



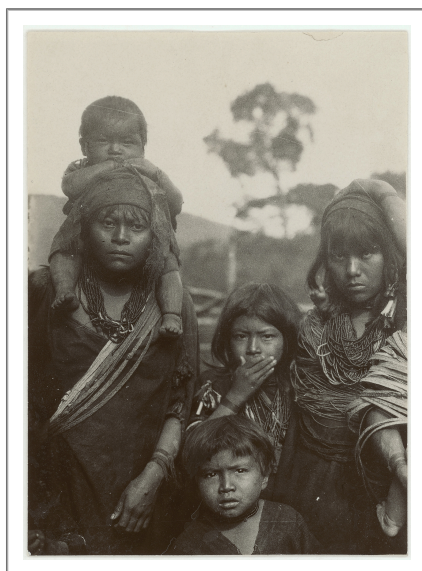
# Smithsonian

*National Museum of the American Indian*

## Ferdinand Anthony Stahl photographs from the Peruvian Amazon

Rachel Menyuk

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National Museum of the American Indian  
4220 Silver Hill Rd  
Suitland, Maryland 20746-2863  
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1400  
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.3038  
nmaiarchives@si.edu  
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Museum of the American Indian
<b>Title:</b>	Ferdinand Anthony Stahl photographs from the Peruvian Amazon
<b>Date:</b>	1925 1928
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAI.AC.141
<b>Creator:</b>	Stahl, Ferdinand Anthony, 1874-1950
<b>Extent:</b>	3 Negatives (photographic) 18 Photographic prints 6 Copy negatives
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Photographic prints and negatives taken by Seventh-day Adventist missionary Ferdinand Anthony Stahl amongst indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon. These include the Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha), Yagua (Yahua) and Amahuaca communities.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Ferdinand A. Stahl in 1927 (N14915-N14917) and part of a 1929 purchase along with ethnographic objects (P07956-P07965). It is unclear when the remainder of the prints (P08614-P08619, P09483-P09484) were acquired by the Museum.

### Related Materials

See Box 307, Folder 7 in the [Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation records \(NMAI.AC.001\)](#) for an original catalog list of Peruvian and Bolivian Artifacts purchased from Stahl by the MAI in 1927.

### Processing Information

Processed by Rachel Menyuk, Processing Archivist, 2020.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Ferdinand Anthony Stahl photographs from Peruvian Amazon, image #, NMAI.AC.141; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Ferdinand Anthony Stahl, 1874-1950, was a Seventh-day Adventist missionary to South America. Along with his wife Ana, Stahl converted to Seventh-day Adventism in 1902 and trained as a nurse at the Battle Creek Sanitarium in Battle Creek, Michigan. In 1909 the Stahls, along with their children, were sent as missionaries to La Paz, Bolivia by the General Conference in order to evangelize the indigenous communities in the area. In 1911, they moved to the Peru side of Lake Titicaca, establishing schools among the Aymara and Quechua communities. In 1920 the Stahls moved from Lake Titicaca to the headwaters of the Amazon in Iquitos, Peru where they established the Metraro Mission Station and launched mission boats downriver. They returned to the United States in 1939.

See "Ferdinand Stahl, Missionary to Peru" Adventist Heritage - Vol. 12, No. 2, summer 1988 by Robert G. Wearnar for more information.

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## Scope and Contents

The majority of the photographs in this collection include portraits of indigenous community members in the Peruvian Amazon taken by Ferdinand Anthony Stahl while on Mission for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Some of the photographs include images of Ferdinand Stahl and his wife Ana posing with community members and it is unclear who the photographer was for these images. The photographs were shot in 1925 and 1928 in the Ucayali (Atalaya Province), Junin (Chanchamayo Province) and Loreto regions in Peru. The bulk of the photographs were taken among the Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) and includes images of women weaving; group portraits along the Río Perené with canoes; as well as posed group portraits in front of the Stahl's Mission. There are also photographs of Yagua (Tahua) tribal members posed in traditional dress.

Negatives include N14915-N14917. Prints include P07956-P07965, P08614-P08619, P09483-P09484. Copy negatives include N36121-N36124, N36262-N36263. The copy negatives were created by the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation (NMAI's predecessor museum).

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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:

Amahuaca

Amazonia  
Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)  
Indians of South America -- Peru  
Missionaries  
Missions -- Peru -- Photographs  
Peru  
Yagua (Yahua)

Cultures:

Amahuaca  
Amazonia  
Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)  
Indians of South America -- Peru  
Yagua (Yahua)

## Container Listing

	<p>N14915: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving, 1925-1928</a> 1 Negatives (photographic) Notes: Portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman seated in a thatched shelter weaving with a backstrap loom. She is sitting on a woven mat and is surrounded by other members of her community. The photograph was taken either in Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province or by the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Same image as P07960. Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
	<p>N14916: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving, 1928</a> 1 Negatives (photographic) Notes: Portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving with a backstrap loom. She is seated on the ground outside a thatched roof structure in Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province, Peru. Likely the same woman in N14917. Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
	<p>N14917: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving, 1928</a> 1 Negatives (photographic) Notes: Portrait from behind of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving with a backstrap loom. She is seated on the ground outside in Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province, Peru. Likely the same woman in N14916. Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P07956: Yagua (Yahua) group portrait, 1925 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor group portrait of Yagua (Yahua) men, women and children in Río Napo, Loreto Region, Peru. Ferdinand A. Stahl stands in the center of the group. Same image as P07959. Culture: Yagua (Yahua)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P07957: Yagua (Yahua) group portrait, 1925 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor group portrait of Yagua (Yahua) men, women and children in Río Napo, Loreto Region, Peru. Same image as P07958. Culture: Yagua (Yahua)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P07958: Yagua (Yahua) group portrait, 1925 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor group portrait of Yagua (Yahua) men, women and children in Río Napo, Loreto Region, Peru. Same image as P07957. Culture: Yagua (Yahua)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P07959: Yagua (Yahua) group portrait, 1925</p>

	<p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor group portrait of Yagua (Yahua) men, women and children in Río Napo, Loreto Region, Peru. Ferdinand A. Stahl stands in the center of the group. Same image as P07956.</p> <p>Copy Negative: N36121</p> <p>Culture: Yagua (Yahua)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P07960: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman weaving, 1925-1928</a></p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) woman seated in a thatched shelter weaving with a backstrap loom. She is sitting on a woven mat and is surrounded by other members of her community. The photograph was taken either in Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province or by the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Same image as N14915.</p> <p>Copy Negative: N36122</p> <p>Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P07961: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group with canoe, 1925</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing and sitting by a canoe along the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Ferdinand and Ana Stahl stand to the left with a young Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) girl, possibly Chave, or Helen, who was adopted by the Stahls. Same image as P07962.</p> <p>Copy Negative: N36123</p> <p>Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P07962: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group with canoe, 1925</a></p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing and sitting by a canoe along the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Ferdinand and Ana Stahl stand to the left with a young Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) girl, possibly Chave, or Helen, who was adopted by the Stahls. Same image as P07961.</p> <p>Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P07963: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group portrait, 1925</a></p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of large Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing and sitting in front of wooden structure near the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Ferdinand and Ana Stahl stand center. A young man, possibly their son Wallace, stands beside the Stahls.</p> <p>Copy Negative: N36124</p> <p>Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P07964: <a href="#">Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group portrait, 1925</a></p> <p>1 Photographic print</p>

Notes: Outdoor portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing in front of thatched structure near the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Ferdinand Stahl stands to the left.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 2

P07965: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) group portrait, 1925](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Outdoor portrait of a large Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing and sitting in front of a large wooden structure near the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. Ferdinand Stahl stands to the left.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 3

P08614: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) group with Ferdinand and Ana Stahl, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) men and women standing next to Ferdinand and Ana Stahl and pointing to a large mountain (unseen) along the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru. They are telling the Stahls of a tribe of "Watcharingas who wanted to know about the true God [caption]."

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 3

P08615: [Ferdinand Stahl greeting Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) group, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Ferdinand Stahl greeting an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group near the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 3

P08616: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) man, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Outdoor portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) man wearing a traditional headdress and a shoulder sash made from black and white seeds near the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 3

P08617: [Amahuaca man and woman, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Portrait of an Amahuaca man and woman standing outdoors near the Wahamba River in the Ucayali Region, Peru.

Copy Negative: N36262

Culture: Amahuaca

Photo-folder 3

P08618: [Ferdinand Stahl with Southwestern Amazonian group, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Ferdinand Stahl standing with a Southwestern Amazonian group in front of a large wooden structure near the Ucayali River, Peru.

Copy Negative: N36263

Culture: Southwestern Amazonia

Photo-folder 3

P08619: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) group, circa 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Outdoor portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) group standing in front of the mission on the Río Perené in La Merced, Chanchamayo Province, Peru.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 4

P09483: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) women weaving., 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Portrait of Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) women and children weaving with a backstrap loom. They are seated on the ground outside Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province, Peru.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)

Photo-folder 4

P09484: [Asháninka \(Campa/Chuncha\) family, 1928](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Group portrait of an Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha) family in the Río Urubamba and Río Tambo junction (Río Ucayali), Atalaya Province, Peru. They all wear necklaces made of black seeds.

Culture: Asháninka (Campa/Chuncha)