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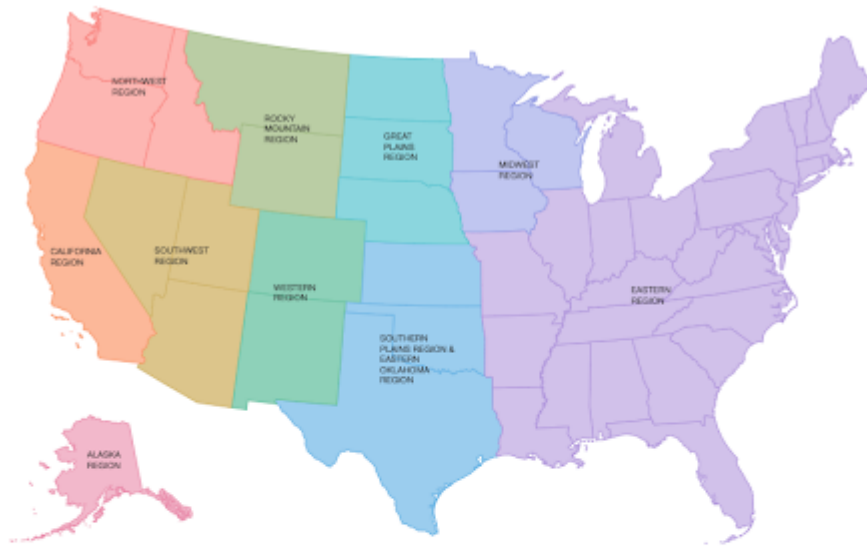
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Bureau of Indian Affairs Photographs Finding Aid



Photograph of Herd of Cows. [National Archives Identifier 158884318](#)

Search and explore more than 18,000 digitized historical photographs from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) records with the [Bureau of Indian Affairs Photographs Finding Aid](#).



① The state map and list below are organized loosely by BIA regional office jurisdictions for readability. In reality, Eastern Oklahoma Region, Navajo Region, the border between the Northwest and Rocky Mountain regions as well as many other jurisdictional borders do not correspond U.S. state borders.

Northwest Region



Idaho
 170

Records are related to 3 Tribal Nations including Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho



Oregon
 13

Records are related to 1 Tribal Nation including Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs



Washington (State)
 64

Records are related to 6 Tribal Nations including Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Washington

This dynamic web-based finding aid provides digital access to a rich collection of archived photographs of Native American communities, discoverable by [Tribal Nation](#), [topic](#), or [state](#).



L: Boys in Woodworking Classroom, 1941. [National Archives Identifier 76046495](#)

R: Women in Boat with Boxes of Fish, 1941. [National Archives Identifier 285705](#)

These photographs were taken over many decades and provide important documentation of Native American communities and culture, covering a wide variety of topics and activities. Among the records are portraits of individuals and families, and images of work, military service, crafts, medical care, and athletics, among others.



L: 4-H club girls play at 4-H camp, 1931. [National Archives Identifier 285854](#)

R: Logging Activities, 1939. [National Archives Identifier 285749](#)

This project was created in consultation with a broad range of users and stakeholders, including members of Tribal Nation communities, information science professionals with experience in Native American records, and representatives of organizations with connections to Tribal communities on the topics used in the finding aid.

The screenshot shows the 'Photographs Finding Aid' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'TRIBAL NATIONS', 'TOPICS', 'STATES', and 'ABOUT'. The main content area has a blue header with the title 'Topics' and a sub-header 'Photographs are organized around common topics to help you discover digitized photos in this record group. Topics range from photos related to BIA history to Native American culture.' Below this is a 'SELECT A TOPIC' dropdown menu. To the right is a large image of a person working with wood. Below the header is a grid of six topic cards, each with a representative photograph and a label: 'Agriculture' (a person plowing a field), 'Animals' (a group of horses), 'Art and Artifacts' (a person working with wood), 'Buildings' (a building under construction), 'Bureau of Indian Affairs Personnel' (a group of men in suits), and 'Camps' (a group of tents in a field).

This project would not have been possible without the contributions of our citizen archivists and experts in Native American studies. Earlier this year, we launched a Citizen Archivist mission to tag photographs using those identified topical subject tags. Each of these subject tags is now used to pull photographs from the Catalog into the finding aid. We still need your help! Visit our [Native American Photographs Tagging Mission page](#) for more details and to get started.



L: A young girl leans on her heifer near the pump, 1941. [National Archives Identifier 285312](#)

R: Baby sleeping in a swing suspended between trees, 1936. [National Archives Identifier 285361](#)

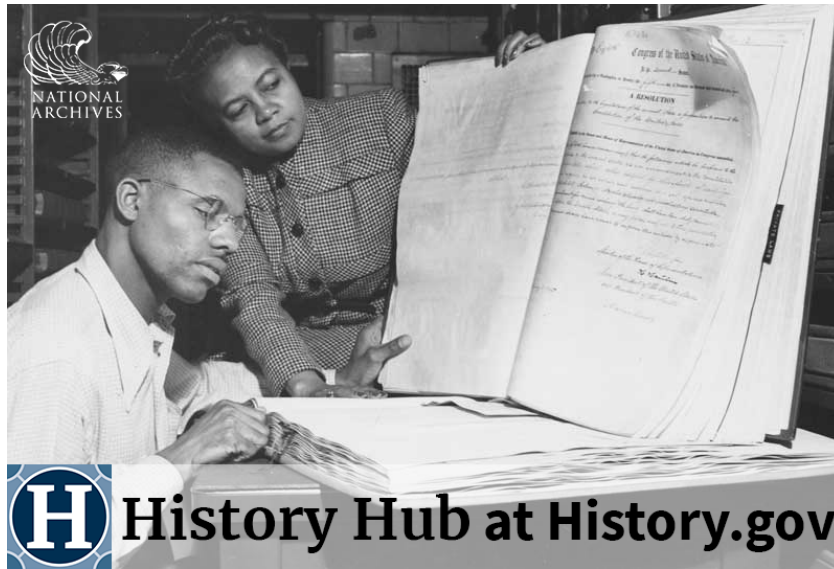
Looking for more Native American records and resources?

- Take a closer look at the finding aid on the [Unwritten Record blog](#)
- Additional information on searching Native American records is available through the [Native American Heritage web page](#)
- Find answers to your questions about [American Indian Records at History Hub](#).

History Hub

Have a question? [Find your answer on History Hub!](#)

History Hub is our support community for researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, and citizen archivists. Ask questions, share information, work together, and find help based on experience and interests. Researchers can ask—or answer—questions on [History Hub](#), or search to see if a question has been asked before.



[Citizen Archivists, there's a group just for you!](#) You can share tips and strategies, find new challenges, and get support for your work.

Once you've signed up, check out our poll:

[What kinds of records do you like to transcribe?](#) →

COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit <https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus>

Questions or comments? Email us at catalog@nara.gov.





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