



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of Natural History*

MS 4656 Book of anonymous Kiowa drawings

National Anthropological Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 4656 Book of anonymous Kiowa drawings
<b>Date:</b>	ca. 1875-1877
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS4656
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Drawing (volume of 14 drawings (8 leaves; graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Book of anonymous Kiowa drawings</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The drawings were created at Fort Marion sometime between May 21, 1875 and March 31, 1877. The book was obtained by Dr. Guy Fairfax Whiting, whose daughter Julia Whiting of Middleburg, Virginia, donated it to the Bureau of American Ethnology in February 1963. The donation was made through Dr. Richard Howland, Department of Civil History, Smithsonian Institution. Although Mrs. Whiting maintained that her father had collected the drawings on a buffalo hunting trip in the western United States, this story is not consistent with the book's Fort Marion origin.

### Available Formats

On microfilm negative reel 32.

### Citation

Manuscript 4656, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

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## 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.

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## Scope and Contents

Book of 14 drawings on 8 leaves of unruled paper in a commercial drawing book. The book was rebound by the Bureau of American Ethnology and the original covers are no longer visible. Drawings depict hunting, travelling, and camp scenes. The inside front cover is inscribed "Drawn by Buffalo Meat". The inside back cover is inscribed "Soaring Eegle [sic]". Buffalo Meat and Soaring Eagle were among the Cheyenne men imprisoned at Fort Marion. Although both men were artists, the drawings in this book are Kiowa, not Cheyenne, based on examination of content.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 4656

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## Local Note

Although the drawings were originally cataloged as Cheyenne by Buffalo Meat, neither Candace Greene nor Karen Daniels Petersen agree with this attribution. They note that the drawings can be identified as Kiowa based on elements of clothing, as well as shield and tipi designs. Furthermore, Greene compared the drawings with other works by Buffalo Meat and determined that they do not correspond with the artist's style. Both Greene and Petersen note that the drawings are the work of at least two artists. The inside of the front cover is inscribed, "Drawn by Buffalo Meat, Cheyenne." Petersen notes that the handwriting matches an inscription written inside the cover of MS 39-b, a drawing book that is known to have been collected at Fort Marion by George Fox, who inscribed the cover and captioned the drawings. (Candace Greene and Mike Jordan compared the inscriptions in MS 4656 and MS 39-b and agree that the handwriting is the same.) George Fox worked as an interpreter at Fort Marion until March 26, 1877. Consequently, the book dates between May 21, 1875, the date the prisoners arrived at Fort Marion, and March 26, 1877, the date George Fox departed.

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## Place

United States Florida Fort Marion.

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## Album Information

MS 4656 000

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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:

- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Kiowa
- Language and languages -- Documentation

Cultures:

Indians of North America -- Great Plains  
Kiowa

Types of Materials:

Ledger drawings

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## Container Listing

Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men and one woman hunting pronghorn antelope, ca. 1875-1877

1 Drawing (2 leaves; graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

[Image\(s\)](#)

[Image\(s\)](#)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08680100

NAA INV 08680200

NAA MS 4656

Drawing also contains branded horses and a fox or wolf.

MS 4656 009

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men with dogs hunting a buffalo bull, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08680300

NAA MS 4656

Drawing depicts a man who has roped a buffalo bull. Two men, one armed with a bow and the other with a knife, attack the buffalo. The men are accompanied by two dogs, one of which bites the buffalo.

MS 4656 010

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of mounted man roping one of four horses, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08680400

NAA MS 4656

MS 4656 011

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

Anonymous Kiowa drawing of women and men standing beneath shades, ca. 1875-1877

1 Drawing (2 leaves; graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

[Image\(s\)](#)

Image(s)

Language: English.  
Notes: NAA INV 08680500  
NAA INV 08680600  
NAA MS 4656  
OPPS NEG 55090  
Drawing depicts seven men wrapped in blankets, nine women and a lance. Blankets hung over ropes suspended between two poles may represent a shade.  
MS 4656 012  
Genre/Form: Ledger drawings  
Culture: Kiowa  
Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of two women standing between two painted lodges, with a lance hanging on a pole located between the women, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.  
Notes: NAA INV 08680700  
NAA MS 4656  
Tipi design appears to be tipi with tail pictures.  
MS 4656 014  
Genre/Form: Ledger drawings  
Culture: Kiowa  
Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of a man horseback hunting elk with bow, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.  
Notes: NAA INV 08680800  
NAA MS 4656  
MS 4656 015  
Genre/Form: Ledger drawings  
Culture: Kiowa  
Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of three men and three women standing beneath blankets hung from a rope suspended between two poles, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.  
Notes: NAA INV 08680900  
NAA MS 4656  
The drawing depicts two men with tomahawks.  
MS 4656 016  
Genre/Form: Ledger drawings  
Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of man and woman riding horses and leading a pack animal that is carrying a parflech, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679600

NAA MS 4656

OPPS NEG 75-11140

MS 4656 003

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of man and woman with horse nearby, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679400

NAA MS 4656

Drawing depicts a military coat, peace medal, and a horse with a brand.

MS 4656 001

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of two men firing at herd of buffalo with revolvers, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679500

NAA MS 4656

MS 4656 002

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

[Anonymous Kiowa drawing of four Indian men in military coats with epaulets and peace medals, ca. 1875-1877](#)

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679700

NAA MS 4656

MS 4656 004

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains



Anonymous Kiowa drawing of five women and a man carrying a tomahawk,  
ca. 1875-1877

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679800

NAA MS 4656

MS 4656 005

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

Anonymous Kiowa drawing of four men on horseback carrying lances riding  
past four painted tipis, ca. 1875-1877

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08679900

NAA MS 4656

Painted tipi is the Tail Picture Tipi.

MS 4656 006

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains

Anonymous Kiowa drawing of tipi camp spread out along branching tree-lined  
streams, hills in the background, ca. 1875-1877

1 Drawing (graphite, colored pencil, and crayon; 21 x 29 cm.)

Language: English.

Notes: NAA INV 08680000

NAA MS 4656

Drawing depicts nine painted tipis.

MS 4656 007

Genre/Form: Ledger drawings

Culture: Kiowa

Indians of North America -- Great Plains