

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Carlisle Indian School** **CIS-MC-004**

Material: Papers, Photographs, and Artifacts (1886-1913)

Volume: 1.5 linear feet (1 Document Box, 1 Photograph Box, 1 Artifact Box)

Donation: Purchase, 2017

Usage: There are no usage restrictions on these materials.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Carlisle Indian Industrial School was founded by Lieutenant Richard Henry Pratt. In 1875, Pratt was responsible for transporting Native Americans identified as subversive to a prison in St. Augustine, Florida, where he eventually conceived the idea of a school. Approval was ultimately given for a school to be established at the deserted military barracks in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. In October 1879, the first students began arriving at the United States Training and Industrial School at Carlisle Barracks.

Pratt's plan for the Carlisle Indian School, which argued that Indian children were "blank slates" who could be civilized via contact with whites, ran counter to notions of inherent savagery which informed programs in play at similar institutions, such as Samuel Chapman Armstrong's Hampton Normal School for African Americans. By exposing Native American children to Euro-American culture through education, industrial training, and a unique "outing program" which placed individual students in the homes of white Christian families, Pratt hoped to assimilate his pupils into the greater culture of the United States. Over time, the school also became known for its nationally renowned sports teams, which produced athletes including Jim Thorpe and Lewis Tewanima, as well as for frequent public controversies over student behavior, substandard living conditions, ineffective teaching, and embezzlement.

Pratt operated the Carlisle Indian School as superintendent from 1879 to 1904, when he was forcibly retired due to political disagreements with high-ranking officials in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The school operated for another 14 years under various superintendents before finally closing in 1918 to make way for the Medical Field Service School of the U.S. Army. It is estimated that roughly 8,500 students attended the school over its 39-year history.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

These Carlisle Indian School Papers are housed in one document box, one photograph box, and one artifact box. These materials were purchased as a group from Robert Rowe in 2017; Rowe operated an auction business in Carlisle, PA for many years. The collection has been organized into six categories: Court Martials, Ephemera, Publications, the E.A. Seabrook Photograph Album, Miscellaneous Photographs, and Artifacts.

The Court Martials section includes four court martials for five students, all dating from 1904. This was the year in which Richard Henry Pratt retired as Superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School, and was replaced by William A. Mercer. The first court martial is signed by Pratt; the last three are signed by Mercer.

The Ephemera section contains a pamphlet with the schedule and menu from the reunion dinner of the Carlisle Indian School Alumni Association, as well as an envelope from the school.

The Publications section includes one souvenir pamphlet about the Carlisle Indian School entitled *This is Carlisle*, and four academic books from the early twentieth century. The copies of *Mace's History Read*, *Progressive Arithmetic*, and *The Beginner's American History* all bear the stamp of the Carlisle Indian School and contain marginalia written by students. *A History of Oklahoma* includes sentimental notes and a poem written by and for different Carlisle students.

The E.A. Seabrook Photograph Album is a disbound collection of photographs, as well as the cover page of a book gifted to E.A. Seabrook on December 25, 1886. The images were disbound and in a random order when acquired. While the images were acquired in a set, the date of some of the photographs suggests that not all of these photographs originate from this album.

The Miscellaneous Photographs section is arranged in groups based on subject, including individual portraits, group portraits, athletics, images of Carlisle's harness-making instructor Milton I. Zeigler, industrial departments, and miscellaneous images. Many of the portraits remain unidentified.

The Artifacts section includes a small ceramic china dish with the words "CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL" painted on the rim in blue lettering. The section also includes three brass buttons, each of which say "GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES" on the front. The front of these buttons also includes a scene of a man tilling farmland, with a cabin and rising sun in the background. The reverse of one button reads "EXTRA QUALITY," while the other two read "U.S. INDIAN DEPARTMENT" on the reverse.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - CIS-MC-004

COURT MARTIALS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Folder 1) | Court Martial for Herman Goedker and Benjamin Trombla - Apr. 1904 |
| Folder 2) | Court Martial for Paul Segui - Oct. 1904 |
| Folder 3) | Court Martial for Frank DeFoe - Nov. 1904 |
| Folder 4) | Court Martial for Edward Powlas - Dec. 1904 |

BOX 1 - CIS-MC-004

EPHEMERA

- Folder 5) "Dinner of the Carlisle Indian School Alumni Association" - Apr. 2, 1908
- Folder 6) Envelope from Indian Industrial School, Carlisle, Pa. - undated

PUBLICATIONS

- Folder 7) *This is Carlisle* (Carlisle, PA: Indian School Printing Press, 1908)
- Folder 8) William H. Mace, *Mace's History Reader, Book 1: The Period of Discovery and Colonization* (Chicago: Rand McNally & Co, 1911)
- Folder 9) William J. Milne, *Progressive Arithmetic, Second Book* (New York: American Book Company, 1906)
- Folder 10) Joseph B. Thoburn and Isaac M. Holcomb, *A History of Oklahoma* (San Francisco: Doub & Company, 1908)
- Folder 11) D. H. Montgomery, *The Beginner's American History* (Boston: Ginn & Company, 1902)

BOX 1 - CIS-PC-004

E.A. SEABROOK PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM

- Folder 1) Album Cover Page – Dec. 25, 1886
- Folder 2) Two unidentified male students
- Folder 3) Unidentified female student
- Folder 4) Unidentified female student
- Folder 5) Richard Doanmoe, Kiowa
- Folder 6) "Kate Irvine Kinghune [Kinzhuna] and Eunice Suison" – [Feb. 1888]
- Folder 7) "Bertha and Madge Nason, Chippewas from Minnesota"
- Folder 8) "Ernie Black and Sister, Cheyennes from Indian Territory"
- Folder 9) "John Gunn, Pueblo"
- Folder 10) "John Dixon"
- Folder 11) "James H. Miller and Francis H. Ortiz, Pueblos"
- Folder 12) "Max Spotted Tail, Sioux from Rosebud, Dakota"
- Folder 13) "Cyrus [Windy], Sioux"
- Folder 14) "Nancy McIntosh", Creek
- Folder 15) "Henry North"
- Folder 16) Two unidentified male students
- Folder 17) Joshua Given and Julia Given
- Folder 18) "Plenty Living Bear"
- Folder 19) "Thomas Wistar – Jun. 21, 1886", Ottawa
- Folder 20) Unidentified male student
- Folder 21) "James B. Garcia and Santiago"
- Folder 22) "Joseph Schweigman," Sioux
- Folder 23) "Mrs. Marmon, Lena Carr, and Harry Marmon"

BOX 1 - CIS-PC-004

MISCELLANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHS

Individual Portraits

- Folder 24) "Bruce Patterson," Apache
- Folder 25) "Manemic [Minimec], Cheyenne Chief"
- Folder 26) "Nipo Strongheart, Chtu-lum-na, Yakima"
- Folder 27) "Manilito Chiquito, Navajoe from New Mexico"
- Folder 28) "Rosa Whitethunder, Sioux, in her Indian dress"
- Folder 29) "Chaplain of U.S. Indian School Carlisle, PA" – c.1905
- Folder 30) "Maud Sampson, c.1898"
- Folder 31) Unidentified male student
- Folder 32) Unidentified male student
- Folder 33) Unidentified male student

Group Portraits

- Folder 34) "Pueblos, Harvey Townsend and Sheldon Jackson"
- Folder 35) "Alaskan Indians as they arrived at Carlisle in the Fall of 1897"
- Folder 36) "2 Shoshone and 13 Northern Arapahoe children as they arrived" – 1881
- Folder 37) "CIS Class photo prior to 1902"
- Folder 38) ["Two Little Indian Boys – Carlisle Indian School" – Feb. 27, 1896]

Athletics

- Folder 39) 1912 football team
- Folder 40) 1913 football team

Milton I. Zeigler

- Folder 41) Milton I. Zeigler and student making a harness
- Folder 42) Milton I. Zeigler and Anna Elizabeth Zeigler
- Folder 43) Milton I. Zeigler with bicycle

Industrial Departments

- Folder 44) "Laundry"
- Folder 45) "Shoe Shop Repairing"
- Folder 46) "Pupil's bedroom"
- Folder 47) "Laundry - Ella Albert, instructor"

Miscellaneous

- Folder 48) Collage of students and buildings
- Folder 49) Unidentified baby in cradle board

BOX 1 - CIS-AC-004

ARTIFACTS

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Item 1) | Small china dish printed "CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL" |
| Item 2) | Brass button |
| Item 3) | Brass button |
| Item 4) | Brass button |

This collection register was prepared by Frank Vitale IV, August 2017.