titled "A Wild Injun" written by Hunt for the Tulsa Daily World that appeared over several months in 1937.

Box 4, Folder 7	"A Wild Injun" newspaper column by Wolf Robe Hunt, 1937
Box 4, Folder 8	Story drafts for The Dancing Horses of Acoma by Wolf Robe Hunt, undated
Box 5, Folder 1	Writings on Acoma, undated
Box 5, Folder 2-4	Story drafts (3 folders), undated
Box 5, Folder 5-6	Drafts, notes, and fragments (2 folders), undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Subject files

Scope and Contents: Series 3: Subject files comprise a wide and varied range of material. Included are awards and accolades, files on specific topics or organizations, biographical information, calendars and address books, and newspaper clippings. Of particular note are notes and photographs from Pueblo artist Nabor Feliz. Files are arranged alphabetically.

One folder, "Performers" is restricted until 2048 due to the presence of Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Contents of folder have been removed from box and placed in a restricted file at the end of the collection.

Box 5, Folder 7	Accolades and awards, 1949-1979
Box 5, Folder 8	Acoma, 1964, undated
Box 5, Folder 9	Address books, business cards, notes, 1967-1968, undated
Box 5, Folder 10	Akdar Temple, 1961-1962
Box 5, Folder 11	American Indian Art Expo, 1964-1965
Box 6, Folder 1	Biographical information - Wolf Robe Hunt, 1977, undated
Box 6, Folder 2	Calendars, 1966-1969
Box 6, Folder 3; Map-folder 1	Drawings and designs , undated
Box 6, Folder 4	Feather samples, 1967, undated Notes: Feather samples sent to Wolf Robe Hunt for his use in making headdresses and other items.
Box 6, Folder 5-6	Nabor Feliz - notebook and photographs (2 folders), undated
Box 6, Folder 7	Financial, 1942-1967
Box 6, Folder 8	Gastonia, North Carolina, 1965
Box 7, Folder 1	Glenal Davis Hunt, undated
Box 7, Folder 2	Heard Museum, 1966-1969
Box 7, Folder 3	Houston Stock Show, 1964-1965
Box 7, Folder 4	Indian Arts and Crafts Board, 1965-1966
Box 7, Folder 5	Interviews with Wolf Robe Hunt, undated

Box 7, Folder 6	Ku Klux Klan ephemera, 1929, undated
Box 7, Folder 7	LoWayne Hunt, undated
Box 7, Folder 8; Map-folder 2	Newspaper clippings , 1965-1969
Box 7, Folder 9	Notes and mementoes, undated
Box 7, Folder 10	Poetry, undated
Box 7, Folder 11	Program schedule - Paris trip, undated
Box 7, Folder 12	Scottsdale National Indian Arts Council, 1968
Box 7, Folder 13	World's Fair, 1964
Box 7, Folder 14	Performers [RESTRICTED], undated Notes: contents of folder restricted until 2048 due to the presence of PII.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Ephemera and printed material

Scope and Contents: Series 4: Ephemera and printed material consists of brochures, programs, booklets, advertisements, and memorabilia from fairs, expos, and other events.

Box 7, Folder 15	Ephemera and printed material, 1956-1975
Box 7, Folder 16	Ephemera and printed material, 1963-1973
Box 8, Folder 1	Ephemera and printed material, 1927-1974
Box 8, Folder 2	Gallup Ceremonials ephemera and programs, 1937-1974
Box 8, Folder 3	Catalogs and programs, 1947-1977
Box 13	Mementos/memorabilia, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 5: Photographs

Scope and Contents: Series 5: Photographs comprise professional and personal photographs. Professional photos include publicity photos, portraits, photos of the trading post, and photos of Hunt's artwork and jewelry. Personal photographs include numerous snapshots of family and friends.

Box 9, Folder 1	Wolf Robe Hunt (WRH) portraits, undated
Box 9, Folder 2	WRH publicity photos, undated
Box 9, Folder 3	Oklahoma "Indian of the Year" celebration, 1973
Box 9, Folder 4	WRH Trading Post, circa 1940-1959
Box 9, Folder 5	WRH Jewelry, artwork, leathercraft, circa 1950-1976
Box 9, Folder 6	WRH Jewelry and artwork, undated
Box 9, Folder 7	Germany trip, 1964
Box 10, Folder 1	Paris trip, 1966
Box 10, Folder 2	Ireland and Israel trip, 1967
Box 10, Folder 3	Snake Dancers, 1964-1966
Box 10, Folder 4	Spain trip, 1968
Box 10, Folder 5	London trip, 1968
Box 10, Folder 6	Australia trip, 1969
Box 10, Folder 7-9	Hunt family photos (3 folders), circa 1930-1977
Box 10, Folder 10	LoWayne Hunt, circa 1937-1945, undated
Box 11, Folder 1-2	WRH friends and family (2 folders), undated
Box 11, Folder 3	Acoma, circa 1937
Box 11, Folder 4	Horses, cattle, ranching, undated
Box 11, Folder 5	Signed portraits, undated
Box 11, Folder 6	Acee Blue Eagle, undated
Box 11, Folder 7	Dancers, undated

Box 11, Folder 7 Miscellaneous and unidentified, undated

Box 12 Negatives, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)