



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

MS 2560 Field notes on Arapaho and
Gros Ventre culture and languages

National Anthropological Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents	1
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 2560 Field notes on Arapaho and Gros Ventre culture and languages
Date:	1899-1901
Identifier:	NAA.MS2560
Creator:	Kroeber, A. L. (Alfred Louis), 1876-1960
Extent:	29 Notebooks
Language:	Arapaho Atsina Besawunena Nawathinehena

Administrative Information

Provenance

Received in 1914 as a donation from Alfred L. Kroeber together with Manuscript 2622, a set of card slips.

Related Materials

Kroeber's extensive collection of card slips for linguistic analysis, sent at the same time, are cataloged as NAA MS2622.

Citation

Manuscript 2560a Arapaho and Manuscript 2560b Gros Ventre, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Scope and Contents

Original field notebooks from work among the Southern Arapaho in Oklahoma Territory, the Northern Arapaho in Wyoming, and the A'aninin or Atsina (Gros Ventre) in Montana. Contains extensive language material and notes on culture, including notes on acquisition of material culture now in the collection of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. In addition to language material on Arapaho and Gros Ventre, there are notes on two other Arapahoan languages, Besawunena and Nawathinehena (see Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 13, pp. 74-76.). Annotations by Kroeber indicate that notes on Assinboine were removed before the remaining books were sent to the BAE.

In 1914, Alfred Kroeber described the material he was transferring as follows: Nos. 1-14 are from work with the Southern Arapaho in 1899. Nos. 15-20 were not assigned. Nos. 21-22, 24-28 are from work with the Northern Arapaho in 1900. Numbers 41-47 and 49 are from work with the Gros Ventre in 1901.

Also 120 page typescript on Arapaho dialects and five copies of relevant letters regarding transfer of the material. These have been assigned Nos. 29 and 30, but are not part of the original series of field notebooks.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 2560

Local Note

Collection previously titled NAA MS 2560a-b "Grammatical sketch of the Arapaho language and of the Gros Ventres; Arapaho dialects 1916-1920." Title revised October 12, 2011.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- A'aninin (Gros Ventre)
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Inunaina (Arapaho)
- Language and languages -- Documentation

Cultures:

- A'aninin (Gros Ventre)
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Inunaina (Arapaho)

Container Listing

Southern Arapaho - Oklahoma, 1899

1) linguistics, general fieldnotes, dance societies (includes some Cheyenne information), 1899

2) linguistics, general fieldnotes, 1899

3) linguistics, general fieldnotes, notes on painting of Ghost Dance dress, 1899

4) linguistics, fieldnotes especially regarding Crow Dance and Ghost Dance, notes on material culture, 1899

5) linguistics, general fieldnotes, marriage customs, "mescal" [Peyote] ceremony, 1899

6) linguistics, fieldnotes, especially regarding Sun Dance, 1899

7) fieldnotes on material culture, possibly not acquired, although last pages include accounts, 1899

8) fieldnotes on material culture, including account for items purchased for the American Museum of Natural History, 1899

9) linguistics, including narratives in Arapaho with interlinear translation, fieldnotes, 1899

10) linguistics, including narratives in Arapaho with interlinear translation, fieldnotes, 1899

11) fieldnotes on material culture, including items purchased for American Museum of Natural History, notes on Sewing Society, 1899

12) linguistics, fieldnotes on material culture, including items purchased for American Museum of Natural History, 1899

13) fieldnotes, including on material culture, Sun Dance, Sewing Society, 1899

14) fieldnotes, including on Crow Dance, notes on material culture acquired for American Museum of Natural History, 1899

Northern Arapaho - Wyoming, 1900

21) fieldnotes on Sun Dance, notes on material culture acquired, linguistics, 1900

22) fieldnotes on Sun Dance, notes on material culture acquired for the American Museum of Natural History, 1900

24) narratives in English with occasional Arapaho insertions, notes on material culture acquired, 1900

25) narratives in English with occasional Arapaho insertions, from various sources, 1900

26) fieldnotes, including on materials acquired, 1900

27) narratives in English with occasional Arapaho insertions, from Shakespeare's mother, 1900

28) linguistics, noted as produced working with Cleaver Warden at Ft. Washakie, 1900, 1900

29) typescript for publication by A.L. Kroeber, "Arapaho Dialects," ca. 1900

Notes: Published in University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, vol.12, no. 3, 1916.

30) correspondence between Kroeber and the BAE regarding transfer of manuscript material, ca. 1900

A'aninin or Atsina (Gros Ventre) - Montana, 1901

41) linguistics, including narratives with interlinear translation, fieldnotes, 1901

Notes: The early pages in the notebook have been removed, followed by a note: "Previous to this: cut out Assiniboine notes."

42) linguistics, 1901

43) linguistics, 1901

44) notes on items purchased for the American Museum of Natural History, 1901

Notes: Some annotated with American Museum of Natural History catalog numbers, including a dance outfit from Bill Jones. Front of book annotated with note: "For Spec 1-4, Assiniboine, see book 41" midpoint "For specimens 203-222, Assiniboine, see book 48."

45) linguistics, including narratives with interlinear translation, 1901

46) fieldnotes, linguistics, notes on materials acquired for the American Museum of Natural History, 1901

Notes: Includes narratives with interlinear translation, some from Black Wolf and Paul Plumage.

47) fieldnotes, including narratives in English from Flea, Bill Jones, Bull Robe,
and White and Yellow Cow, 1901

49) narratives in English from Bill Jones, Black Bird, Watches All (old woman),
and Flea, 1901