



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

J.B. Moore copper printing plates

Rachel Menyuk

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National Museum of the American Indian
4220 Silver Hill Rd
Suitland 20746-2863
nmaiarchives@si.edu
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	J. B. Moore copper printing plates
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.073
Date:	1911
Extent:	15 Printing plates
Creator:	Moore, J. B. (John Bradford), 1855-
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .
Container:	Box 1

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The J.B. Moore collection of copper printing plates were donated to the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taylor in 1960.

Processing Information

Processed by Rachel Menyuk, Archives Technician in May 2014.

Preferred Citation

J.B. Moore copper printing plates, 1911. National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

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Biographical / Historical

J. B. (John Bradford) Moore was a trader of Irish origin born in 1855 in Texas. Moore married Marion A.E. Cooney in 1887 and they had one child, Eunice Moore, who was born in Wyoming in 1894. In 1896 Moore traveled to the Narbona Pass, a pass through the Chuska Mountains within the Navajo Nation in New Mexico, and purchased a trading site. He named his establishment the Crystal Trading Post and employed

Navajo weavers to make rugs. Moore's rug business flourished and in 1903 and 1911 he published mail-order catalogs to gain business from all across the United States. The 1911 catalog included illustrations of rug designs as well as photographs of Navajo weavers carding wool, spinning wool, and weaving on looms. In 1911 Moore left the trading post due to scandal and sold the post to his manager Jesse Molohon. Though J.B. Moore's rugs were woven by Navajo artisans many of the patterns were influenced by the popularity of Oriental rug designs at the time.

Scope and Contents

The J.B. Moore copper printing plates include 15 copper plates used in illustrating J.B. Moore's catalog, *The Navajo* (Crystal, Navajo Reservation, New Mexico: J.B. Moore, 1911). The plates depict rugs created by Navajo weavers that J.B. Moore had for sale at his trading post in 1911.

Arrangement

The copper plates are arranged in one box by plate number used in J.B. Moore's publication *The Navajo*.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Diné (Navajo)
Navajo rugs

Cultures:

Diné (Navajo)

Types of Materials:

Copper plates