



Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian

Huron H. Smith photograph collection

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2020

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Huron H. Smith photograph collection
Date:	1921-1924
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.145
Creator:	Smith, Huron H. (Huron Herbert), 1883-1933
Extent:	26 Photographic prints 11 Copy negatives
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection includes photographs made by Huron H. Smith during his ethnobotanical studies among Native communities in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota between 1921 and 1924. These include photographs made among the Menominee (Menomini), Minnesota Chippewa [Mille Lacs and Leech Lake], Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin], Ho-Chunk (Winnebago), Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) on the Mesquakie Indian Settlement in Tama, Iowa.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Charles Schoewe in 1932.

Related Materials

A large collection of Huron H. Smith photographs and field notes can be found in the Milwaukee Public Museum Archives.

Processing Information

Processed by Rachel Menyuk, Processing Archivist, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Huron H. Smith photograph collection, image #, NMAI.AC.145; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archives Center collections is by appointment only, Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Please contact the archives to make an appointment (phone: 301-238-1400, email: nmaearchives@si.edu). Several photographs have been restricted due to cultural sensitivity.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish materials from the collection must be requested from National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center. Please submit a written request to nmaiphotos@si.edu. For personal

or classroom use, users are invited to download, print, photocopy, and distribute the images that are available online without prior written permission, provided that the files are not modified in any way, the Smithsonian Institution copyright notice (where applicable) is included, and the source of the image is identified as the National Museum of the American Indian. For more information please see the Smithsonian's [Terms of Use](#) and NMAI Archive Center's [Digital Image request](#) website.

Biographical / Historical

Huron Herbert Smith was born in Danville, Indiana in 1883. After receiving degrees from De Pauw and Cornell Universities he served as assistant curator of Botany at the Field Museum of Natural History from 1907 and 1917. In 1917, Smith began working at the Milwaukee Public Museum as head of the Botany Department. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s Smith conducted studies on the use of plant by Native American communities in Wisconsin and surrounding states. This research was supported by then-Museum director Samuel Barrett and anthropologist Alanson Skinner. Smith's ethnobotanical studies began on the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin (1921-1923), and were followed by trips to the Meskwaki (Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)) Reservation in Tama, Iowa (1923), the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Vilas County, Wisconsin and the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota (1923-1924), the Potawatomi bands in Forest County, Wisconsin (1925), the Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) south of Wisconsin Rapids (1928), and the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin (1929).

Smith's work came to a sudden end with his death in 1933 as the result of an automobile accident. At the time of his death, four manuscripts had been published (Smith 1923, 1928, 1932, 1933), one was in process and published in 1998 by Kindscher & Hurlburt, and field notes remained for a sixth on the Oneida.

For more information on Huron Smith see the Milwaukee Public Museum's website on their Ethnobotany collections: <http://archive.mpm.edu/research-collections/botany/online-collections-research/ethnobotany>.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes 26 photographic prints (11 copy negatives) made by ethnobotanist Huron H. Smith during field work for the Milwaukee Public Museum in 1921-1924. Many of the photographs are portraits of Native community members wearing traditional outfits or demonstrating local plant use, such as mat making.

Six photographs are from Smith's 1921-1922 trip to the Menominee (Menomini) reservation in Wisconsin. These include portraits of John Valentine Satterlee, Smith's guide and interpreter, and the Satterlee family. There are also as well as several restricted photographs of a Menominee cemetery and of the Menomini Spirit Rock. Seven photographs are from Smith's 1923 trip to the Meskwaki (Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)) Reservation in Tama, Iowa. These include portraits of William Davenport, Charles Keosatok and wife Qua-tau-che, White Breast and his family, and doctor John McIntosh (Kepeosatok). There are also several restricted images of Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) cemeteries.

Eleven photographs are from Smith's 1923-1924 trips to the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin, working among the Lake Superior Chippewa, and to the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Reservations in Minnesota, working among the Minnesota Chippewa. Images made in Lac de Flambeau include portraits of Big George Skye, John White Feather (We-bu-ju-o-no-kwe) and wife Na-Wa-Que Go-Kwe, We hre-gu-o-no-kwe, Chief A-mi-kons and wife Pa-ma-ju-o-no-kwe, and Maxiwika [Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)]. Also included are scenic views of a Lac De Flambeau village and a view shot during a Lake Superior Chippewa community dance. Images made in Minnesota include portraits of John Smith, Young Duck and Ajoybenais. There is also a photograph of the balsam Wigwam used by Huron Smith in Leech Lake and a restricted image of a Minnesota Chippewa cemetery. There is also a portrait of Stockbridge Mahican woman Harriet Quinney also taken in 1923.

Some of these photographs were included as illustrations in Smith's articles "Ethnobotany of the Menominee Indians," "Ethnobotany of the Meskwaki Indians," and "Ethnobotany of the Ojibwe Indians" in the Bulletin of the Public Museum of the City of Milwaukee.

The copy negatives were created by the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation (NMAI's predecessor museum) during a photo conservation project in the 1960s.

Scope and Contents

Photographic prints: P10326-P10351. Copy Negatives: N20758, N36526-N36532, N38018-N38020

Arrangement

Physically arranged by catalog number. Intellectually arranged chronologically by community and then catalog number.

Bibliography

Smith, Huron. 1923. Ethnobotany of The Menominee Indians. In: Bulletin of The Public Museum of The City of Milwaukee. Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 1-171. Milwaukee, WI. Smith, Huron. 1928. Ethnobotany of the Meskwaki Indians. In: Bulletin of The Public Museum of The City of Milwaukee. Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 175-326. Milwaukee, WI. Smith, Huron. 1932. Ethnobotany of The Ojibwe Indians. In: Bulletin of The Public Museum of The City of Milwaukee. Vol. 4, No. 3, pp. 327-525. Milwaukee, WI. Smith, Huron. 1933. Ethnobotany of The Forest Potawatomi Indians. In: Bulletin of The Public Museum of The City of Milwaukee. Vol. 7, No. 1, pp. 1-230. Milwaukee, WI.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Ethnobotany
- Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
- Indians of North America
- Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]
- Menominee (Menomini)
- Minnesota Chippewa [Leech Lake, Minnesota]
- Minnesota Chippewa [Mille Lacs, Minnesota]
- Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Cultures:

- Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)
- Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]
- Menominee (Menomini)
- Minnesota Chippewa [Leech Lake, Minnesota]
- Minnesota Chippewa [Mille Lacs, Minnesota]
- Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Names:

Milwaukee Public Museum
Satterlee, John V.

Places:

Iowa
Minnesota
Wisconsin

Container Listing

Photo-folder 1	<p>P10327: John Valentine Satterlee (Menominee), 1921-1922 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor portrait of Menominee (Menomini) man Captain John Valentine Satterlee holding plants on Crow Settlement near West Branch of Wolf River, Menominee Reservation, Wisconsin. Satterlee was also known as Muskinnnesia [Little Medicine Man/Little Doctor] and served as a guide and interpreter to Smith on the Menominee Reservation. See also P10328. Culture: Menominee (Menomini)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P10328: Family of William Satterlee (Menominee), 1921-1922 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor group portrait of a Menominee (Menomini) family at Crow Settlement near West Branch of Wolf River, Menominee Reservation, Wisconsin. Seated L-R: William Satterlee and Wife, uncle Jim Blackcloud. Standing L-R: Nephews of William Satterlee, brother John V. Satterlee. Culture: Menominee (Menomini)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P10329: RESTRICTED, 1921-1922 1 Photographic print Notes: RESTRICTED. View of a Menominee (Menomini) cemetery where Chief Oshkosh is buried, near Keshena on the Menominee Reservation, Wisconsin. Culture: Menominee (Menomini)</p>
Photo-folder 1	<p>P10330: RESTRICTED, 1921-1922 1 Photographic print Notes: RESTRICTED. View of the Menomini Spirit Rock on Old Military Road, from Keshena Falls to Oconto. On the Menominee Reservation, Keshena, Wisconsin. Culture: Menominee (Menomini)</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P10350: John Valentine Satterlee (Menominee), 1921-1922 1 Photographic print Notes: Outdoor portrait of Menominee (Menomini) man Captain John Valentine Satterlee on Crow Settlement near West Branch of Wolf River, Menominee Reservation, Wisconsin. Satterlee was also known as Muskinnnesia [Little Medicine Man/Little Doctor] and served as a guide and interpreter to Smith on the Menominee Reservation. Culture: Menominee (Menomini)</p>
Photo-folder 3	<p>P10336: William Davenport (Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)), 1923 1 Photographic print</p>

Notes: Outdoor portrait of Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) man William Davenport, seated on the steps of a building on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.
Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 3

P10337: [Charles Keosatok and wife Qua-tau-che \(Sac and Fox \(Sauk & Fox\)\) with rush mats, 1923](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Outdoor portrait of Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) couple Charles Keosatok and wife Qua-tau-che displaying materials for making a rush mat. They are kneeling on a completed mat in front of a building (possibly their home) on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.

Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 3

P10338: RESTRICTED, 1923

1 Photographic print

Notes: RESTRICTED. View of a Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) cemetery with graves and grave houses on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.

Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 3

P10339: RESTRICTED, 1923

1 Photographic print

Notes: RESTRICTED. View of a hillside Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) cemetery on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.

Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 3

P10340: [White Breast family \(Sac and Fox \(Sauk & Fox\)\), 1923](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Outdoor portrait of White Breast and his family posed in traditional clothing on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.

Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 4

P10341: [Sac and Fox \(Sauk & Fox\) Dream Dance drum, 1923](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: View of a drum belonging to Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) doctor John McIntosh (Kepeosatok) used for the Dream Dance on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.

Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)

Photo-folder 2

P10331: [Harriet Quinney \(Stockbridge Mahican\), 1923](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Portrait of Stockbridge Mahican woman Harriet Quinney, born on Hudson River, twelve miles below Albany, New York. She is photographed on the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation in Wisconsin.

Same image as P05984 in the Alanson Skinner photograph collection.

Culture: Stockbridge Mahican

Photo-folder 1 P10326: [Maxiwika \(Ho-Chunk\) making basketry splints, 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: View of Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) man Maxiwika pounding out Black Ash basketry splints on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Minocqua, Wisconsin.
Culture: Ho-Chunk (Winnebago)

Photo-folder 2 P10332: [Big George Skye \(Lake Superior Chippewa\), 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Outdoor portrait of Lake Superior Chippewa man Big George Skye, also called Kitchi o jan mwe we gi jig. He is standing posed in beaded traditional clothing on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin.
Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]

Photo-folder 2 P10333: [John White Feather/We-bu-ju-o-no-kwe and Wife/Na-Wa-Que Go-Kwe \(Lake Superior Chippewa\), 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Outdoor portrait of Lake Superior Chippewa couple John White Feather (We-bu-ju-o-no-kwe) and wife (Na-Wa-Que Go-Kwe) on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin. John is sitting wearing a beaded bandolier bag and moccasins, and holding a pipe, while his wife is using a bead loom.
Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]

Photo-folder 2 P10334: [Lake Superior Chippewa village, 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Scenic view of a Lake Superior Chippewa village on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin.
Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]

Photo-folder 4 P10342: [We hre-gu-o-no-kwe \(Lake Superior Chippewa\), 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Outdoor portrait of Lake Superior Chippewa man We hre-gu-o-no-kwe posed in traditional dress and pipe on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin.
Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]

Photo-folder 4 P10343: [Chief A-mi-kons \(Lake Superior Chippewa\), 1923](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Outdoor portrait of Lake Superior Chippewa Chief A-mi-kons in standing traditional clothing and beaded bandolier bag on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin.
Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]

Photo-folder 4 P10344: [Dance on the Lac de Flambeau Reservation, 1923](#)

	<p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: View of Lake Superior Chippewa men and women dancing together on the Lac de Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin. According to Smith this dance, which was called the "Squaw Dance" in its time, was brought back to Wisconsin from Oklahoma. Because it was customary for women to remain in the background at any of the old time dances, outside and back of the circle or group of the men, this caused a rift in the tribe, and the older residents at the Lac de Flambeau village would have nothing to do with such dances.</p> <p>Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]</p>
Photo-folder 4	<p>P10345: Pa-ma-ju-o-no-kwe (Lake Superior Chippewa), 1923</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Lake Superior Chippewa woman Pa-ma-ju-o-no-kwe, wife of A-mi-kons, sitting on a porch on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Wisconsin.</p> <p>Culture: Lake Superior Chippewa [Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin]</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P10335: Balsam wigwam used by Huron Smith, 1924</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: View of the balsam covered wigwam used by Huron H. Smith while staying with the Minnesota Chippewa on the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota.</p> <p>Culture: Minnesota Chippewa [White Earth, Minnesota]</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P10346: Ajoybenais (Minnesota Chippewa), 1923</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Minnesota Chippewa man Ajoybenais standing in woods on Bear Island, Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota.</p> <p>Culture: Minnesota Chippewa [Leech Lake, Minnesota]</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P10347: John McIntosh/Kepeosatok (Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)), 1923</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox) doctor John McIntosh (Kepeosatok/Ka pa ko) on the Sac and Fox Reservation (Mesquakie Indian Settlement) in Tama, Iowa.</p> <p>Culture: Sac and Fox (Sauk & Fox)</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P10348: John Smith (Minnesota Chippewa), 1923</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of Minnesota Chippewa man John Smith, seated on the running board of a car, marked "M.P.M.," on the Mille Lacs Reservation in Minnesota.</p> <p>Culture: Minnesota Chippewa [Mille Lacs, Minnesota]</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P10349: Young Duck (Minnesota Chippewa), 1923</p> <p>1 Photographic print</p> <p>Notes: Outdoor portrait of the Minnesota Chippewa man Young Duck on Bear Island, Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota.</p>

Culture: Minnesota Chippewa [White Earth, Minnesota]

Photo-folder 5

P10351: RESTRICTED, 1923

1 Photographic print

Notes: RESTRICTED. View of a Minnesota Chippewa cemetery with a man seated in front on Bear Island, Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota.

Culture: Minnesota Chippewa [Leech Lake, Minnesota]