



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to Sun Dance Camp Circle of
the Kiowa and Apache Indians during
the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Sun Dance Camp Circle of the Kiowa and Apache Indians during the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867
Date:	1896
Identifier:	NAA.MS245079
Creator:	Mooney, James, 1861-1921
Extent:	1 Drawings (visual works) (graphite and ink; 23 x 24 inches)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Sun Dance Camp Circle of the Kiowa and Apache Indians during the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867
Container:	Folder 245079

Administrative Information

Provenance

The diagram was transferred from Bureau of American Ethnology to the United States National Museum through W. H. Holmes on March 18, 1904 (USNM Accession 42,431). It was subsequently transferred from the object collections of the Department of Anthropology to the National Anthropological Archives in 1969.

Related Materials

The National Anthropological Archives holds additional material related to James Mooney's Kiowa research. Another drawing of a Kiowa Sun Dance camp circle is held by the NAA in MS 3298.

The Department of Anthropology object collections holds related model painted tipis in Accession 43421.

Preferred Citation

Sun Dance Camp Circle of the Kiowa and Apache Indians during the Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867 (MS 245079), 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

James Mooney (1861-1921) was an American ethnographer whose research focused on Native North Americans. Most of his knowledge of anthropology and ethnography was self-taught, largely through his field experience working with various Native communities. In 1885, Mooney began working for the Smithsonian Institution's Bureau of American Ethnology (BAE) under John Wesley Powell. There, he carried out ethnographic research for more than 30 years.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of a diagram by James Mooney depicting 238 numbered tipis arranged for the 1867 Sun Dance encampment of the Kiowa. The drawing was made for use in a proposed exhibition of miniature painted tipis for the Smithsonian Institution at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904. The exhibit as proposed was never completed, although a scaled-down version was presented at the Exposition.

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 245079

NAA INV 08599900

USNM Accession 43431

Publication Note

The drawing is reproduced in:

Ewers, John C.. *Murals in the Round: Painted Tipis of the Kiowa and Kiowa-Apache Indians*. Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1978, fig. 3.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Kiowa
Plains Apache (Naisha/Kiowa Apache)

Cultures:

Kiowa
Plains Apache (Naisha/Kiowa Apache)

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Works of art

Places:

Kansas
North America