



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to MS 1998-54 Exercise book containing
drawings by an anonymous Kiowa artist

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 1998-54 Exercise book containing drawings by an anonymous Kiowa artist
Date:	1875-1878
Identifier:	NAA.MS1998-54
Extent:	16 Drawings (graphite and colored pencil; 6.5 x 8 inches)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Exercise book containing drawings by anonymous Kiowa artist Image(s): Exercise book containing drawings by anonymous Kiowa artist Image(s): Exercise book containing drawings by anonymous Kiowa artist
Container:	Box 98-54

Administrative Information

Provenance

Dr. Lincoln Godfrey of Ardmore, Pennsylvania inherited the book from his cousin Mrs. Bessie Valentine of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. Upon Mr. Godfrey's death in 1959, the book passed to his wife, Mrs. Patricia Drexel. In 1998, the National Museum of Natural History purchased the book from the Robert Abbe Museum of Bar Harbor, Maine and Patricia and Victor Drexel.

Preferred Citation

MS 1998-54 Exercise book containing drawings by an anonymous Kiowa artist, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.
Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Historical Note

Fort Marion, also known as Castillo de San Marco, is a stone fortress in St. Augustine, Florida. Between 1875 and 1878, seventy-two prisoners from the southern plains were incarcerated in the fort. Captain Richard Pratt supervised the prisoners during their incarceration at Fort Marion. The prisoners consisted of 27 Kiowas, 33 Cheyennes, 9 Comanches, 2 Arapahos, and a single Caddo. With the exception of one Cheyenne woman,

all the prisoners were men. They had been accused of participating in the recent Red River War, earlier hostilities, or both. With the exception of the wife and daughter of one of the Comanche men, the prisoners families were not allowed to accompany them to Fort Marion.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of sixteen (16) drawings in a commercial exercise book. The book had been sewn into a second cover prior to its acquisition by the Smithsonian. This second cover was removed and the book was rebound. The second cover has been retained.

The drawings depict hunting, courtship, dance, social gatherings, Indian scouts, mounted and dismounted warriors, and part of the Kiowa Sun Dance. The inside of the front cover is inscribed:

"Capt Pratt U.S.A." "Work by Indians" "By the Indians incarcerated in Fort Marion St. Augustine Florida in 1876" "Engaged in the Custer Massacre" "Care of Capt Pratt in charge assisted by the following ladies-- Mrs Linethurst, Mrs Gibbs - Mrs S'- Mother St Augustine, Mrs Kingsly Gibbs - aunt, Mrs Valentine - Phila, Miss Reed" "Carlisle was the outcome of Capt Pratt's efforts assisted by Mrs Kingsly Gibbs of St Augustine"

The back cover is inscribed:

"Works of the Indians while in prison in Fort Marion St Augustine Florida-- After the Custer Massacre in care of Capt Pratt-- The founder of Carlisle-- These Indians finally taken there for housing and taming--by the Government-- under the care of Capt Pratt USA"

In addition to the inscription, the back cover bears the image of a man wearing a breechcloth, which was scratched into its surface. The name "ZOTOM" appears in stencil block letters on the back cover and the inside of the front cover. Although Zotom was a noted Kiowa artist, it is not clear that he is responsible for the drawings. Candace Greene notes that they are unlike his later work and early documented examples of his drawing style have not been identified.

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.

Local Numbers

MS 98-54 000

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Kiowa

Cultures:

Kiowa

Types of Materials:

Ledger drawings

Works of art

Places:

Florida -- Fort Marion
North America

Container Listing

Five men wearing assorted headgear and carrying a crooked lance, a society whip, a saber, and a tomahawk

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of five men wearing assorted headgear and carrying a crooked lance, a society whip, a saber, and a tomahawk](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 001

Drawing depicts a man wearing a wolf hide, a man wrapped in the American flag, and a man wearing body paint.

Man and woman on horseback, woman carrying shield, lance, and parfleche

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of man and woman on horseback, woman carrying shield, lance, and parfleche](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 002

Two men with a horse and a woman with a mule

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of two men with a horse and a woman with a mule](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 003

It appears that a brand drawn on the horses left flank was scratched out.

Warrior society meeting

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of warrior society meeting](#)

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of warrior society meeting](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 004

One drawing on two leaves.

Two mounted men carrying shields and lances

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of two mounted men carrying shields and lances](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 005

Hunting scene, with two mounted men with shields, one carrying a headdress, shooting at a pronghorn antelope

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of hunting scene, with two mounted men with shields, one carrying a headdress, shooting at a pronghorn antelope](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 006

Victory dance, with women dancing, wearing headdresses and carrying lances and men playing handdrums

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of victory dance, with women dancing, wearing headdresses and carrying lances and men playing handdrums](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 007

Four mounted men
1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of four mounted men](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 008

Man meeting two women outside a tipi, with tracks connecting figures to wall tent

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of man meeting two women outside a tipi, with tracks connecting figures to wall tent](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 009

One drawing on two leaves. One woman wearing a painted buffalo robe and a cradleboard and a man wearing a buffalo robe. Shield on stand behind tipi.

Five men wrapped in blankets standing in front of a painted tipi; one man with crooked lance

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of five men wrapped in blankets standing in front of a painted tipi; one man with crooked lance](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 010

Three men riding horses, carrying shields and lances

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men riding horses, carrying shields and lances](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 011

Three mounted men wearing face and body paint and carrying shields

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three mounted men wearing face and body paint and carrying shields](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 012

Three men on horseback, with two carrying firearms and the third carrying a shield and a lance

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men on horseback, with two carrying firearms and the third carrying a shield and a lance](#)

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men on horseback, with two carrying firearms and the third carrying a shield and a lance](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 013

One drawing on two leaves. One woman wearing a painted buffalo robe and a cradleboard and a man wearing a buffalo robe. Shield on stand behind tipi.

Mounted Indian scouts in uniform

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of mounted Indian scouts in uniform](#)

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of mounted Indian scouts in uniform](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 014

One drawing on two leaves. One woman wearing a painted buffalo robe and a cradleboard and a man wearing a buffalo robe. Shield on stand behind tipi.

Three mounted men wearing headdresses and carrying lances

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three mounted men wearing headdresses and carrying lances](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 015

People bringing in the center pole for the Sun Dance ceremony

1 Drawing

[Image\(s\): Anonymous Kiowa drawing of people bringing in the center pole for the Sun Dance ceremony](#)

Notes: NAA MS 98-54 016