Bureau of American Ethnology photograph albums of Native Americans, 1858-1905

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection Overview</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Information</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Call Number(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents note</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical/Historical note</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangement note</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Names and Subjects</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collection Overview

Repository: National Anthropological Archives
Title: Bureau of American Ethnology photograph albums of Native Americans
Identifier: NAA.PhotoLot.60
Date: 1858-1905
Extent: 16 Albums (albumen and platinum)
Creator: Smithsonian Institution. Bureau of American Ethnology
Language: Undetermined.

Administrative Information

Provenance
Albums found in a laboratory of the Arts and Industries Building of the Smithsonian Institution, circa 1950s.

Location of Other Archival Materials
The National Anthropological Archives also holds the Bureau of American Ethnology records and the BAE historical negatives, as well as Dinwiddie photographs of the W. J. McGee expeditions are held in (Photo Lot 89 and Photo Lot 144), Charles Milton Bell photographs (Photo Lot 80), and additional photographs by most photographers represented in this collection (Photo Lot 59 and Photo Lot 90-1).

See others in
Bureau of American Ethnology photograph albums of Native Americans, 1858-1905

Other Finding Aids
Preliminary description is available with the collection. Draft inventory is available in repository.

Preferred Citation
Photo lot 60, Bureau of American Ethnology photograph albums of American Indians, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions
The collection is open for research.
Access to the collection requires an appointment.
Biographical Note

The Bureau of American Ethnology was founded in 1879 in part as a result of the federal geological surveys and under the administration of the Smithsonian Institution. Under the directorship of John Wesley Powell (1879-1902), the BAE supported field research by its staff and collaborators, initiated several anthropological publications, and supported the growth of the anthropological discipline, particularly as it related to Native Americans. In addition to its research and publications program, it developed a manuscript repository, library, and an illustrations section that included (in addition to the preparation of artwork for publications) photography and a photographic collection. The BAE commissioned studio portraits of visiting Indian delegates and hired De Lancey Gill served as the its official photographer and illustrator from the 1890s to 1930.

Scope and Contents

Photograph albums prepared by the Bureau of American Ethnology or the photographic lab, possibly for reference purposes by staff. The use of such albums has been mentioned by BAE photographer De Lancey W. Gill. The albums contain photographs made from the Bureau of American Ethnology's collection of negatives, documenting Apache, Arapaho, Assiniboin, Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Cocopa, Dakota, Flathead, Fox, Iowa, Kalispel, Kiowa Apache, Nez Perce, Omaha, Osage, Ponca, Santa Clara, Sauk, Shoshoni, Spokane Tonkawa, Wichita, and Winnebago people. The bulk of the photographs are studio portraits, made at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition in Omaha in 1898 or during delegation visits to Washington, DC. There are also other photographs made during Victor Mindeleff's work in Chaco Canyon, and on W J McGee's expedition to Sonora, Mexico, in 1900.

Photographers include Charles Milton Bell, William Dinwiddie, Alexander Gardner, De Lancey W. Gill, John K. Hillers, William Henry Jackson, Frank Albert Rinehart, Wells Moses Sawyer, Antonio Zeno Shindler, Victor or Cosmos Mindeleff, Julian Vannerson with Samuel A. Cohner. Included are negative numbers formerly used by BAE, but the National Anthropological Archives also annotated them with current negative numbers.

Arrangement

Titles of the albums are (1) Omaha and Winnebago; (2) miscellaneous; (3) Sauk and Fox; (4) miscellaneous; (5) Arapaho and Cheyenne; (6) Chiricahua, San Carlos, and Apache; (7) Sauk and Fox; (8) Osage, Shoshoni and Nez Perce, Siouan, Oto; (9) Santa Clara and Flathead; (10) Ponca; (11) Sauk and (12) Wichita and Kiowa Apache; (13) Cocopa; and (14) Assiniboine and Blackfoot

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 60
Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Apache
Assiniboine (Stoney)
Cocopa
Fox Indians
Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
Indians of North America -- Great Basin
Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Indians of North America -- Northeast
Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Indians of North America -- Plateau
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
Inunaina (Arapaho)
Iowa
Kalispel (Pend d'Oreilles)
Niimiiuu (Nez Perce)
Northwest Coast
Omaha
Osage
Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
Ponca
Sauk
Shoshone
Sihasapa Lakota (Blackfoot Sioux)
Sioux
Spokan
Tewa Pueblos
Tonkawa
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
Wichita

Cultures:
Apache
Assiniboine (Stoney)
Cocopa
Fox Indians
Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
Indians of North America -- Great Basin
Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Indians of North America -- Northeast
Indians of North America -- Northwest Coast of North America
Indians of North America -- Plateau
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
Inunaina (Arapaho)
Iowa
Kalispel (Pend d'Oreilles)
Niimiiuu (Nez Perce)
Northwest Coast
Omaha
Osage
Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
Ponca
Sauk
Shoshone
Sihasapa Lakota (Blackfoot Sioux)
Sioux
Spokan
Tewa Pueblos
Tonkawa
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
Wichita

Types of Materials:
Photographs

Names:
Bell, C. M. (Charles Milton), approximately 1849-1893
Cohner, Samuel A.
Dinwiddie, William, 1867-1934
Gardner, Alexander, 1821-1882
Gill, De Lancey, 1859-1940
Hillers, John K., 1843-1925
Jackson, William Henry, 1843-1942
Mindeleff, Cosmos, 1863-
Mindeleff, Victor, 1860-1948
Rinehart, F. A. (Frank A.)
Sawyer, Wells, 1863-1960
Shindler, A. Zeno (Antonio Zeno), 1823-1899
Vannerson, Julian, 1827-

Geographic Names:
Chaco Canyon (N.M.)
New Mexico
Sonora (Mexico : State)

Addl. KW Subj

Assiniboin; Assiniboine
Blackfoot
Dakota, Sioux
Flathead
Meskwaki; Sauk & Fox
Santa Clara
Sauk & Fox
Shoshone
Shoshone
Sauk & Fox
Assiniboin
Sioux
Plains Apache
Meskwaki; Sauk & Fox
Blackfeet