



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

George Hubbard Pepper
photograph collection, 1895-1918

2011

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	George Hubbard Pepper photograph collection
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.001.034
Date:	1895-1918
Extent:	1292 negatives (photographic) 23 Photographic prints (black & white)
Creator:	Pepper, George H. (George Hubbard), 1873-1924
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable
Summary:	George Hubbard Pepper specialized in the study of cultures of the American Southwest and Ecuador. Tribes which he studied are Acoma, Aztec, Blackfeet, Cochiti, Hopi, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Navajo, Picuris, Pojuaque, Puye, San Carlos Apache, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, San Juan, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Taos, Tarascan, Tesuque, Ute, Zia, and Zuni. Photographs in the collection are of an excavation in Tottenville, New York, 1895; Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Cañon, New Mexico: Hyde Expedition, 1896-1900; and expeditions to the occupied Pueblos of the Southwest, 1904; Mexico, 1904, 1906; Guatemala; and Ecuador, 1907. There are also photos which complement a study Pepper did of the technique of Navajo weaving, and miscellaneous scenic and personal photos.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

According to Frederick Dockstader, director of MAI from 1960 to 1975, in a letter dated March 26, 1968, the collection was given to MAI by Pepper. However, the 1965 Annual Report (p. 26) states that the Photographic Department acquired through the donation of Mrs. Jeannette Cameron approximately 500 new negatives pertaining to field work done by her father from 1900-1910; and the 1966 Annual Report (p. 9) states that many papers of Dr. George H. Pepper were acquired through the courtesy of his daughter, Mrs. Jeanette Cameron.

Available Formats

303 negatives have been digitized as of July 2003.

Processing Information

Gayle Yiotis

Restrictions

Access restricted. Researchers should contact the staff of the NMAI Archives for an appointment to access the collection.

Biographical Note

George Hubbard Pepper was born on February 2, 1873 in Tottenville, Staten Island, New York. As a young boy he exhibited a strong interest in archaeology and after his graduating from high school followed encouragement from Prof. Fredric W. Putnam to study at the Peabody Museum of Harvard University, where Pepper stayed from 1895-96. In 1896 he was appointed assistant curator of the Department of the Southwest in the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. From 1896 to 1900, Pepper was a member of the Hyde Exploring Expedition, which conducted excavations at Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. In 1904, he conducted an ethnological survey of the occupied pueblos of the Southwest and at the same time continued his study of the weaving techniques of the Navajo. Pepper also participated in excavations in the yacatas of the Tierra Caliente of Michoacan in Mexico sponsored by George Gustav Heye, and in 1907 he went with Marshall Saville on an expedition to the Province of Manabi in Ecuador, also for Heye. In 1909 Pepper was appointed assistant curator in the Department of American Archaeology at the University Museum of Philadelphia, but after only a year there he joined the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation in New York City, where he stayed until his death. In 1914 he excavated a Munsee cemetery of the historic period near Montague, New Jersey and in the following year he went on the exploration of the Nacoochee mound in the old Cherokee region in Georgia. In 1918 he joined the Hawikku explorations of the Hendricks-Hodge Expedition in New Mexico. Pepper died on May 13, 1924, in New York City. George H. Pepper was a co-founder of the American Anthropological Association, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the American Ethnological Society of New York, a member of the American Folklore Society, and a corresponding member of the Academia Nacional de Historia of Ecuador. A complete bibliography of his works can be found in *Indian Notes*, v. 1, no. 3, July 1924, pp. 108-110. The George Hubbard Pepper Papers are in the Latin American Library, Tulane University Library, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Arrangement

Collection arranged by item number.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Acoma (N.M.)
Aztecs
Cochiti Pueblo
Hopi Indians
Isleta Indians
Jemez Pueblo
Laguna (N.M.)
Nambe Pueblo

Navajo Indians
Picuris (N.M.)
Piegan Indians
Pojoaque pueblo (N.M.)
Puve Pueblo
San Carlos Apache Tribe
San Felipe Pueblo (N.M.)
San Ildefonso (N.M.)
San Juan Pueblo
Sandia Pueblo (N.M.)
Santa Ana Pueblo
Santa Clara Pueblo
Taos Pueblo
Tarasco Indians
Tesuque Pueblo
Ute Indians
Zia Pueblo

Cultures:

Acoma (N.M.)
Aztecs
Cochiti Pueblo
Hopi Indians
Isleta Indians
Jemez Pueblo
Laguna (N.M.)
Nambe Pueblo
Navajo Indians
Picuris (N.M.)
Piegan Indians
Pojoaque pueblo (N.M.)
Puve Pueblo
San Carlos Apache Tribe
San Felipe Pueblo (N.M.)
San Ildefonso (N.M.)
San Juan Pueblo
Sandia Pueblo (N.M.)
Santa Ana Pueblo
Santa Clara Pueblo
Taos Pueblo
Tarasco Indians
Tesuque Pueblo
Ute Indians
Zia Pueblo

Types of Materials:

Negatives
Photographic prints

Geographic Names:

Arizona
Basin
Ecuador

Guatemala
Illinois
Mexico
Montana
New Mexico
New York
Plains
Southwest
Texas
Utah
Zuni (N.M.)