



Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

Field photographs from Seneca Nation  
Reservations in Pennsylvania and New York

Rachel Menyuk

2019

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Museum of the American Indian
<b>Title:</b>	Field photographs from Seneca Nation Reservations in Pennsylvania and New York
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.001.055
<b>Date:</b>	1939 October
<b>Creator:</b>	Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation Stiles, William F., 1912-1980 (Photographer) Keppler, Udo J., 1872-1956 (Photographer) Sinclair, David (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	22 Negatives (photographic)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Photography taken by George Heye, Joseph Keppler, David Sinclair and William Stiles during a trip to the Cornplanter Reservation in Pennsylvania and Onondaga, Allegheny, Cattaraugus, Tuscarora, and Tonawanda Reservations in New York October 1939.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Field collections obtained by the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation in 1939.

### Related Materials

Ethnographic materials obtained during this trip can be found in NMAI's ethnographic collections.

### Processing Information

Processed by Rachel Menyuk, Processing Archivist, in 2019.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Field photographs from Seneca Nation Reservations in Pennsylvania and New York, Item Number; National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

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## Biographical / Historical

In October 1939, George Gustav Heye, director of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation took a trip with Joseph Keppler, William Stiles and David Sinclair to several Iroquois Nation (Seneca) reservations in Pennsylvania and New York. This included the Tonawanda Reservation, Cattaraugus Reservation and Allegany Reservation in Erie County, New York as well as the Cornplanter Reservation in Warren County, Pennsylvania. During this trip many Seneca ethnographic items were obtained, most notably the gift of a log cabin from Nicodemus Bailey (Seneca [Tonawanda]). The cabin (NMAI 20/2211) was reconstructed on the grounds of the MAI Research Branch in the Bronx, New York and Nicodemus Bailey was elected a Life Member of the Museum. See the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, Annual Report (April 1, 1939 to April 1, 1940).

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## Scope and Contents

This collection includes 22 photographic negatives (acetate) made by David Sinclair, William Stiles and Joseph Keppler in October 1939 during a trip in New York and Pennsylvania. The negatives were shot on the Tonawanda Reservation, Cattaraugus Reservation and Allegany Reservation in Erie County, New York as well as the Cornplanter Reservation in Warren County, Pennsylvania. Many of the photographs include images of the log Seneca cabin donated to the Museum of the American Indian by Nicodemus Bailey (Seneca [Tonawanda]), NMAI object number 20/2211. Some of these photograph also feature images of Nicodemus Bailey and his wife Edna Bailey. There are also images of an elm bark tipi made in 1936, NMAI object number 02/6026, views of a monument to Chief Red Jacket in the Forest Lawn Cemetery and views of the Cornplanter Monument on the Cornplanter Reservation. Joseph Keppler is also photographed with Alice White (Seneca) and Mrs. George.

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## Scope and Contents

N21785-N21806.

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## Arrangement

Arranged by catalog number.

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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:

- Iroquois
- Seneca
- Seneca [Allegany]
- Seneca [Cattaraugus]
- Seneca [Tonawanda]

Cultures:

Iroquois  
Seneca  
Seneca [Allegany]  
Seneca [Cattaraugus]  
Seneca [Tonawanda]

Types of Materials:

Negatives (photographic)

Names:

Bailey, Nicodemus  
Heye, George G. (George Gustav), 1874-1957