



Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

MS 2002-28 Kiowa calendar on canvas

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 2002-28 Kiowa calendar on canvas
<b>Date:</b>	1862-1901
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS2002-28
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Item (pictorial calendar, 77 drawings ; graphite and colored pencil on canvas; 4 x 84 inches)
<b>Language:</b>	No linguistic content; Not applicable .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): MS 2002-28 Kiowa calendar on canvas</a>
<b>Container:</b>	Box 2002-28

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

This calendar was purchased by the Smithsonian in March 2002 from Historical Artifacts, Inc. of Gerryowen, Montana. They had acquired it through Butterfield's Auction House in 2000, consigned from the private collection of Rex Arrowsmith, an Indian art dealer. It was misidentified as a Sioux pictograph drawing from the 1890s, based on the accompanying history published in the Butterfield's catalog: "This pictograph was obtained from the family of Indian Agent Charles Lyman Ellis. Mr. Ellis was a Federal Indian Agent and spent most of his career working with the Sioux in South Dakota, first arriving there in 1904." It is not known whether this piece actually came from Ellis or whether his name was associated with the object erroneously.

### Processing Information

The collection record is based on information presented in:

Greene, Candace S. and Russell Thornton. *The Years the Stars Fell: Lakota Winter Counts at the Smithsonian*. University of Nebraska Press, 2007.

### Preferred Citation

MS 2002-28 Kiowa calendar on canvas, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of a calendar with 77 entries drawn on a piece of coarse cotton cloth with one selvedge edge and one edge machine hemmed. The entries begin near one end of the strip and move from left to right in a staggered linear sequence, stopping well short of the opposite end. Summer and winter entries alternate, with the register of summer entries drawn above the register of winter entries. A green forked pole accompanies pictures for summers when the Medicine Lodge ceremony was held. A yellow diamond outlined in blue indicates winter seasons.

The calendar covers the period between 1862 and 1901. No information is known about the original production of this calendar.

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.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 2002-28

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## 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:

Calendars  
Pictographs  
Works of art

Places:

North America