



Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian

Oswald Schraubstadter
collection of Fort Sill photographs

Nathan Sowry

2021

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Oswald Schraubstadter collection of Fort Sill photographs
Date:	1869-1875
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.183
Creator:	Schraubstadter, Oswald Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Bliss, William P.
Extent:	26 Photographic prints 0.06 Linear feet
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of twenty-six photographic prints depicting individuals from a number of Southern Plains Indian communities in the region of Fort Sill and Camp Supply, Oklahoma Territory, and dating to the 1860s and 1870s.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

This collection was donated by Oswald Schraubstadter in 1928.

Processing Information

Processed by Nathan Sowry, Reference Archivist, in 2021.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Oswald Schraubstadter collection of Fort Sill photographs, NMAI.AC.183; National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

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Biographical / Historical

Oswald Schraubstadter was born in 1868 in St. Louis, Missouri. Along with his father and brothers, Oswald worked in the type foundry business. With his brothers he established the Inland Type Foundry in St. Louis in 1894, and later worked for the American Type Founders company in New York until his retirement in 1932. Oswald Schraubstadter died in 1955 in New York at the age of 86.

Photographers William Stinson Soule (Will Soule) and William P. Bliss (W.P. Bliss) were contemporaries who briefly lived and worked in the region of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, at approximately the same time in the 1870s. Both men photographed the U.S. Army personnel and Southern Plains Indian communities living there, with Soule arriving in the area in the late 1860s and departing in 1874. Bliss arrived in either 1874 or 1875 and documented many of the same individuals and geographic features as Soule. At least some of Soule's original photography was later sold under Bliss's photographic imprint. Due to this, there continues to be debate over the correct attribution of the works of these two men in the Fort Sill region in the 1860s and 1870s.

Content Description

The Oswald Schraubstadter collection of Fort Sill photographs consists of twenty-six photographic prints dating to the 1860s and 1870s. The bulk of the photographs are studio portraits and depict a number of Southern Plains Indian community members and leaders in the region of Fort Sill and Camp Supply, Oklahoma Territory. These photographs represent the work of various late twentieth-century photographers of the American West including William Stinson Soule (Will Soule), William P. Bliss (W.P. Bliss), and others so far unidentified. The photographs were collected by Oswald Schraubstadter, who donated them to the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, in 1928.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into folders by cultural group.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Apache
- Inunaina (Arapaho)
- Kiowa
- Niuam (Comanche)
- Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
- Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
- Wichita

Cultures:

- Apache
- Inunaina (Arapaho)
- Kiowa
- Niuam (Comanche)

Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)
Wichita

Container Listing

Photo-folder 1	P09358: Apache encampment, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of Apache encampment in the vicinity of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875. Culture: Apache
Photo-folder 1	P09382: Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache) Chief Pacer (Peso) encampment, 1869-1874 1 Photographic print Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Notes: Photograph of Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache) Chief Pacer (Peso) encampment near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographed by William Stinson Soule, between 1869 and 1874. Culture: Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
Photo-folder 1	P09373: Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache) Chief Pacer (Peso) encampment, 1869-1874 1 Photographic print Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Notes: Photograph of Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache) Chief Pacer (Peso) encampment near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographed by William Stinson Soule, between 1869 and 1874. Culture: Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache)
Photo-folder 1	P09381: Apache Medicine Council, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of Apache Medicine Council near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875. Culture: Apache
Photo-folder 1	P09361: Frizzle Head (Kiowa), circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of Frizzle Head (Kiowa). Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa
Photo-folder 2	P09374: Big Tree (Kiowa), circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of Big Tree (Kiowa). Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa

Photo-folder 2	<p>P09380: Unidentified Kiowa girl, possibly a daughter of Stumbling Bear, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of an unidentified Kiowa girl, possibly a daughter of Stumbling Bear. Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P09377: Unidentified Kiowa girl, possibly a daughter of Stumbling Bear, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of an unidentified Kiowa girl, possibly a daughter of Stumbling Bear. Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P09376: Two unidentified Kiowa men, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Portrait studio photograph of two unidentified Kiowa men near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, by an unknown photographer, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa</p>
Photo-folder 2	<p>P09375: Big Tree's wife (Kiowa), circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of Kiowa woman, possibly the wife of Big Tree (Kiowa). Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa</p>
Photo-folder 3	<p>P09379: Two unidentified Kiowa girls, possibly daughters of Stumbling Bear, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Bliss, William P. Notes: Portrait studio photograph of two unidentified Kiowa girls, possibly daughters of Stumbling Bear. Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Kiowa</p>
Photo-folder 3	<p>P09371: Inunaina (Arapaho) sisters Ba-e-tha (Zah-e-cha) and Hack-e-a (Har-ke-i), 1869-1874 1 Photographic print Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Notes: Portrait studio photograph of Inunaina (Arapaho) sisters Ba-e-tha (Zah-e-cha) and Hack-e-a (Har-ke-i). Photographed by William Stinson Soule near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, between 1869 and 1874.</p>

Culture: Inunaina (Arapaho)

Photo-folder 3 P09363: [Issue day at Camp Supply, 1869](#)
1 Photographic print
Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908
Notes: Photograph of food rations being issued at Camp Supply, Oklahoma Territory. Photographed by William Stinson Soule in 1869.
Culture: Inunaina (Arapaho)
Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)

Photo-folder 3 P09370: [Unidentified Tsitsistas/Suhtai \(Cheyenne\) woman, possibly the daughter of Black Kettle, circa 1875](#)
1 Photographic print
Creator: Bliss, William P.
Notes: Portrait studio photograph of an unidentified Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne) woman, possibly the daughter of Black Kettle. Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875.
Culture: Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne)

Photo-folder 3 P09362: [Niuam \(Comanche\) encampment, circa 1875](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph of Niuam (Comanche) encampment in the vicinity of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875.
Culture: Niuam (Comanche)

Photo-folder 4 P09365: [Niuam \(Comanche\) encampment , circa 1875](#)
1 Photographic print
Notes: Photograph of Niuam (Comanche) encampment in the vicinity of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875.
Culture: Niuam (Comanche)

Photo-folder 4 P09372: [Ce-tior Quinine \[Niuam \(Comanche\)\], circa 1875](#)
1 Photographic print
Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908
Bliss, William P.
Notes: Portrait studio photograph of Ce-tior Quinine [Niuam (Comanche)]. Probably photographed by either William Stinson Soule or W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875.
Culture: Niuam (Comanche)

Photo-folder 4 P09378: [Unidentified Niuam \(Comanche\) man, Circa 1875](#)
1 Photographic print
Creator: Bliss, William P.
Notes: Portrait studio photograph of an unidentified Niuam (Comanche) man. Probably photographed by W.P. Bliss near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875.

Culture: Niuam (Comanche)

Photo-folder 4	<p>P09360: Wichita grass lodges, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of Wichita grass lodges in the vicinity of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875. Culture: Wichita</p>
Photo-folder 4	<p>P09369: Two unidentified Wichita girls, circa 1875 1 Photographic print Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Notes: Portrait studio photograph of two unidentified Wichita girls. Probably photographed by William Stinson Soule near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, circa 1875. Culture: Wichita</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P09357: RESTRICTED, 1869-1874 1 Photographic print Creator: Soule, William S. (William Stinson), 1836-1908 Notes: Compilation photograph of ten studio portrait photographs of Native American individuals representing Inunaina (Arapaho), Kiowa, Niuam (Comanche), Plains Apache (Kiowa-Apache), Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne), and Wichita communities. The center photograph in this compilation is of Kiowa-Apache Chief Pacer (Peso) encampment near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. All photographs taken by William Stinson Soule in the region of either Camp Supply or Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, between 1869 and 1874. Culture: Inunaina (Arapaho) Kiowa Niuam (Comanche) Plains Apache (Kiowa Apache) Tsitsistas/Suhtai (Cheyenne) Wichita</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P09359: Northwest view of Medicine Bluff , circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of the northwest view of Medicine Bluff near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875.</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P09364: Old trail on Medicine Bluff , circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of an old trail on Medicine Bluff near Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory. Photographer unknown, circa 1875.</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P09366: General view of Fort Sill , circa 1875 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of a general view of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, by an unknown photographer, circa 1875.</p>
Photo-folder 5	<p>P09367: Sutler stores at Fort Sill , circa 1875</p>

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph of sutler stores at Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, by an unknown photographer, circa 1875.

Photo-folder 6

P09368: Hospital at Fort Sill , circa 1875

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph of a hospital at Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, by an unknown photographer, circa 1875.