



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Wohaw drawing of camp scene

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Wohaw drawing of camp scene
Identifier:	NAA.MS30747
Date:	ca. 1855-1877
Creator:	Wohaw, 1855-1924 Pratt, Richard Henry, 1840-1924 (Annotator)
Extent:	1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and watercolor; 12 x 18 cm.)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Pratt, R H Capt

Citation

Manuscript 30747, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Biographical / Historical

Wohaw, also known as Wo-Haw, Beef, Gu hau de, and Wolf Robe, was a Kiowa born in 1855. He was accused of being a combatant in the Red River War of 1874 and 1875. On October 3, 1874, he surrendered at the Cheyenne-Arapaho Agency at Darlington, Indian Territory. He was transferred to Ft. Sill, where he was held in the guard house. He was among the Kiowa warriors who were subsequently imprisoned at Ft. Marion in San Augustine, Florida. Following his release in 1878, Wohaw returned to the Indian Territory, arriving in Anadarko on May 1, 1878. He served in the Indian Police between 1879 and 1880 and in Troop L of the 7th U.S. Cavalry from 1891 to 1895. He was a member of the Ohomah society and is believed to have been an adherent of the Ghost Dance and Peyote religions. Wohaw died in Oklahoma in 1924. For further biographical information on Wohaw see Karen Daniels Petersen, *Plains Indian Art from Fort Marion*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1971 and Moira Harris, *Between Two Cultures: Kiowa Art from Fort Marion*, Pogo Press, 1989.

Biographical / Historical

Richard Henry Pratt had a long and varied military career, beginning as a soldier in the Civil War and participating in the Indian wars on the frontier. It was his work on the frontier that sparked Pratt's lifelong interests in the American Indian and spurred him to develop his infamous education system devoted to "civilizing" American Indian peoples. It was Pratt's Belief that the American Indian, although leading a savage and uncivilized life, was fully capable of being educated and absorbed into American society. Pratt gained support for this view when he commanded a group of seventy-two Indian prisoners at St. Augustine, Florida, in 1875. While at Fort Marion, Pratt encouraged the prisoners to draw and produce works of art, which

he often collected and sold as tourist souvenirs. Some of the drawings he collected were later donated to museums around the country including the Smithsonian Institute and the Yale Library. Information on Pratt taken from <http://webtext.library.yale.edu/xml2html/beinecke.PRATT.con.html>. For more information about Richard Henry Pratt, see his autobiography *Battlefield and Classroom; Four Decades with the American Indian, 1867-1904*, 1964, New Haven: Yale University Press.

Biographical / Historical

Fort Marion, also known as Castillo de San Marco, is a stone fortress in St. Augustine, Florida. Between 1875 and 1878, seventy-two prisoners from the southern plains were incarcerated in the fort. Captain Richard Pratt supervised the prisoners during their incarceration at Fort Marion. The prisoners consisted of 27 Kiowas, 33 Cheyennes, 9 Comanches, 2 Arapahos, and a single Caddo. With the exception of one Cheyenne woman, all the prisoners were men. They had been accused of participating in the recent Red River War, earlier hostilities, or both. With the exception of the wife and daughter of one of the Comanche men, the prisoners families were not allowed to accompany them to Fort Marion. For further information on Fort Marion see Karen Daniels Petersen, *Plains Indian Art from Fort Marion*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1971 and Richard Pratt, *Battlefield and Classroom*, ed. by R. M. Utley, Yale University Press, 1964.

Scope and Contents

The manuscript consists of one drawing of a Kiowa camp with painted tipis. It is inscribed on the verso "Drawn by Wohaw Kiowa." It is from a set of 12 drawings donated by Captain Richard Pratt. Three of the drawings are now in the NAA (MS 30,740, 30,747, and 30,750) and 8 are now in the Graphic Arts collection of the National Museum of American History. The location of the twelfth drawing is not known.

Local Numbers

OPPS NEG 92-11407
NAA INV 08500200
NAA MS 30747

Place

United States Florida Fort Marion.

Album Information

MS 30747

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Kiowa

Cultures:

Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Kiowa

Types of Materials:

Ledger drawings

Names:

Fort Marion artists