



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Lantern slides of Ferdinand Pettrich sculptures related to Native Americans, 1927

NAA Staff

2015

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Lantern slides of Ferdinand Pettrich sculptures related to Native Americans
Date:	1927
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.20
Extent:	28 Lantern slides (28; lantern slides)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

Donated by the Department of Anthropology of the Catholic University of America in 1956 as part of USNM ACC 211312. They were originally cataloged by Father John Montgomery Cooper, who may have received them from Zelia Marie Magdalena Nuttall. In 1927, Nuttall was planning to write a biography of Pettrich and persuaded the president of The Catholic University of America to obtain photographs of his work.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Lithographs of Pettrich sketches are held in National Anthropological Archives MS 4886.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional artifacts donated by the Department of Anthropology, Catholic University of America in USNM ACC 211312 held in the Department of Anthropology collections and in National Anthropological Archives Photo lot 32.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Copies of correspondence from Pettrich held in the Archives of American Art in the Joel Roberts Poinsett letters from artists and Ferdinand F. A. Pettrich letters to Henry Wise.

Available Formats

Digital surrogates exist for all lantern slides.

Preferred Citation

Photo lot 20, Lantern slides of Ferdinand Pettrich sculptures related to Native Americans, 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.

Biographical Note

Ferdinand Pettrich (1798-1872) was born in Dresden, Germany, and first learned sculpting practices from his father, a court sculptor for the King of Saxony. After moving to Rome at age 21, he studied under the Danish sculptor and teacher Albert B. Thorvaldsen. Following this education, Pettrich traveled to America with his wife in 1835, and opened a studio in Washington, D.C. There, he sculpted busts for politicians and visiting Native American delegates and may have made sketches depicting facets of the life and history of various tribes. Some of those sketches were later used to compose his statues. In 1942, Pettrich was stabbed, and moved to recuperate in Brazil, where he worked as court sculptor for Emperor Dom Pedro II. He later returned to Rome, where he presented his sculptures of Native American subjects to the Museum of St. John Lateran in the Vatican.

Scope and Contents

Photographs of statues, busts, and reliefs in the Vatican's Museo Missionario Etnologico. Included are portraits of Creek, Dakota, Fox, Sauk, Shawnee, and Winnebago people, as well as scenes of scalping, hunting, and a council between Native Americans and United States government officials.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 20

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Fox
- Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Indians of North America -- Northeast
- Indians of North America -- Southern states
- Muscogee (Creek)
- Sauk
- Shawnee
- Sioux

Cultures:

- Fox
- Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Muscogee (Creek)
- Sauk
- Shawnee
- Sioux

Names:

Black Hawk, approximately 1832-approximately 1890
Cooper, John M. (John Montgomery), 1881-1949
Keokuk, Sauk chief, 1780?-1848
Museo missionario etnologico (Vatican City)
Nuttall, Zelia, 1858-1933
Pettrich, Ferdinand, 1798-1872
Tecumseh, Shawnee Chief, 1768-1813

Addl. KW Subj

Sauk & Fox

Sioux

Creek (Muskogee)

Meskwaki; Sauk & Fox