



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

Corcoran Gallery of Art collection of Joseph
K. Dixon Wanamaker Expedition photographs

Emily Moazami

2018

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Corcoran Gallery of Art collection of Joseph K. Dixon Wanamaker Expedition photographs
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.309
Date:	circa 1913
Extent:	0.25 Linear feet 3 Gelatin silver prints
Creator:	Dixon, Joseph K. (Joseph Kossuth) Rodman Wanamaker Expedition Wanamaker, Rodman, 1863-1928
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection contains 3 gelatin silver prints shot by Joseph K. Dixon as part of the Wanamaker Expedition circa 1913.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift from the Trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art (In the Collection of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Gift of the Eastman Kodak Company).

Processing Information

Processed by Emily Moazami, Assistant Head Archivist, 2018. The biographical/historical note was written by Nathan Sowry, Reference Archivist.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Corcoran Gallery of Art collection of Joseph K. Dixon Wanamaker Expedition photographs, Box and Folder Number; National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

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Biographical / Historical

Rodman Wanamaker (1863-1928) was the sole surviving heir of Philadelphia-based department store magnate, John Wanamaker. Rodman, among his other philanthropic endeavors with the arts, believed that Native Americans were a "noble, though vanishing race," whose lives needed to be recorded before they disappeared. Because of this belief, he funded three expeditions (1908-1913) to "perpetuate the life stories of the first Americans." In addition, he also strove, and ultimately failed, to create a National Indian Memorial to be situated in New York City which would rival the Statue of Liberty.

Joseph K. Dixon (1858-1926) was born in New York, and received a bachelor of divinity degree from the Rochester Theological Seminary before becoming a lecturer for the Eastman Kodak photographic company in 1904. Two years later he was hired to work in Wanamaker's department store, and by 1908 he was chosen to lead the three Wanamaker expeditions (1908-1913) to document the lives and cultures of Native peoples of the United States. For the remainder of his life, Dixon frequently lectured on and continued to photograph the lives of Native Americans.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains 3 gelatin silver prints shot by Joseph K. Dixon as part of the Wanamaker Expedition circa 1913 and printed by Palm Press of Boston, MA in 1987.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 1 oversize box.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Havasupai (Coconino)
Nespelem
Photographs

Cultures:

Havasupai (Coconino)
Nespelem

Container Listing

- Oversize 1 Havasupai Mother and Child, Arizona, circa 1913
1 Gelatin silver print
[Image\(s\)](#)
This gelatin silver photograph depicts a woman [Havasupai (Coconino)] holding a baby in a woven cradleboard.
- Culture: Havasupai (Coconino)
-
- Oversize 1 Indian child with Puppy, North America, circa 1913
1 Gelatin silver print
[Image\(s\)](#)
This photograph depicts a young boy standing outside a tipi and holding a puppy.
-
- Oversize 1 Mrs. Sadie Boyd and Infant, North America, circa 1913
1 Gelatin silver print
[Image\(s\)](#)
This gelatin silver photograph depicts Mrs. Sadie Boyd (Nespelem) carrying her baby in a beaded cradleboard. Mrs. Boyd was of the Nespelem tribe living on the upper Columbia River tributary in an area now located on the Colville Indian Reservation in Washington.
- Culture: Nespelem