



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

MS 794-b Wintun myths and legends

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

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| Repository: | National Anthropological Archives |
| Title: | MS 794-b Wintun myths and legends |
| Identifier: | NAA.MS794B |
| Date: | ca. November 1880 |
| Extent: | 205 Pages |
| Creator: | Powell, John Wesley, 1834-1902 |
| Language: | In English. |

Administrative Information

Available Formats

Both parts of this file filmed (together) for University of California, Berkeley, 4/60. No negative in National Anthropological Archives.

Citation

Manuscript 794-b, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Scope and Contents

Partly in Powell's handwriting, most in hand of a clerk. Also 21 pages vocabularies and notes in Powell's hand, apparently Wintun, found with Curtin's Karok myths (Number 269) and added to this file (4/60).

Scope and Contents

Contents (In Powell's hand) 1 page. Introduction 49 pages. Numklactawa creates the Sacramento River 9 pages. Hot, the Great Musician 7 pages. Vegetal food provided 5 pages. Light and Darkness 10 pages. [Ages of the Wintuns] 3 pages. Thunder and Lightning 2 pages. The Wind Maker 1 page. The Origin of the Rainy Season 3 pages. Sed-it is caught in a tree: a Tar-baby Story 8 pages. Ber-rit- the Giant of Mt. Shasta 2 pages. Blue-jay, the Medicine Woman 2 pages. The Buzzard aspires to the Chief 7 pages. The Comet-Goddess 1 page. Whirlwinds 1 page. Wak-porc, the God of Fire 8 pages. Wo-mul-num-kai-a, the Red-headed Woodpecker 6 pages. To-ri-has, the Bald Eagle 3 pages. The Great Magician 8 pages. Bul-ti-hok, the Screech Owl 1 page. Tul-tcu-her-ris 9 pages. [No-dal-mo-no-ko, an orphan] 11 pages. Lightning and Thunder & other stories (Powell's hand) 23 pages. [Ka-het, the Monster Bat] 1 page. Portion of paper (?) pages 17, 32, and 38 to 50 incl. (Powell's hand) 3 pages. Notes on medicine, word lists, list of Indians from whom Wintun Mythology was procured, etc. One sheet is dated November 12, 1880 7 pages. 204 pages total.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 794-b

Local Note

Note: The second part of this file is incorrectly listed in Harvey Pitkin's Wintun bibliography, International Journal of American Linguistics, Volume 28, Number 1, 1962, page 47 at the end of entry 48 (Manuscript 269 by Curtin) instead of at the end of entry 47 (Manuscript 794-b).

Other Title

Numklactawa creates the Sacramento River

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No-dal-mo-no-ko, an orphan

Other Title

Lightning and Thunder & other stories

Other Title

Ka-het, the Monster Bat

Other Title

Kol-chi-bi-chi the Magician

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Folklore -- Wintun
Indians of North America -- California
Language and languages -- Documentation
Wintu
Wintun

Cultures:

Indians of North America -- California
Wintu
Wintun