



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

MS 3924-b Research related to
facsimiles of Navajo sand paintings

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 3924-b Research related to facsimiles of Navajo sand paintings
Date:	1938
Identifier:	NAA.MS3924B
Creator:	Newcomb, Franc Johnson Klah-Tso (Artist) Ah dith don hie (Informant) Begay, Segony (Informant) Nez, Hatile (Informant) Tsas, Hosteen (Informant) Kai-tsosie (Informant) Klee-ni-kodie (Informant) Toh-d-chini Navaho (Informant) Bitsees-tsoi, Nahtanie (Informant) Yellowhair (Informant) Stirling, Matthew Williams, 1896-1975 (Addressee)
Extent:	122 Pages 2 Items (pencil sketches) 1 Drawings (visual works) 6 Photographs
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

The sand paintings referred to are a series of 28 facsimiles drawn in 1905-1912 by Klah-tso or Hostin Claw and donated to the Bureau of American Ethnology in 1935 by Mrs Charles D. Walcott; these are referred to in the notes by Bureau of American Ethnology negative Number. Received from Franc J. Newcomb (Mrs A. J. Newcomb), Newcomb, New Mexico, July-October, 1938. (Transmittal correspondence filed with Manuscript Number 4867.)

Provenance

Previously titled "Navaho Ethnographic notes."

Other Archival Materials

For the facsimiles of the sand paintings by Klah-tso, please see Manuscript 138501.

Available Formats

Negative microfilm on file.

Citation

Manuscript 3924-b, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Scope and Contents

Contains several kinds of information from 8 named informants, including informants, including interpretations of sand paintings, stories and legends, accounts of ceremonies, and autobiographical sketches of informants. (See also Manuscript Number 4435 which contains more of the same collected in January-June, 1939.)

Scope and Contents

Folder contents: Manuscript 3924-b Folder 1 Copy of letter of Franc J. Newcomb to M. W. Stirling, September 8, 1938. Newcomb, New Mexico. (Original not found in Bureau of American Ethnology files.) Folder 2 Informant- Ah dith don hie Autobiography of Ah dith don hie; "Female Red Ant Ceremony"; "The Red Ant Story"; photo of informant. Folder 3 Informant- Ad dith don hie List of "Medicines for the Red Ant Ceremony", "Myth belonging to the Red Ant Ceremony", Part II; pencil and crayon drawing of "Red Ant Kewthawns"; photo of informant. Folder 4 Segony Begay At "White Cone" trading-post; "Bay-e-coitsa Eka" (sand painting); "Clo-holth-nai Eka" (sand painting); "Legend of the Feather Chant"; photo of informant. Folder 5 Informant- Hatie Nez "Shaking Hand Rite", August 1938; "Star Gazing Rite"; "The Smoke Rite"; "Cactus Painting from the Navajo Wind Chant"; The Listening Ceremony"; photo of informant. Folder 6 Informant Hosteen Tsas Sand painting negative number 2457-b-28, no name, part of Night Chant; "Dancers" (sand painting), part of Yeibachi ceremony; and "Dy-ah-kahgie-Eka" (sand painting). Folder 7 Informant- Kai-tsosie "Big Star Painting". Folder 8 Informants- Klee-ni-kodie and Toh-d-chini "The Na'atoe (Nahtoie)"; short biographies of the informants; "Cleet-tso-Eka" (sand painting); "Snake People Painting"; description of 13 other sand paintings and their interpretation; photo of the informants.

Scope and Contents

Folder 9 Informant- Nahtanie Bitsees-tsoi (Yellowhair) Short biography of Yellowhair; "Legend of the Na'atoie", July 11, 1938; "The Twins" (legend and related sand painting); ten descriptions of other sand paintings; photo of the informant. Folder 10 Informant unknown "Navajo Wind Chant", explanations for sand paintings including pencil sketches of two paintings.

Scope and Contents

Photos with the following OPPS Negative numbers 748029-748034 are in this manuscript but have not been inventoried.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 3924-b

Local Note

The sand painting facsimiles referred to are USNM Catalog Numbers 377,450-377,476 (Accession Number 138,501). The Bureau of American Ethnology negative Numbers are 2457-B-1--27.

Local Note

typescript document

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Ceremonies -- Navaho
- Diné (Navajo)
- Folklore -- Navaho
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Language and languages -- Documentation
- Navaho
- Sand paintings -- Navaho

Cultures:

- Diné (Navajo)
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New

Types of Materials:

- Autobiographies

Names:

- Klee-ni-kodie Navaho
- Toh-d-chini Navaho