



Smithsonian

National Museum of the American Indian

W.M. Cline Company photographs
of Eastern Band of Cherokee

Emily Moazami

2020

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	W.M. Cline Company photographs of Eastern Band of Cherokee
Date:	circa 1937-1938
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.362
Creator:	W.M. Cline Company (Photographer)
Extent:	10 Photographic prints
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection contains 10 photographs depicting the Eastern Band of Cherokee in North Carolina. The photographs were shot by W.M. Cline Company of Chattanooga, Tennessee circa 1937.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Fern Thomas Robertson and Martha N. Lundquist, 2004.

Related Materials

The University of Tennessee in Chattanooga and the Library of Congress in Washington, DC also hold photographs shot by Cline Studios and the W.M. Cline Company.

Processing Information

Processed by Emily Moazami, Supervisory Archivist, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); W.M. Cline Company photographs of Eastern Band of Cherokee, image #, NMAI.AC.362; 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: nmaiarchives@si.edu).

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Biographical / Historical

Born in Guernsey County, Ohio on April 21, 1873, Walter Matson Cline, Sr. began practicing photography in high school. He went on to establish Bell and Cline studio in Cambridge, Ohio and later moved with his mother and sister to Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1904 where he worked for photographers Elworth L. Mudge and Amos W. Judd. Around 1910, Cline established his own photography business Cline Studios. He traveled the country producing scenic and travel photography for commercial sale. In January 1914, he married Lucy Haley and their son Walter Matson, Jr. was born later in the year and Sara Antoinette was born in 1916. The family opened the C. M. Cline Company in 1938, which specialized in postcard photography, however, Walter Matson Cline, Sr. died three years later in 1941. His family took over the business.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains 10 photographs depicting scenes on the Eastern Band of Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina. The photographs were shot by W.M. Cline Company of Chattanooga, TN circa 1937. The photographs were originally sold in a small souvenir self-mailer portfolio entitled, "Selected Snapshots, 10 views, Cherokee Indian Reservation, N.C." The photographs themselves feature descriptions printed at the bottom. Based on the copyright entry, it seems that the photographs were copyrighted on Oct. 14, 1937 and most likely published in the souvenir package in 1938.

The photographs include images of Chief Nollyton and Chief Standing Deer; scenes of basket and pottery makers and bead workers; Green Corn Dancers; and landscapes.

Arrangement

The photographs in this collection are arranged in folders by image number.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Eastern Band of Cherokee

Cultures:

Eastern Band of Cherokee

Places:

North Carolina

Container Listing

Photo-folder 1	P29270: Basket Makers, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a woman (Eastern Band of Cherokee) and possibly her daughter weaving baskets. Finished baskets sit on ground in front of them. Photographed by W.M. Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina, circa 1937-1938. Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee
Photo-folder 1	P29271: Old Mill, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting a mill building on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina. Photographed by W.M. Cline Company circa 1937-1938. Place: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina
Photo-folder 1	P29272: Making Cherokee Pottery, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting three women (Eastern Band of Cherokee) sitting on a porch making pottery and beading. Examples of pottery are displayed between them. Photographed by W.M. Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina, circa 1937-1938. Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee
Photo-folder 1	P29273: Cherokee Pottery and Bead Worker, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph of a young woman (Eastern Band of Cherokee) sitting on a porch and holding a bead loom with pottery displayed next to her. Photographed by W.M. Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina, circa 1937-1938. Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee
Photo-folder 1	P29274: Chief Nollyton, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting Chief Nollyton (Eastern Band of Cherokee) posed outdoors wearing feathered headdress. Photographed by W.M. Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina, circa 1937-1938. Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee
Photo-folder 2	P29275: Chief Standing Deer, circa 1937-1938 1 Photographic print Notes: Photograph depicting Chief Standing Deer (Eastern Band of Cherokee) posed outdoors in front of tipi wearing feathered headdress and holding bow and arrows. Photographed by W.M.

Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North
Carolina, circa 1937-1938.

Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee

Photo-folder 2

P29276: [Cherokees Ready for the Green Corn Dance, circa 1937-1938](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting three men and three women (Eastern
Band of Cherokee) posed outdoors, wearing fringed traditional
clothing in preparation for Green Corn Dance. Two of the men
hold a drum and bows and arrows. Photographed by W.M.
Cline Company on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North
Carolina, circa 1937-1938.

Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee

Photo-folder 2

P29277: [Cherokee, N.C., circa 1937-1938](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a view of a valley on the Eastern
Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina. Photographed by
W.M. Cline Company circa 1937-1938.

Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee

Photo-folder 2

P29278: [Soco Falls, circa 1937-1938](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting Soco Falls on the Eastern Cherokee
Reservation in North Carolina. Photographed by W.M. Cline
Company circa 1937-1938.

Culture: Eastern Band of Cherokee

Photo-folder 2

P29279: [Cherokee Indian Mother, circa 1937-1938](#)

1 Photographic print

Notes: Photograph depicting a woman (Eastern Band of Cherokee)
with an infant on her back and another child to her right.
Photographed by W.M. Cline Company on the Eastern
Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina, circa 1937-1938.

Photo-folder 2

[Self-mailer Portfolio, circa 1938](#)

Notes: Small souvenir self-mailer portfolio entitled, "Selected
Snapshots, 10 views, Cherokee Indian Reservation, N.C."