



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to MS 2367-a Red Horse pictographic account of the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 1881

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
Names and Subjects .....	
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 2367-a Red Horse pictographic account of the Battle of the Little Bighorn
<b>Date:</b>	1881
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS2367A
<b>Creator:</b>	Red Horse (Artist) McChesney, Charles E. (Collector)
<b>Extent:</b>	42 Drawings (visual works) (graphite, colored pencil, and ink; laminated; 24 x 36.25 inches)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): MS 2367-a Red Horse pictographic account of the Battle of the Little Bighorn</a>

---

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

They drawings were made at the Cheyenne River Agency in 1881 and subsequently deposited in the Bureau of [American] Ethnology by Charles E. McChesney. Correspondence regarding their production is located in the Records of the Bureau of American Ethnology Correspondence series.

### Related Materials

The National Anthropological Archives also holds:

MS 2367-b Red Horse's Account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, Montana, June 25, 1876, in Gesture-Signs, to illustrate the Syntax of the Sign-Language of the North American Indians.

### Preferred Citation

MS 2367-a Red Horse pictographic account of the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 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.

## Biographical Note

Red Horse was a chief of the Miniconjou division of the Lakota. He fought in the 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn, and in 1881 he gave one of the few detailed accountings of the event.

---

## Biographical Note

Dr. Charles E. McChesney was an Army physician based at Fort Bennet, Dakota Territory in 1881.

---

## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of forty-two (42) drawings made by Red Horse at the request of Dr. Charles E. McChesney. The drawings served as illustrations to accompany Red Horse's account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn, which McChesney recorded in support of Garrick Mallery's study of Plains sign language. The drawings are numbered 0-41 (Number 27 is now missing). The collection also includes a one-page note about the drawings by McChesney and a newspaper article about the collection.

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

NAA MS 2367-a

OPPS NEG 46999 A-K

OPPS NEG 47000 A-L

OPPS NEG 47001 A-K

OPPS NEG 72-3915 CN-72-3955 CN

---

## Publication Note

Map and Numbers 5, 8, 12, 16, 27 (now missing), 30, 32, 39, and 41 were published in:

Mallery, Garrick. "Picture Writing of the American Indians," *Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology* 10. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1893. Plates 39-48.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Little Big Horn, Battle of the, Mont., 1876

Minneconjou Lakota (Minniconjou Sioux)

Cultures:

Minneconjou Lakota (Minniconjou Sioux)

Types of Materials:

Ledger drawings

Maps

Pictographs

Works of art

Places:

Montana

North America

## Container Listing

Folder 1	Map of Little Bighorn battlefield 1 Drawings (visual works) <a href="#">Image(s): Red Horse map of Little Bighorn battlefield</a> Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 00 NAA INV 08567900 OPPS NEG 46999 B/W OPPS NEG 76-5028 OPPS NEG 72-3915 CN Map depicts battlefield, tipis, rivers, mountains, Cheyenne Agency, and Fort Buford.
Folder 1	Cavalry approaching Little Bighorn 1 Drawings (visual works) Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 01 NAA INV 08583200
Folder 1	Cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn 1 Drawings (visual works) <a href="#">Image(s): Red Horse drawing of cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn</a> Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 02 NAA INV 08568000 OPPS NEG 46999B B/W OPPS NEG 72-3917 CN
Folder 2	Cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn 1 Drawings (visual works) <a href="#">Image(s): Red Horse drawing of cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn</a> Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 3 NAA INV 08568100 OPPS NEG 4699C OPPS NEG 765597 OPPS NEG 72-3918 CN
Folder 2	Cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn 1 Drawings (visual works) <a href="#">Image(s): Red Horse drawing of cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn</a> Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 06 NAA INV 08568200 OPPS NEG 4699C B/W OPPS NEG 765575

OPPS NEG 765576

Folder 2 Cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of cavalry troops on horseback at Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 05  
NAA INV 08568300  
OPPS NEG 46999D B/W  
OPPS NEG 765571  
OPPS NEG 765572  
OPPS NEG 72-3920 CN

Folder 3 View of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of view of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 06  
NAA INV 08568400  
OPPS NEG 72-3921 CN

Folder 3 View of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367 - 07  
NAA INV 08583300  
OPPS NEG 46999E B/W  
OPPS NEG 765588  
OPPS NEG 72-3923 CN

Folder 3 View of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of view of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367 - 08  
NAA INV 08568500  
OPPS NEG 72-3922 CN  
OPPS NEG 72-3921 CN

Folder 4 View of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of view of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 09  
NAA INV 08568600  
OPPS NEG 46999F B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3924 CN

Folder 4 View of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of view of tipi camp at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 10  
NAA INV 08568700  
OPPS NEG 72-3925 CN

Folder 4 Warriors charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 11  
NAA INV 08568800  
OPPS NEG 72-3926 CN

Folder 5 Warriors charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 12  
NAA INV 08568900  
OPPS NEG 46999G B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3927 CN

Folder 5 Warriors charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A -13  
NAA INV 08583400  
OPPS NEG 46999H B/W  
OPPS NEG 765579  
OPPS NEG 72-3928 CN

Folder 5 Warriors charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 14  
NAA INV 08569000  
OPPS NEG 46999J B/W  
OPPS NEG 765592  
OPPS NEG 72-3929 CN

Folder 6 Warriors charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn



1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Red Horse drawing of Indians charging U.S. soldiers at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)

Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 15  
NAA INV 08569100  
OPPS NEG 46999K B/W  
OPPS NEG 765586  
OPPS NEG 72-3930 CN

Folder 6

Warriors fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Red Horse drawing of Indians fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)

Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 16  
NAA INV 08569200  
OPPS NEG 47000 B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3931 CN

Folder 6

Warriors fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Red Horse drawing of Indians fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)

Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 17  
NAA INV 08569300  
OPPS NEG 47000A B/W  
OPPS NEG 765589  
OPPS NEG 72-3932 CN

Folder 7

Warriors fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Red Horse drawing of Indians fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)

Notes: NAA MS 2367 - 18  
NAA INV 08569400  
OPPS NEG 47000B B/W  
OPPS NEG 765596  
OPPS NEG 72-3933 CN

Folder 7

Warriors fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn

1 Drawings (visual works)

Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 19  
NAA INV 08583500  
OPPS NEG 47000C B/W  
OPPS NEG 765567

OPPS NEG 765568  
OPPS NEG 72-3934 CN

Folder 7 Warriors fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians fighting Custer's troops at Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 20  
NAA INV 08569500  
OPPS NEG 47000D B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3935 CN

Folder 8 Dead cavalry horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry horses](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 21  
NAA INV 08569600  
OPPS NEG 72-3936 CN

Folder 8 Dead cavalry horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry horses](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367 - 22  
NAA INV 08569700  
OPPS NEG 72-3937 CN

Folder 8 Dead cavalry horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 23  
NAA INV 08583600  
OPPS NEG 72-3938 CN

Folder 9 Dead cavalry horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry horses](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 24  
NAA INV 08569800

Folder 9 Dead cavalry horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry horses](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 25  
NAA INV 08569900  
OPPS NEG 4700F B/W

OPPS NEG 72-3940 CN

Folder 9                      Dead warriors killed by Custer's troops  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead Indians killed by Custer's troops](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 26  
                                    NAA INV 08570000  
                                    OPPS NEG 47000G B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3941 CN

Folder 10                     Dead warriors killed by Custer's troops  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 28  
                                    NAA INV 08583700  
                                    OPPS NEG 47000H B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765587  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3942 CN

Folder 10                     Dead warriors killed by Custer's troops  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead Indians killed by Custer's troops](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 29  
                                    NAA INV 08570100  
                                    OPPS NEG 47000J B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765594  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3943 CN

Folder 10                     Dead warriors killed by Custer's troops  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead Indians killed by Custer's troops](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 30  
                                    NAA INV 08570200  
                                    OPPS NEG 47000K B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765600  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3944 CN

Folder 11                     Dead cavalry  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 31  
                                    NAA INV 08570300  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001 B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3945 CN

Folder 11                      Dead cavalry  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 32  
                                    NAA INV 08570400  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001A B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765603  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3946 CN

Folder 11                      Dead cavalry  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 33  
                                    NAA INV 08583800  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001B B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765565  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3947 CN

Folder 12                      Dead cavalry  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 34  
                                    NAA INV 08570500  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001C B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765569  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3948 CN

Folder 12                      Dead cavalry  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of dead cavalry](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 35  
                                    NAA INV 08570600  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001D B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765602  
                                    OPPS NEG 72-3949 CN

Folder 12                      Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes:                      NAA MS 2367A - 36  
                                    NAA INV 08570700  
                                    OPPS NEG 47001E B/W  
                                    OPPS NEG 765591

OPPS NEG 72-3950 CN

Folder 13 Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 37  
NAA INV 08570800  
OPPS NEG 47001F B/W  
OPPS NEG 76558  
OPPS NEG 72-3951 CN

Folder 13 Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 38  
NAA INV 08570900 OPPS NEG 47001G B/W  
OPPS NEG 765581  
OPPS NEG 72-3942 CN

Folder 13 Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 39  
NAA INV 08571000  
OPPS NEG 47001H B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3953 CN

Folder 14 Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Red Horse drawing of Indians leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 40  
NAA INV 08571100  
OPPS NEG 47001J B/W  
OPPS NEG 72-3954 CN

Folder 14 Warriors leaving the Battle of Little Bighorn  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Notes: NAA MS 2367A - 41  
NAA INV 08583900  
OPPS NEG 47001K B/W  
OPPS NEG 765593  
OPPS NEG 72-3955 CN

Folder 15

Note and Clipping