



# THE RECORD

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## The Nazi Gold Document Search



On April 12, 1945, Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower and Omar N. Bradley examine a suitcase of German loot stored in a salt mine. (National Archives #SC204515)

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## Family History

Connie Potter and Claire Prechtel-Klusens, editors

### American Indian Censuses, 1880-1920

By Claire Prechtel-Klusens

There are many records in the National Archives that can be used for researching Native American ancestry. These records include special censuses, school records, tribal enrollment records, and allotment records.

As a general rule, persons researching their Native American ancestry should begin their research the same way other researchers do: (1) gather as much information as possible from relatives; (2) obtain birth, marriage, and death certificates from appropriate state or county vital records offices; and (3) begin census research in the 1920 census and work backward to 1910, 1900, and so forth. Researchers should also read books on how to do genealogical research.

In the 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses, American Indians were enumerated in the state, county, and local jurisdiction (city, town, village, township) where they lived—just like the general population. However, in 1900-1920, special schedules were used. In the 1920 1910 census, American Indians are found both in the general population schedules used for everyone *and* in a "Supplemental Schedule for Indian Population." The general population schedule includes the person's name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, relationship to head of household, birthplace, father's birthplace, and mother's birthplace. The supplemental schedule indicates the person's tribe, whether "full blood or mixed blood," post office address, and the Indian "Agency where enrolled."

In the 1900 and 1910 censuses, Native Americans will be found on a special population schedule for "Inquiries Relating to Indians." They were asked the same questions asked of general population relating to name, age, sex, marital

status, occupation, relationship to head of household, birthplace, father's birthplace, and mother's birthplace. In addition, each individual was also asked the following information: his or her "other name, if any," tribe, father's tribe, mother's tribe, amount of "white blood," whether subject to taxation, year of acquiring U.S. citizenship, whether the citizenship was acquired by allotment, and whether living in a fixed or movable dwelling.

In the 1880 census, most tribal members were enumerated on the general population schedule and were asked the same questions as everyone else, including name, age, sex, marital status, occupation, relationship to head of household, birthplace, father's birthplace, and mother's birthplace.

For more information about the census forms and the instructions provided to the enumerators, see *200 Years of U.S. Census Taking: Population and*

*Housing Questions, 1790-1990* (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1989).

In addition to the Federal decennial censuses described above, there are a number of special censuses of various tribes. One example is National Archives Microfilm Publication M1791, (Cont. on p. 22)



The granddaughter of Chochise. (National Archives, Select Indian List, #25)



**AMERICAN INDIAN CENSUSES** (Cont. from p. 21) *The Special Census of Indians, 1880* (5 rolls). Section 8 of the census act of March 3, 1879 (20 Stat. 475), authorized the Superintendent of the Census to "employ special agents or other means to make an enumeration of all Indians not taxed, within the jurisdiction of the United States, with such information as to their condition as may be obtainable."

Under the U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 2, Clause 3, American Indians who were not subject to taxation were not counted for the purposes of apportioning representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. Since the census is taken every 10 years for the purpose of apportioning representation in Congress, the special act was necessary to authorize the Census Bureau to take a count of those not subject to taxation. (Incidentally, the "Indians not taxed" provision of the Constitution is now obsolete in light of a 1940 ruling of the Attorney General that all Native Americans are subject to taxation. See 39 *Op. Atty. Gen.* 518.)

### A Wealth of Information

The enumerators of the special Indian census were instructed to include all persons "who were living on the 1st day of October, 1880." For each person, the following information was requested:

1. Indian name.
2. English translation of Indian name.
3. English, Spanish, French, or other name habitually used.
4. Relationship to the head of the family or household.
5. Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.
6. Whether a chief or war chief.
7. Whether full-blooded of the tribe; if a mixture with another tribe, the name of the tribe. If a mixture with white, black, or mulatto, that is indicated.
8. Whether a white or black person adopted into the tribe.
9. The number of years the person has "habitually" lived on the reservation.
10. The number of years the person has "habitually" worn "citizen's dress" [i.e., white man's clothing].
11. Whether the person speaks English, Spanish, French, or some other non-Indian language.
12. Sex.
13. Age at last birthday prior to October 1, 1880.
14. If born within the census year (November 1, 1879 to October 1, 1880), the month of birth.
15. Occupation or trade.
16. Whether sick or temporarily disabled on the date the enumerator visited.
17. Whether vaccinated.
18. Whether maimed, crippled, bedridden, or otherwise disabled.
19. Whether blind, deaf and dumb, idiotic, insane.
20. Whether the person can read or write.
21. Whether the person attended school.
22. The number of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, dogs.
23. The number and kinds of firearms owned.
24. The number of acres cultivated, number of acres occupied, and the number of years the person has cultivated the land.
25. The number of acres the person holds by patent, allotment, or tribal regulation.
26. Whether the person is self-supporting, supported by family, supported from civilized industries, Government, hunting, fishing, or natural products of the soil such as roots and berries.

The census enumeration sheet was intended to be used to record information for persons residing together in one dwelling, but when the enumerator had difficulty obtaining information, the enumeration sheet was frequently used to record information about several families.

On the Yakama reservation, the enumerators frequently recorded names and other information only for the head of the household, although the number of persons in each household was indicated. In the Piute district of the Yakama reservation, the name of the head of household and number of men, women, and children were usually the only information recorded, apparently due to the enumerator's difficulty of obtaining information without an interpreter to assist him.

Following the taking of the census, the original records were bound in four volumes. Volumes I and II contain schedules for Indians near Fort Simcoe and at Tulalip, Washington Territory; Volume III, for Indians near Fort Yates, Dakota Territory; and Volume IV, for Indians in California.

The spelling of the tribal names is that used by the enumerator; it may not be the "correct" or modern-day spelling of the name.

Roll 1 contains the enumeration of the Tulalip Reservation, near Tulalip, Washington Territory; tribes included are the Snohomish, Ski-ho-mish/Skiwhomish, Puyallup, Snoqualmie, D'wamish, Kick i allus, Stilliquamish, and Lummi. Roll 1 also contains the Port Madison Reservation; tribes included are Suquamish, Snohomish, Skagit, Clallam, and Nesqually.

Roll 2 contains the enumeration of the Swinomish, Muckleshoot, and Lummi Reservations, as well as some Indians not living on a Reservation, all of which were near Tulalip, Washington Territory. The Swinomish Reservation tribes included are Swinomish, Kickialus, and Skagit. The Muckleshoot Reservation tribes are the Muckleshoot, Suse, Ski homish, Suquamish, Snoqualmie, Stilliquamish, Se lal co, and D'wamish. The Lummi Reservation tribes are the Lummi, Nooksack, Skagit, Chilliwac/Chilliwhac, Swinomish, Stickeen, and Cowichin. The Indians not on a reservation were of the Nooksack, Lummi, Cowichin, Swanlagh, Samish, and Stick Samish tribes. (Cont. on p. 24)



## Ford Library Launches New Oral History Program

The Gerald R. Ford Library has launched a new oral history program funded by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. The first interview, undertaken in late January, was with President Ford's former personal secretary Dorothy Downton.

The first segment of the project will include interviews by Supervisory archivist David Horrocks and archivist Richard Holzhausen of 23 individuals associated with the Ford administration. By the end of March interviews had been completed with such individuals as William Saxbe, James Lynn, Rod Hills, Robert McFarlane, David Broder, Earl Butz, David Matthews, Donald Rumsfeld, Roy Ash, and William Coleman.

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**NAZI GOLD** (Cont. from p. 23) Federal Record Center containers, to the hold area off the research room. That would make them more accessible. This was accomplished during the winter of 1996-97. We also issued special instructions to request and use the records. Specifically, researchers could ask for a box any time, and not have to wait for a regularly scheduled pull-time. Only one box was provided at a time so there would be equal access to the records.

### A Sustained Reference Demand

The "Nazi Gold" records have, for over year now, generated a heavy reference demand. During the past year the staff at College Park helped hundreds of researchers, in person or by mail or phone with their research efforts. The researchers include individual claimants; Federal historians; contract historians; print and broadcast media; journalists; authors; representatives of foreign governments and organizations; and law firms. Their reference requests have ranged from individuals and groups looking for specific records pertaining to Jewish assets in Swiss banks to individuals interested in the monetary and non-monetary gold questions.

Researchers have used the information they have gathered at College Park for a variety of purposes ranging from resolving some curiosity to determining whether a bank account may have been opened in Switzerland or a branch of a Swiss bank in the United States. Some of the information gathered has been for purposes of litigation. Information has been obtained for the production of books, articles, news stories, and documentaries. And information has been, and will continue to be, obtained by those desiring a full understanding of some, if not all, of the multiplicity of financial issues involved during and after the war.

The reference demand will undoubtedly continue for some time. We expect another burst of reference activity once the Interagency Group on Nazi Assets issues its eagerly

anticipated report. We do not know how many researchers will be prompted by the report and other information that is being made available to start research projects.

*...from individuals and groups looking for specific records pertaining to Jewish assets in Swiss banks to individuals interested in the monetary and non-monetary gold questions.*

Predicting reference demand is sometimes a little difficult. A little over a year ago we did not anticipate there would be a great interest in the Safehaven Program, Jewish assets in Swiss Banks, and a search for answers to questions relating to Nazi Looted Gold. Now, over a year later, as you read this, there are researchers at College Park in search of records relating to the many facets of World War II economic warfare. A year from now there will undoubtedly be more people asking about such records. And the Textual Reference Division will be ready to assist them.

*Greg Bradsher is Assistant Chief, Archives II Textual Reference Branch*

### AMERICAN INDIAN CENSUSES (Cont. from p. 22)

Roll 3 contains the enumeration of the Yakama Reservation near Fort Simcoe, Dakota Territory; tribes included are the Yakama, Klickitat, Bannock, and Piute.

Roll 4 contains the enumeration of the Standing Rock Reservation near Fort Yates, Dakota Territory; tribes included are the Minniconjoux, Oglala, and Uncapapa.

Roll 5 contains the enumeration of the Round Valley Reservation near Covelo, California; tribes included are the Ukie, Wylackie, Redwood, Con Cow, Pit River, Little Lake, Potter Valley, and Nomelackie.

For more information about records in the custody of the National Archives relating to American Indians, see *American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications* (National Archives, rev. 1996, \$5.00) and *Guide to Records in the National Archives of the United States Relating to American Indians* (National Archives, 1982, \$25).

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