



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Photographs and microfilm of Paul Kane
paintings and sketchbook, undated

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National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Photographs and microfilm of Paul Kane paintings and sketchbook
Date:	undated
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.4428
Creator:	Kane, Paul, 1810-1871
Extent:	1 Copy negative (acetate) 1 Roll (microfilm) 84 Copy prints
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

Purchased from the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology, Toronto in October 1954.

Location of Originals

Original paintings and sketchbook held by the Royal Ontario Museum.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Photographs previously filed in Photo Lot 4427, have been relocated and merged with Photo Lot 4428. These are photographs of paintings by Kane in the Royal Ontario Museum and were donated with the photographs of sketches already filed in this collection.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs of paintings by Kane held in National Anthropological Archives MS 4642 and the BAE historical negatives.

Contained in

Numbered manuscripts 1850s-1980s (some earlier)

Other Finding Aids

Inventory of paintings available in repository.

Preferred Citation

Photo Lot 4428, Photographs and microfilm of Paul Kane paintings and sketchbook, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Restrictions: Publication rights granted to Bureau of American Ethnology or Smithsonian Institution staff members for use of small selections of the material; collection not to be published in its entirety. Royal Ontario Museum wishes to be informed when and where illustrations are used. Persons outside the Smithsonian Institution must obtain publication permission as well as photographic prints from the Royal Ontario Museum; the Smithsonian may not make copy negatives for the general distribution of prints.

Biographical Note

Paul Kane (1810-1871) was born in Ireland and emigrated to Toronto (then called York) when he was nine. He worked as a decorative furniture painter before turning to portrait painting and studying art at centers throughout Europe. Inspired by George Catlin's paintings documenting the Plains Indians, Kane set out on an expedition from Fort William (Thunder Bay) to Fort Vancouver to document the peoples of the Northwest. From 1845-1848, Kane traveled amongst tribes of the Great Plains, Pacific Northwest, and elsewhere, sketching and describing his experiences in a journal. When Kane returned to Toronto, he published "Wanderings of an artist among the Indians of North America" (1859) and made over 100 paintings based on his journal sketches, commissioned by George William Allen. The entire Allen collection was later purchased by Sir Edmund Osler and donated to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

Scope and Contents

Photographs of sketches and paintings made by Paul Kane in 1845-1856, including portraits and scenes of camps, dances, and a buffalo hunt, relating to the Ojibwa, Ottawa, Menominee, Potawatomi, Eastern Sioux, Cree, Assiniboine, Chinook, Cowlitz, Clallam, Cowichan and Babine. The sketchbook, of which the microfilm may be incomplete, includes many of the same subjects as the paintings, as well as artifacts, scenic views and scenes from Kane's studies in Europe. The collection also includes a photostat of the catalog published in Kane's "Wanderings of an Artist..." and a typed list of the captions for the sketches.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 4428, NAA Photo Lot 4427

Reproduction Note

Copy prints and microfilm made by the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- American bison
- Anishinaabe (Chippewa/Ojibwa)
- Assiniboine (Stoney)
- Camps

Chinook
Cowichan
Cowlitz
Cree
Dance
Hunting
Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Indians of North America -- Northeast
Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Indians of North America -- Subarctic
Klallam (Clallam)
Menominee (Menomini)
Odawa (Ottawa)
Painting
Potawatomi
Sioux

Cultures:

Anishinaabe (Chippewa/Ojibwa)
Assiniboine (Stoney)
Chinook
Cowichan
Cowlitz
Cree
Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Indians of North America -- Northeast
Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Indians of North America -- Subarctic
Klallam (Clallam)
Menominee (Menomini)
Odawa (Ottawa)
Potawatomi
Sioux

Types of Materials:

Photographs

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Ottawa (Odawa)
Clallam (Klallam)
Assiniboin; Assiniboine
Sioux (Eastern)
Chippewa
Babine