



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## MS 2776 Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 2776 Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma
<b>Date:</b>	1912-1913
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS2776
<b>Creator:</b>	Michelson, Truman, 1879-1938 Longbone, Silas (Informant) Elk Hair (Informant) Veix, Mr. (Informant) Veix, Mrs. (Informant) Caleb, Mr (Informant) Plake, Mrs (Informant) Eliot, Mr. (Informant) Caleb, Rufus (Informant) Samuel, Joab (Informant) Spooner, Mrs. (Informant)
<b>Extent:</b>	170 Pages
<b>Language:</b>	In Delaware, Munsee, and English.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a> <a href="#">Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma</a>

[Digital Content: Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas  
and the Delaware in Oklahoma](#)

[Image\(s\): MS 2776 Truman Michelson field notes from the Munsee in Kansas  
and the Delaware in Oklahoma](#)

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Manuscript 2776, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

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## Scope and Contents

Ethnological and linguistic notes collected by Truman Michelson during his fieldwork among the Munsee in Kansas and the Delaware in Oklahoma in 1912. Also letters received in 1913 from Silas Longbone, one of the Delaware with whom Michelson worked closely. The majority of the notes are on the Delaware, and include Delaware stories in English. According to Ives Goddard, most of the information was provided by Elk Hair, the last great Delaware ceremonialist. Longbone served as an interpreter.

Contents of Delaware files: F.1) Letters from Silas Longbone, Dewey. Oklahoma, January 10, 1913. 5 pages; F.2) Ethnological notes. Longbone, informant. 3 pages; F.3) Legend. 8 pages; F.4) Doll Dance. 11 pages. Notes on small sheets, 2 pages; F.5 ) Delaware linguistic notes. 4 unnumbered pages. Text with interl. translation. 8 pages. Notes on small sheets, 5 pages. (17 pages total); F.6) Notes from Elk Hair. December 12 [1912] 11 pages; F.7) [Story of Delawares and White People] 10 pages; F.8) "Doctoring. Otter Skin Dance, ritualistic origin." 9 pages. Plus small sheet numbered "2". (10 pages.); F.9) Story of Wehixamokas, "the Delaware Sampson." Possibly from Longbone, with comments at end by Silas and Elkhair. 21 pages; F.10) Delaware Meeting House. Elk Hair, age 62. English text. 18 and 1 page (Also 3 pages notes on small sheets, possibly unrelated.); F.11) Miscellaneous ethnological and linguistic notes, apparently Delaware of Oklahoma. 8 pages.

Contents of Munsee files: F.12) "Munsee notes," ethnological and linguistic. Informants: Mr and Mrs Veix, Mr Caleb, Mrs Plake, Mr Eliot, Rufus Caleb, Joab Samuel, Mrs Spooner. 6 and 6 and 1 plus 3 pages. (16 pages total); F.13) [Munsee. Mrs Plake mentioned as 1 inft.] Text with interlinear English translation. 10 pages. Vocabulary and other linguistic notes, 9 unnumbered pages and pages numbered 2-8. (26 pages, total)

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## Bibliography

This field work is referred to in 34th Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology. (Washington, 1922), page 16.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 2776

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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:

Delaware language  
Ethnology  
Language and languages -- Documentation  
Linguistics  
Munsee language

Types of Materials:

Correspondence  
Field notes  
Folklore  
Manuscripts  
Narratives