



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Guide to MS 39-a Book of drawings by an  
unidentified Cheyenne artist at Fort Marion, Florida

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 39-a Book of drawings by an unidentified Cheyenne artist at Fort Marion, Florida
<b>Date:</b>	1875 August
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS39A
<b>Creator:</b>	Unknown (Artist) Fort Marion artists (Artist) Pratt, Richard Henry, 1840-1924 (Annotator)
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Volume (disbound and laminated; 21 drawings on 23 leaves; graphite and colored pencil; 10.75 x 8.25 inches)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): MS 39-a Book of drawings by an unidentified Cheyenne artist at Fort Marion, Florida</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The book was originally collected by the U.S. War Department; it is stamped "Ordnance Office, Rec'd. Sep. 15, 1875; War Dept. Museum." It was transferred to the collection of the U.S. National Museum in November 1877 and entered into the Anthropology department catalog as no. 30,664, where it was recorded as collected by Lt. Emmett Crawford, USA. The book was transferred from the object collections of the Department of Anthropology to the National Anthropological Archives in 1969.

### Processing Information

The original identification of the artist as Making Medicine based on the inscription is in error, based on comparison to other known examples of the artist's work, including MS 39B. Re-identified as anonymous Cheyenne artist by Candace Greene, 2002. Drawing titles are taken from the inscriptions on the drawings. The archivist assigned titles to drawings without inscriptions; assigned titles are in square brackets [].

### Preferred Citation

MS 39-a Book of drawings by an unidentified Cheyenne artist at Fort Marion, Florida, 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.

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## Historical Note

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 under supervision of Lt. Richard Pratt. 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.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of an artist's sketchbook, now disbound and laminated, containing scenes of daily life, dances, hunting, and a picture of birds. Individual leaves are numbered 1 through 23. The cover of the drawing book is inscribed in pencil "Drawn by Making Medicine, Cheyenne Prisoner, St. Augustine, Fla. Aug. 1875." Inscriptions on individual leaves are by the same hand, probably Lt. Richard Pratt.

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.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 39A

USNM Catalog 30664

PPS NEG 55,025 - 55,046

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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:

Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)

### Cultures:

Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)

### Types of Materials:

Drawings  
Ledger drawings  
Works of art

Places:

Florida -- Fort Marion  
North America

## Container Listing

- Box 39A, Folder 1      Hunting Buffalo  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of four mounted Indians hunting buffalo](#)  
Notes:                NAA MS 39A 001  
                             NAA INV 08547001  
                             OPPS NEG 55025  
                             OPPS NEG 55025A  
                             Depicts four men carrying bone quirts, rifles, bows, and arrowa, one  
                             with a lion paw bow case and quiver, riding horses, and chasing a  
                             buffalo herd, including two calves; one buffalo wounded and dying.
- Box 39A, Folder 1      On the War Path  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of four mounted Indians hunting buffalo](#)  
Notes:                NAA MS 39A 002  
                             NAA INV 08547002  
                             OPPS NEG 55026  
                             OPPS NEG 55026A  
                             Depicts six warriors wearing face paint, feathers, full feathered, or  
                             weasel tail headdress; war shirts; carrying painted shields and lances;  
                             one man with spear; one with saber; riding horses with tail ties.  
                             Inscription reads: "On the war path."
- Box 39A, Folder 1      A Buffalo in Camp  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of comic scene of men subduing a  
wounded buffalo in midst of a camp with ornamented tipis](#)  
Notes:                NAA MS 39A 003  
                             NAA INV 08547003  
                             OPPS NEG 55027  
                             OPPS NEG 55026B  
                             A comic scene of men subduing a wounded buffalo in the midst of a  
                             camp of ornamented tipis. Inscription reads: "A buffalo in camp."
- Box 39A, Folder 1      Hunting Antelope  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of man hunting pronghorn antelope, with  
turtle and turkey tied to saddle on waiting mule](#)  
Notes:                NAA MS 39A 004  
                             NAA INV 08547004  
                             OPPS NEG 55028  
                             OPPS NEG 55028A

A man hunting a pronghorn antelope, with a turtle and a turkey tied to a saddle on a waiting mule. Inscription reads: "hunting antelope."

Partially reproduced in:

Mallery, Garrick. "Picture Writing of the American Indians." *Tenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Smithsonian Institution, 1888-'89*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1893. Fig. 1196, p. 718.

Box 39A, Folder 1 [Man on horseback hunting buffalo]  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of man on horseback hunting buffalo](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 005  
NAA INV 08547005  
OPPS NEG 55029  
OPPS NEG 55029A

Box 39A, Folder 2 Deer Hunting  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of men on horseback hunting deer](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 006 NAA INV 08547006  
OPPS NEG 55030  
OPPS NEG 55030A  
Men on horseback hunting deer. Inscription reads: "Deer hunting."

Box 39A, Folder 2 Wild Horses  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of two stallions fighting over a mare](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 007  
NAA INV 08547007  
OPPS NEG 55031  
OPPS NEG 55031A  
Two stallions fighting over a mare. Inscription reads: "Wild horses."

Box 39A, Folder 2 A Counter Charge  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
[Image\(s\): Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of hunter falling from horse gored by wounded buffalo](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 008  
NAA INV 08547008  
OPPS NEG 55032  
OPPS NEG 55032A  
A hunter falling from a horse gored by a wounded buffalo. Inscription reads: "A Counter Charge."

Box 39A, Folder 2 Medicine Dance

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of three dancers in ceremonial regalia, two identified by name glyphs](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 009

NAA INV 08547009

OPPS NEG 55033

OPPS NEG 55033A

Three dancers in ceremonial regalia, two identified by name glyphs. Inscription reads: "Medicine dance."

Box 39A, Folder 2

Killing an elk

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of mounted hunter pursuing wounded elk](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 010

NAA INV 08547010

OPPS NEG 55034

OPPS NEG 55034A

A mounted hunter pursuing a wounded elk. Inscription reads: "Killing an elk."

Box 39A, Folder 2

At Play

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of two buffalo locking horns with yellow-headed buffalo birds on their backs and on ground](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 011

NAA INV 08547011

OPPS NEG 55035

OPPS NEG 55035A

Two buffalo locking horns with yellow-headed buffalo birds on their backs and on the ground. Inscription reads: "At play."

Box 39A, Folder 3

Fowls of Ind[ian] T[erritory]

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of different species of birds](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 012

NAA INV 08547012

OPPS NEG 55036

OPPS NEG 55036A

Different species of birds. Inscription reads: "Fowls of Ind. Ty."

Box 39A, Folder 3

A Dance

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of soldier society members wearing face paint and holding lances and dancing, with painted tipis in background](#)



Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of soldier society members wearing face paint and holding lances and dancing, with painted tipis in background](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 013  
NAA INV 08547013  
NAA INV 08547014  
OPPS NEG 55037  
OPPS NEG 55037A  
OPPS NEG 55038  
OPPS NEG 55038A

One drawing on two leaves. Soldier society members wearing face paint and holding lances and dancing, with painted tipis in background. Inscriptions read: "A dance" and "The Dance Cont'd."

Box 39A, Folder 3

Pursued Pursuing  
1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of a man on horseback preparing to attack wounded bear chasing another man on horseback](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 014  
NAA INV 08547015  
OPPS NEG 55039  
OPPS NEG 55039A

A man on horseback preparing to attack a wounded bear chasing another man on horseback. Inscription reads: "Pursued pursuing."

Box 39A, Folder 4

Sparking  
1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of courting scene with decorated tipi nearby](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 015  
OPPS NEG 55040  
OPPS NEG 55040A  
NAA INV 08547016

Courting scene with a decorated tipi nearby. Inscription reads: "Sparking."

Box 39A, Folder 4

After the Turkeys  
1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of three men hunting flock of turkeys](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 016  
OPPS NEG 55041  
OPPS NEG 55041A  
NAA INV 08547017

Three men hunting a flock of turkeys. Inscription reads: "After the Turkeys."

Box 39A, Folder 4 [Buffalo hunting]  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of mounted hunter pursuing buffalo](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 017 NAA INV 08547018  
OPPS NEG 55042  
OPPS NEG 55042A  
A mounted hunter pursuing a buffalo.

Box 39A, Folder 4 Medicine Lodge and Dance  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of Sun Dance ceremony, with dancers in ritual regalia shown inside medicine lodge in center of tipi camp with spectators outside](#)  
Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of Sun Dance ceremony, with dancers in ritual regalia shown inside medicine lodge in center of tipi camp with spectators outside](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 018  
NAA INV 08547019  
NAA INV 08547020  
OPPS NEG 55043  
OPPS NEG 55043A  
One drawing on two leaves. Sun Dance ceremony, with dancers in ritual regalia shown inside the medicine lodge in center of a tipi camp with spectators outside. Inscriptions read: "Medicine lodge" "and dance."

Box 39A, Folder 4 Dancing and Wrestling for the Turkey  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of scene in tipi camp with two men wrestling and row of spectators, including men with hand drums](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 019  
NAA INV 08547021  
OPPS NEG 55044  
OPPS NEG 55044A  
A scene in a tipi camp with two men wrestling and row of spectators, including men with hand drums. The tipis are painted and ornamented with quillwork. Inscription reads: "Dancing and wrestling for the turkey."

Box 39A, Folder 4 [Incomplete sketch of men marching]  
1 Drawings (visual works)  
Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne unfinished drawing of six men, four with weapons, marching in row](#)  
Notes: NAA MS 39A 020  
NAA INV 08547022

Unfinished drawing of six men, four with weapons, marching in row.

Box 39A, Folder 4

Moving

1 Drawings (visual works)

Image(s): [Anonymous Cheyenne drawing of group of mounted men, some carrying folded umbrellas or fans, two possibly engaged in horse race](#)

Notes: NAA MS 39A 021

NAA INV 08547023

OPPS NEG 55046

OPPS NEG 55046A

A group of mounted men, some carrying folded umbrellas or fans, two possibly engaged in a horse race. Inscription reads: "Moving."

Box 39A, Folder 5

[\[Book covers and museum tag\]](#)

Notes: Includes the covers of the drawing book and the War Department Museum tag.