



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of Natural History*

Willis G. Tilton photograph collection of American  
Indians, circa 1880-1930 (bulk 1899-1904)

Sarah Ganderup

2015

National Anthropological Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Willis G. Tilton photograph collection of American Indians
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.PhotoLot.89-8
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1880-1930 bulk 1899-1904
<b>Extent:</b>	685 Negatives (circa; glass and nitrate)
<b>Creator:</b>	Tilton, Willis G.
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The Bureau of American Ethnology purchased these photographs from dealer Willis G. Tilton in 1962.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Photographs in the Tilton Collection, previously filed in Photo Lot 135, have been relocated and merged with Photo Lot 89-8. These photographs were also purchased by the Bureau of American Ethnology from Willis G. Tilton and form part of this collection.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Associated photographs still held in the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Most photographs included in the card catalog of copy negatives and in the reference file prints by tribe.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs by Dorsey held in the National Anthropological Archives in MS 4721 and Photo Lot 24.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Correspondence from Dorsey held in the National Anthropological Archives in MS 4821, records of the Bureau of American Ethnology, the J.C. Pilling Papers, and the Ales Hrdlicka Papers.

## Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs by Nelson held in National Anthropological Archives Photo Lot 171, Photo Lot 133, Photo Lot 24, and the BAE historical negatives.

## Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional Maude photographs held in National Anthropological Archives Photo Lot 90-1 and Photo Lot 24.

## Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional E. E. Hall photographs held in National Anthropological Archives MS 4978 and Photo Lot 24.

## Location of Other Archival Materials

The Smithsonian Institution Archives holds Nelson's field reports (SIA Acc. 97-123) and the Edward William Nelson and Edward Alphonso Goldman Collection (SIA RU007364).

## See others in

Willis G. Tilton photograph collection of American Indians, circa 1880-1930 (bulk 1899-1904)

## Other Finding Aids

Inventory available in repository.

## Available Formats

Most of the photographs have been digitized and digital surrogates are available online. Copy prints are available with the collection.

## Preferred Citation

Photo Lot 89-8, Willis G. Tilton photograph collection of American Indians, 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

Willis G. Tilton was a dealer and owner of the store, Tilton Indian Relics, in Topeka, Kansas.

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## Scope and Contents

Photographs collected by Willis G. Tilton, a dealer in artifacts and photographs relating to American Indians. Many of the photographs were made by Field Columbian Museum photographer Charles Carpenter at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904; many others were created by various photographers for Field Museum publications. Notable subjects include Big Foot, dead in the snow at the Wounded Knee battlefield; Arapaho and Cheyenne social dances; Hopi ceremonies; a reenactment of the shooting of Sitting Bull; Sun Dances (Arapaho, Assiniboin and Atsina, Blackfoot, Cheyenne, Ponca); and views of the United States Indian School Building and Pawnee Indians at the the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, Missouri. Other photographs include portraits and images of artifacts, basket weaving, cradles, dress, dwelling, tipis and other dwellings, and tree burials. There are also some photographs of Henry Field's expedition to Iraq in 1934 (Field museum anthropological expedition to the Near East), work elephants in Burma, Pipestone Quarry in Minnesota, a church in the Yucatan, and a rickshaw and cart in Ceylon.

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## Bibliography

Photographs published in George A. Dorsey, "The Arapaho Sun Dance: the Ceremony of the Offerings Lodge," Field Columbian Museum Publication 75, Anthropological Series, vol. 4, 1903; Dorsey, "The Cheyenne: the Sun Dance," Field Columbian Museum Publication 103, Anthropological Series, vol. 4, no. 2, 1905; Dorsey and H. R. Voth, "The Oraibi Soyal Ceremony," Field Columbian Museum Publication 55, Anthropological Series, vol. 3, no. 1, 1901; Dorsey and Voth, "The Mishongnovi Ceremonies of the Snake and Antelope Fraternities, Field Columbian Museum Publication 66, Anthropological Series, vol. 3, no. 3, 1902; Voth, "The Oraibi Summer Snake Ceremony," Field Columbian Museum Publication 83, Anthropological Series, vol. 3, no. 4, 1903; Voth, "The Oraibi Oaqol Ceremony," Field Columbian Museum Publication 84, Anthropological Series, vol. 6, no. 1, 1903; Dorsey, "The Ponca Sun Dance," Field Columbian Museum Publication 102, Anthropological Series, vol. 7, no. 2, 1905; Voth, "The Oraibi Marau Ceremony," Field Columbian Museum Publication 156, Anthropological Series, vol. 11, no. 1, 1912; J. Eric Thompson, "Ethnology of the Mayas of Southern and Central British Honduras," Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago) Publication 274, Anthropological Series, vol. 17, no. 2, 1930; Thompson, "Archeological Investigations of the SOuthern Cayo District, British Honduras," Field Museum of Natural History (Chicago) Publication 301, Anthropological Series, vol. 17, no. 3, 1931; Thompson, "The Civilization of the Mayas," Chicago Field Museum, Anthropological Leaflet, no. 25, 1927; Edward William Nelson, "The Eskimo about Bering Strait," 18th BAE Annual Report, 1900; John Murdoch, "Ethnological Results of the Point Barrow Expedition," 9th BAE Annual Report, 1892.

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## Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 89-8, NAA Photo Lot 135

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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:

A'aninin (Gros Ventre)  
Apache Indians  
Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)  
Arctic peoples  
Assiniboine (Stoney)  
Chiricahua Apache  
Coast Salish  
Dakota Indians  
Dakota Indians -- depicted  
Eskimos  
Fox Indians  
Haida Indians  
Hopi Indians  
Hunkpapa Indians  
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 -- Southern States  
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New  
Indians of North America -- Subarctic  
Inunaina (Arapaho)  
Iroquois Indians  
Jicarilla Apache  
Kickapoo Indians  
Kootenai Indians  
Kwakiutl Indians  
Mayas  
Navajo Indians  
Niuam (Comanche)  
Oglala Indians  
Patagonians  
Pawnee Indians  
Pikuni Blackfeet (Piegan)  
Ponca Indians  
Potawatomi Indians  
Pueblo Indians  
Rites and ceremonies  
Salish Indians  
Sauk Indians  
Seminole Indians  
Shoshoni Indians  
Sicangu Lakota (Brulé Sioux)  
Sun Dance  
Taos Indians  
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)  
Umatilla Indians  
White Mountain Apache  
Wichita Indians  
Wounded Knee Massacre, S.D., 1890

Cultures:

A'aninin (Gros Ventre)  
Apache Indians  
Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)  
Arctic peoples  
Assiniboine (Stoney)  
Chiricahua Apache  
Coast Salish  
Dakota Indians  
Dakota Indians -- depicted  
Eskimos  
Fox Indians  
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Hopi Indians  
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Indians of North America -- Great Basin  
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Pikuni Blackfeet (Piegan)  
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Pueblo Indians  
Salish Indians  
Sauk Indians  
Seminole Indians  
Shoshoni Indians  
Sicangu Lakota (Brulé Sioux)  
Taos Indians  
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)  
Umatilla Indians  
White Mountain Apache  
Wichita Indians

Names:

Big Foot, -1890  
Dorsey, George A. (George Amos), 1868-1931

Field Museum of Natural History  
Geronimo, 1829-1909  
Gutekunst, Frederick, 1831-1917  
Hall, E. E.  
James, George Wharton, 1858-1923  
Maude, F. H. (Frederic Hamer)  
Nelson, Edward William, 1855-1934  
Thompson, J. Eric S. (John Eric Sidney), 1898-1975  
Voth, H. R. (Henry R.), 1855-1931  
Winternitz, L.

Geographic Names:

Belize  
Fort Belknap Indian Reservation (Mont.)  
Oraibi (Ariz.)

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Addl. KW Subj

Alaskan Eskimo  
Assiniboin; Assiniboine  
Blackfoot  
Flathead  
Kwakiutl (Kwakwaka'wakw)  
Meskwaki; Sauk & Fox  
Mishongnavi  
Oraibi  
Sauk & Fox  
Shoshone  
Sioux