



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of Natural History*

Carlos Montezuma lantern slide collection  
relating to Native Americans, circa 1871-1913

Sarah Ganderup

2015

National Anthropological Archives  
Museum Support Center  
4210 Silver Hill Road  
Suitland 20746  
naa@si.edu  
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Carlos Montezuma lantern slide collection relating to Native Americans
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.PhotoLot.73
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1871-1913
<b>Extent:</b>	171 Lantern slides
<b>Creator:</b>	Montezuma, Carlos, 1866-1923
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Carlos Montezuma lantern slide collection relating to American Indians</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The lantern slides were given by Montezuma's widow, Marie Keller Montezuma (later Moore) and her second husband, Bill Moore to Robert Collester, circa 1940s. They were donated to the Smithsonian by Doris Collester, circa 1961.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Correspondence from Montezuma is held in the National Anthropological Archives in the records of the Bureau of American Ethnology.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Carlos Montezuma's papers are held in the Newberry Library, Roger and Julie Baskes Department of Special Collections; Arizona State University Libraries, Charles Trumbull Hayden Library; and University of Arizona Libraries, Special Collections.

### Other Finding Aids

Inventory and part of Cesare Marino's report on the collection are available in repository.

### Available Formats

Copy negatives and copy prints for some images, made by the Smithsonian, are available with the collection.

### Preferred Citation

Photo lot 73, Carlos Montezuma lantern slide collection relating 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.

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## Biographical Note

Carlos Montezuma (1866-1923, also called Wassaja) was an Native American activist and physician. He was Yavapai, though he often identified himself as Apache. He was captured by Pima Indians at a young age and sold in 1871 to Italian-immigrant and pioneer photographer Carlo (or Charles) Gentile, who adopted the child and took him to New York. Montezuma graduated from the University of Illinois (1884) and received his MD from the Chicago Medical College (1889). He developed a friendship with Richard Henry Pratt, head of the Carlisle Indian School, and took a post as reservation physician for the Bureau of Indian Services. During this time he developed an opposition to BIA policies and became an Native American advocate, speaking out against reservations. He gave numerous lectures on Native Americans at institutions around the United States, helped organize the Society of American Indians, and published a personal newsletter entitled Wassaja (1916-1922). In 1896, Montezuma established a medical practice in Chicago. He died in Arizona in 1923.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection includes hand-colored glass lantern slides collected by Dr. Carlos Montezuma and used for his lectures on Native American rights. Many of the photographs are portraits, some made at Ft. McDowell and Fort Apache. Other images show schools, reservations, dwellings, Charles Dickens (a Yavapai store owner), Montezuma's Castle, Casa Grande, and scenic views. A special series includes photographs made during a 1913 hunting and sightseeing trip that he organized, probably including photographs made by Montezuma's guests, John T. McCutcheon and Charles B. Gibson.

Some of the images were made by Charles (Carlos) Gentile, the photographer and benefactor of Montezuma in his early years. There are also several by Father Peter Paulus Prando and John N. Choate, and one portrait each by Napoleon Sarony and Matthew Brady. Otherwise, the photographers are unidentified.

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## Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 73

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## Varying Form of Title

Carlos Montezuma-Doris Collester Collection of Lantern Slides

## General

The handwriting on the slides has been identified as that of Dr. Carlos Montezuma by John Lerner, the editor of Montezuma's papers. Information in this catalog record has been taken from Cesare Marino, Solving the Mystery: The Carlos Montezuma-Doris Collester Collection of Lantern Slides in the NAA : Report of Background Research and Interview with Mrs. Doris Collester, Donor of the Carlos Montezuma Collection of Hand-tinted Lantern Slides to the Smithsonian Institution, conducted in Williamstown, West Virginia, August 2013.

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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:

- Apache
- Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
- Diné (Navajo)
- Dwellings
- Indians of North America -- Great Basin
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Mojave (Mohave)
- Paiute
- Piipaash (Maricopa)
- Shoshone
- Sioux
- Tohono O'odham (Papago)
- Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
- Ute
- Yavapai

### Cultures:

- Apache
- Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
- Diné (Navajo)
- Indians of North America -- Great Basin
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Mojave (Mohave)
- Paiute
- Piipaash (Maricopa)
- Shoshone
- Sioux
- Tohono O'odham (Papago)
- Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
- Ute
- Yavapai

### Names:

- Brady, Mathew B., approximately 1823-1896

Choate, J. N. (John N.), 1848-1902  
Gentile, Carlo, 1835-1893  
Phoenix Indian School  
Prando, Peter Paul Father  
Sarony, Napoleon, 1821-1896  
United States Indian School (Carlisle, Pa.)

Geographic Names:

Casa Grande (Ariz.)  
Montezuma Castle National Monument (Ariz.)

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Addl. KW Subj

Navaho  
Shoshone  
Sioux  
Papago (Tohono O'odham)