



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Copies of Christian Barthelmess photographs
of American Indians and United States Army

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National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Copies of Christian Barthelmess photographs of American Indians and United States Army
Date:	circa 1876-1898, 1903-1906
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.R87-1
Creator:	Barthelmess, Christian
Extent:	119 Copy negatives
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

Martha Foreman Leonard, the granddaughter of O. S. Gordon, lent the album of original photographs for copying in 1986.

Location of Originals

Originals now in the Thompson Memorial Library at Ohio State University.

Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs by Barthelmess can be found in the National Anthropological Archives in MS 4423, Photo Lot 24, and the BAE historical negatives.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The Dr. Kenneth J. LaBudde Department of Special Collections at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University hold photographs by Barthelmess.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The Montana Historical Society Archives holds the Barthelmess Family Papers, 1926-1971, including a series relating to Christian Barthelmess.

Preferred Citation

Photo Lot R87-1, Copies of Christian Barthelmess photographs of American Indians and United States Army, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

This copy collection has been obtained for reference purposes only. Contact the repository for terms of use and access.

Biographical Note

Christian Barthelmess (1854-1906) was born in Bavaria and immigrated to the United States in the early 1870s. Enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1876, he directed military bands and was an official army photographer. Barthelmess retired from the Army in 1903, but remained post photographer for Fort Keogh until his death in 1906.

Scope and Contents

Photographs from an album compiled by Christian Barthelmess for a fellow soldier, O.S. Gordon. The bulk of the images relate to American Indians and the United States army and include studio portraits; images of dwellings and camps; cowboys; Zuni and Navajo performing daily activities; Cheyenne and Zuni dances; a Cheyenne travois; fishing and hunting parties; and American Indian scouts for the army. There are also scenic views of Colorado, Zuni Pueblo, Santa Fe, Custer (Little Bighorn) Battlefield, Camp Proctor, and Forts Merritt and Keogh. The collection also includes some images from Germany, including images of a German singing club and the Bavarian town of Klingenberg on the Main. One photograph was made by W. J. Carpenter, a Colorado photographer.

Bibliography

Photographs published in Maurice Frink with Casey E. Barthelmess, *Photographer on an Army Mule*, Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1965.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot R87-1

Reproduction Note

Copy negatives made by Smithsonian Institution, 1989.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- A:shiwi (Zuni)
- Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
- Dance
- Diné (Navajo)
- Germans
- Indians of North America -- Great Basin
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Soldiers -- United States

Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
Ute
Weaving

Cultures:

A:shiwi (Zuni)
Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
Diné (Navajo)
Germans
Indians of North America -- Great Basin
Indians of North America -- Great Plains
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
Ute

Types of Materials:

Photographs
Studio portraits

Names:

Carpenter, W. J.
United States. Army. Indian Scouts

Places:

Colorado
Fort Bayard (N.M.)
Fort Keogh (Mont.)
Fort Lewis (Colo.)
Germany
Lame Deer (Mont.)
Little Bighorn Battlefield (Mont.)
Santa Fe (N.M.)

Addl. KW Subj

Navaho