GUIDE TO IOWA INDIAN MATERIALS IN THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION,
KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The manuscript collections of the Kansas State Historical Society contain papers relating to individuals, businesses, and organizations. Although these are for the most part private papers, some federal records pertaining to superintendencies and agents of the Office of Indian affairs are included. Some of these records, such as those of the St. Louis Superintendency of Indian affairs, were acquired from private sources. Other records, including those of individual Indian agents, were mixed with their personal papers and later donated to the society.

Collections of private papers can contain an unlimited variety of materials: primary sources such as correspondence, diaries or journals, transcriptions of interviews, financial records, account books and ledgers, minutes of meetings, deeds, and land patents, as well as secondary sources such as notes collected in historical research. Most of the items in the manuscript collection are regarded as unique or one-of-a-kind documents.

This guide is intended to be an overview of those manuscript collections containing letters, papers, articles and other records relating to individuals and groups of Indians of North America found within the various manuscript collections. The terms Native people, Native American, Indian, tribe, and commonly-used names of nations have been used to individually or collectively describe those people inhabiting the North American continent prior to the arrival of Europeans and descendants of those earlier inhabitants. No specific inference or offense is intended in the use of any of these terms; their use is employed for descriptive purposes only. Naturally exact titles of manuscripts, articles, and books are used.

Additional sources on Native peoples are the microfilmed manuscript records housed with the microfilm collection. These are copies of records the owners allowed the society to copy while retaining the originals or copies of records owned by other repositories. This microfilm has been incorporated into the guide.

Arrangement of entries is alphabetically by author or collection name. This guide is intended to be a comprehensive listing of manuscripts containing American Indian-related information, but due to the nature of collections of unpublished papers, it is possible that collections not listed here may contain relevant items or that there may be other items in listed collections that pertain to Native Americans.

All microfilm listed is available through interlibrary loan (ILL) unless otherwise noted in the Access or copying restrictions section.

A typical entry includes the following:

COLLECTION TITLE. If the collection consists of the papers of an individual, the full name, if known, and dates of birth and death, if known, are included. If a woman, her maiden name is included in parentheses, if known.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS. If a single item, file unit, series, or subgroup, the given title or description is listed. If multiple items, generic terms Papers, Records, or Collection is used. Papers signifies documents generated by or around an individual, records signifies documents generated by or around a business or organization, and collection signifies a fairly uniform group of documents or artificially-assembled types of materials.

INCLUSIVE DATES FOR THE COLLECTION. The abbreviation n.d., no date, is used for undated materials, and ca., circa, is used for approximate dates. Supplied dates are surrounded by brackets, [].

SIZE OF THE COLLECTION. Linear measurement, lin., is used where applicable, though numbers or size of boxes, folders, documents, or pages may also be stated. Microfilmed collections give the number of pages or volumes if known and the length of the microfilm if the extant of the originals is uncertain.

ACCESS OR COPYING RESTRICTIONS. Open indicates that the material may be used by any registered researcher at the
Guide to Iowa Indian Materials in the Manuscript Collection, Kansas State Historical Society

Kansas State Historical Society or a participating institution through the interlibrary loan of microfilm. Restricted indicates that access or copying is available to those who meet certain qualifications or agree to certain conditions. Closed or no indicates that access or copying is unavailable under any conditions. The lack of restrictions on access or copying does not relieve the researcher of the necessity of complying with all applicable copyrights and rules of citation.

Finding aids. Special finding aids other than the manuscripts card catalog.

Collection locator. The designation used to locate the collection in the stacks. This locator must appear on all request slips. Locators for textual collections contain the type of collection (collection, miscellaneous, history, or railroad) and an abbreviated surname or a number. Microfilm is identified by the prefix MS or MF and the roll number.

Description of Indian-related materials in the collection.

Armstrong, John, compiler. The Eclectic Almanac, for the year 1839 ... Pittsburgh, J. N. Patterson [1839]. Partial reel of microfilm; 35 mm. Open. No finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 139.02

Microfilm of original in private hands. Annotations in the book indicate that it was used by some one at the Iowa, Sac & Fox Mission in present Doniphan County [Kan.]

Dougherty, John, 1791–1860. Papers, 1829–1907. 0.1 ft. Open. No finding aids. Coll. 331

Letter received by Major Dougherty relating to the conduct of Indian affairs and removal of the superintendency of Indian affairs from St. Louis to a point on the Missouri River; copy of letter written by William Clark relating to Dougherty and movement of the Upper Missouri Indian Agency from Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Leavenworth, Kan.; letters sent by Dougherty to the War Dept. reporting on conditions along the lower Missouri River, fur trade, his fitness for his position, and military movements and their effect on the Indians; letter of Dougherty's son O'Fallon Dougherty describing Major Dougherty and his movements; letters of recommendation of Major Dougherty as superintendent of the Upper Missouri Indian Agency.


Harding's Oct. 13, 1881, Statement includes information on the Iowa and Sauk Indians.

Highland Presbyterian Church (Kan.). Church Register[s] ...@ 1843–1890. Partial reel of microfilm; 35 mm. Open. No finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 220.01

Microfilm of originals owned by Highland Presbyterian church (Kan.). Two volumes containing minutes of the church's Session; registers of elders, deacons, communicants, baptisms, marriages, & deaths; and a list of ministers. Early records include missionaries at the Presbyterian mission to the Fox, Iowa, and Sauk at Highland, Kan., and members of the three nations.

Indian Mission Schools history. ACollection,...@ 1837–1879. 0.6 ft. on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm. Open. Unpublished finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 1296

Microfilm of originals in Indian Mission Schools history collection, no. 589. Artificial collection of documents pertaining to Indian mission schools in Kansas. Included are transcripts of that correspondence between Indian agents and the missionaries within their jurisdiction in Kansas that were published in the annual reports of the U.S. commissioner of Indian affairs [series A]. Reports on the schools, buildings, & curriculum, some written by missionary-teachers, others by agents, and tables showing the enrollment of students and number of faculty members. Included are reports from the following nations and schools:

Iowa, 1842–1861. 2 in.
Presbyterian: 1842B1858, 1860B1861


Coll. 590
Organized by subgroup:
GENERAL, 1825B1934. 4 in. [subgroup I (box 1)]
Arranged alphabetically by subject:
Missions, 1832B1934. 1 in. [series I, E (box 1)]
  Presbyterian, 1898. 1 item (12 p.) [folder I, E, 3 (box 1)]
  Historical sketch of missions operated by the Presbyterian Foreign Board for the American Indians to the Chickasaw, Ojibwa (Chippewa), Choctaw, Creek, Dakota, Fox, Iowa, Kickapoo, Nez Perce, Omaha, Oto, Sauk, Seminole, Seneca, Wea, Winnebago, by W. Rankin.

IOWA, SAUK & FOX, 1846B1908. 3 in. [subgroup VIII (box 3)]
  Reminiscences of a pupil at the Iowa, Sac & Fox mission school; newspaper account of a visit to the Iowa & Sac mission; chronology of Indians in present Doniphan County, Kan., prior to non-Indian settlement; letter on desecration of Fox & Sauk graves; and reminiscences & accounts of activities at the Sac & Fox mission.

Irvin, Samuel M., 1812B1887. ADiaries ..., @ 1841B1849. 365 p. on 1 reel of microfilm. Open. No finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 89
  Diary and journal kept at the Iowa Presbyterian mission (now the Iowa, Sac & Fox Presbyterian Mission State Historic Site) near present Highland, Kan. A typescr ipt is in the Samuel M. Irvin MS. collection [Coll. 403] (see next entry) but does not appear on the microfilm.

  Intermittent entries describing life at the Iowa Presbyterian mission (now the Iowa, Sac & Fox Presbyterian Mission State Historic Site) near present Highland, Kan. Irvin was the principal missionary there. The original diary has been microfilmed [MICROFILM: MS 89] (see previous entry), but this collection includes a typescr ipt not on the film.

McKinney, Edmund. ACollection@ [i.e. Papers], [ca.] 1847B1916. 4 items on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm. Open. Finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 1175
  Microfilm of originals in the Edmund McKinney collection, no. 427. Two letters and an essay, 1847B1848, describing the Iowa, Sauk, Omaha & Oto with whom McKinney came in contact; Alowa, Otoe, Omaha, and Pawnee Manuscripts, @ actually rules of grammar & a dictionary, prepared by McKinney; and a biography of Elizabeth Stevens Morse, taken from a letter by Grace Meeker, August 1916, with corrections supplied by the Kansas State Historical Society.

  Nora Barada Murphy, a woman of Iowa & French ancestry and the great-great-granddaughter of Count Michiel Barada, relates some of her family's history in response to reading Chapman's book The Otoes and Missourias.

  Farmer, historian; of Marshall, Mo. Included in his AThe Pioneer Soldiers of Missouri, Kansas and Iowa. History of Cantonment Martin and Council BluffsA [not after Apr. 14, 1906] [MICROFILM: MS 26.02] are transcripts of letters from Colonel John O=Fallon to General Thomas A. Smith; the original letters are at the State...
Historical Society of Missouri (Columbia). The 1818 Nov. 5 letter mentions that the Kansa are at Cow Island (on the west side of the Missouri River about half way between present Leavenworth and Atchison, Kan.) with some pelts. O=Fallon=s 1818 Dec. 14 letter says that Benjamin O=Fallon has gained the friendship of General Andrew Jackson and has been appointed agent of the Upper Missouri Indian Agency at present-day Council Bluffs, Ia. In his letter of 1819 Oct. 5, John O=Fallon tells of councils held with the Oto, Missouri, Iowa, & Omaha and measures taken against the Pawnee for the outrage visited on Major Thomas Biddle=s party.

Nuzum, George. AGeorge Nuzum: Biography of Iowa Indians of Kan. & Neb., from 1880. 1880B1896. Partial reel of microfilm ; 35 mm. Open. No finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 984.03

Microfilm of original in private hands. Each of the biographical sheets includes the individual's name, address, birthplace & -date, education, allotment number & description, and marriage date; also included is a brief biographical sketch, names & tribal affiliation of parents, and names of grandparents & children. Indexed alphabetically by name.

Presbyterian Historical Society, coll. ALetters : Indiana [i.e. Indians] Correspondence, 1835B1884. 7 microfilm reels ; 35 mm. No copying, no interlibrary loan. Unpublished roll list. MICROFILM: MS 1006

Microfilm of originals in the Presbyterian Historical Society (Philadelphia). Correspondence, 5 boxes, relating to missions. Included are letters relating to the Iowa, 1835B1845, and Iowa & Sac, 1850B1859, missions and documents pertaining to Iowa missions (Iowa Mission; Tullahassee Mission, Creek Agency; and the Orphan Indian Institute), 1860B1864; the Omaha in Nebraska; the Oto & Omaha Mission, Kan.-Neb., 1847B1865; Omaha letters, 1856B1859; Iowa & Sauk missions, Kan.-Mo., 1845B1849; Oto in Kansas & Omaha in Nebraska, 1846B1855; Oto & Kickapoo, 1856B1859; Creek & Seminole in Oklahoma, 1854B1859; Chickasaw in Oklahoma, 1850B1854; Creek, Chicasaw, & Seminole in Oklahoma and Kickapoo in Kansas, 1850B1864; and North American Indians, 1883B1884. Presbyterian Historical Society American Indian correspondence microfilm reels 58-64.


Copies of a journal, presumably of a Kickapoo agent; history of the Kickapoo; ANo-Ko-Aht's Talk: A Kickapoo Chief's Account of a Tribal Journey to Mexico in the 1860s; notes on Delaware, Kansa, Kickapoo, Osage, & Potawatomi history; clippings; Root's notes on various events in Indian history; ATradition of the Flood; reminiscences collected by Root; notes on the Potawatomi school & mission; AShoptese (biography) by Henry J. Adams; notes on traditional history of the origin of the Ottawa; AIndian Feasts and Fasts; religious traditions; notes on Indian missions; chronology of the Fox, Iowa, Kickapoo, & Sauk boarding schools; APotawatomi Indian Squaw Dance,= by Root; AJohn Eight Ten Pottawatomi Gambling Game; Alndian Squaw Shaking Dish Game; AWar Dance of the Pottawatomies; ACorn Dance of the Pottawatomies; APotawatomi Indian School and Mission; notes on individual Potawatomi; translations from the Potawatomi language; AGrave of Half Day, Pottawatomi Chief with map; ACorn Dance; ATurkey Hunting Services at Pottawatomi Methodist Mission Church; and a personnel roster of Haskell Institute (now Haskell Indian Nations University) (Lawrence, Kan.)

U.S. Office of Indian Affairs. AIndian Census Rolls. 1885-1940. 72 microfilm reels ; 35 mm. Open. Finding aids. MICROFILM: MS 1902-1972

Microfilm of originals in the National Archives (Washington, D.C.), records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (record group 75). Annual censuses taken by agents or superintendents in charge of Indian reservations. Information gathered varies by year and jurisdiction, but usually includes English and/or Indian name, tribal roll number, age or date of birth, sex, and relationship to head of household. Beginning in 1930 the census also show degree of Indian blood, marital status, place of residence, and other information. There are not necessarily censuses for every year indicated in the date spans below.

The Kansas State Historical Society holds rolls for the following jurisdictions (agencies), with names of Indian nations in {braces}:

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HASKELL {POTAWATOMI, KICKAPOO, IOWA, SAUK, FOX}. 1927-1934. 2 REELS. MS 1903-1904
KICKAPOO {KICKAPOO, IOWA, SAUK & FOX OF THE MISSOURI, POTAWATOMI (1920)}. 1903-1920. 1 REEL. MS-1905
POTAWATOMI {PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI, IOWA, KICKAPOO, SAUK & FOX OF THE MISSOURI, AND CHIPPEWA & MUNSEE}. 1891-1942. 4 REELS.  **MS 1948-1951**

SAC AND FOX, IOWA. 1888-1939. 3 REELS.  **MS 1958-1960**
SAC AND FOX, OKLAHOMA {SAUK, FOX, IOWA, CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI, ABSENTEE SHAWNEE, AND MEXICAN KICKAPOO}. 1885-1919. 3 REELS.  **MS 1961-1963**

The 1885 item is a letter only.

SHAWNEE {FOX, IOWA, SAUK, ABSENTEE SHAWNEE, MEXICAN KICKAPOO, AND CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI}. 1904-1939. 7 REELS.  **MS 1966-1972**