



Next Generation Finding Aid Website: The Bureau of Indian Affairs Photographs Finding Aid

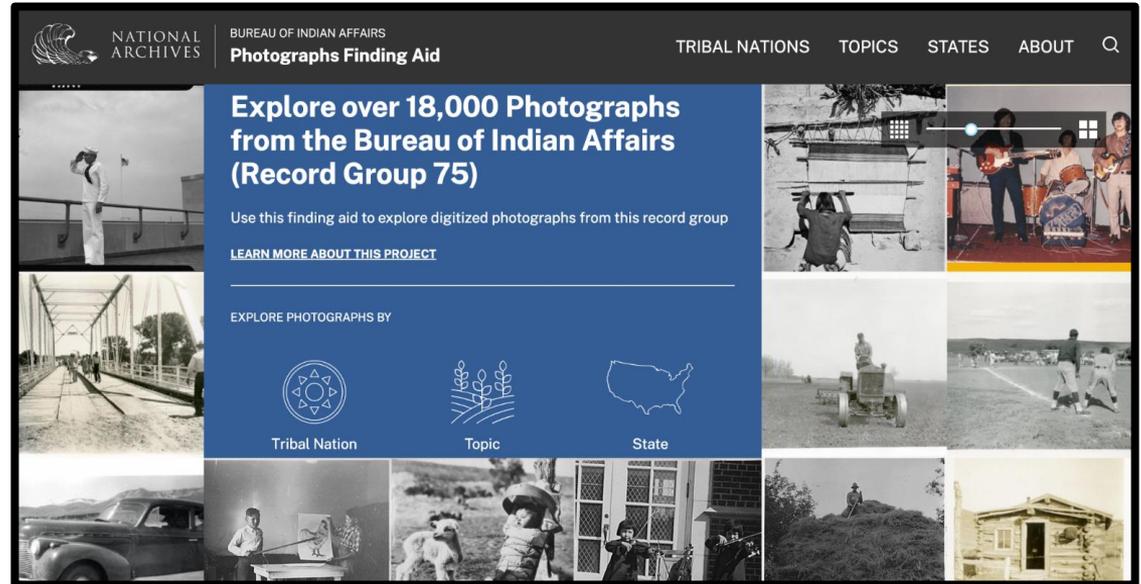


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The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) developed a finding aid to feature the digitized photographs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The finding aid allows users to browse and search the photographs by Tribal Nation, by state, and by topic.



Develop a dynamic digital finding aid that features over 18,000 digitized photographs from RG 75

Ensure the records are discoverable, browseable, and searchable

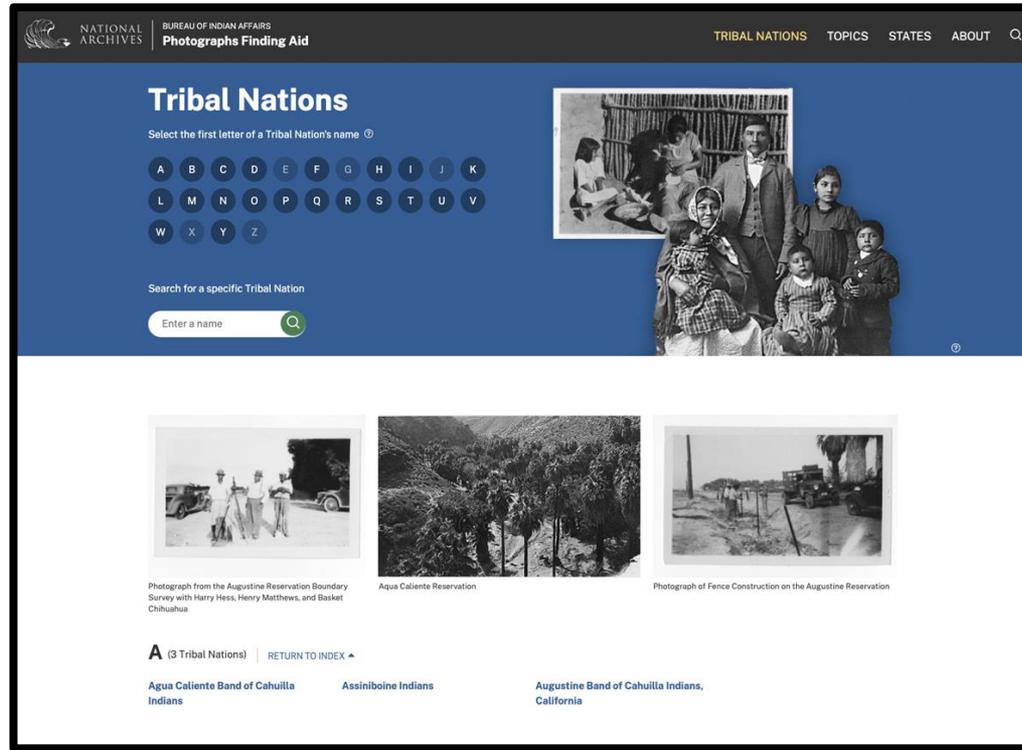
Provide an honest representation of the images; be transparent and culturally sensitive about all aspects of the U.S. government's relationship with Native Americans

Meet archival standards and US Web Design System requirements

Ensure the web product is responsive, open source, and accessible

“One of the problems with archives is that these resources are far away from Indian country. It’s hard to get to the archives to do research.”

"Repatriating these photographs in a digital sense back to indigenous communities would be important."



The screenshot shows the 'Photographs Finding Aid' interface for Tribal Nations. At the top left is the National Archives logo and 'BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS'. The main title is 'Photographs Finding Aid'. Navigation links include 'TRIBAL NATIONS', 'TOPICS', 'STATES', and 'ABOUT'. A search icon is in the top right. The main heading is 'Tribal Nations' with a sub-heading 'Select the first letter of a Tribal Nation's name'. Below this is a grid of letters from A to Z. A search bar with a magnifying glass icon is labeled 'Search for a specific Tribal Nation' and 'Enter a name'. A large historical photograph of a family is on the right. Below the search area are three photo thumbnails with captions: 'Photograph from the Augustine Reservation Boundary Survey with Harry Hess, Henry Matthews, and Basket Chihuahua', 'Aqua Caliente Reservation', and 'Photograph of Fence Construction on the Augustine Reservation'. At the bottom, it shows 'A (3 Tribal Nations) | RETURN TO INDEX' and lists 'Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians', 'Assiniboine Indians', and 'Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, California'.

FEATURED TRIBAL NATION

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota

Select a featured Tribal Nation

STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE OF NOR ▾

The chart below shows the breakdown of all photos known to be associated with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota. Click on a topic to see related photos or select one of the other 10 featured Tribal Nations from the menu on the right.

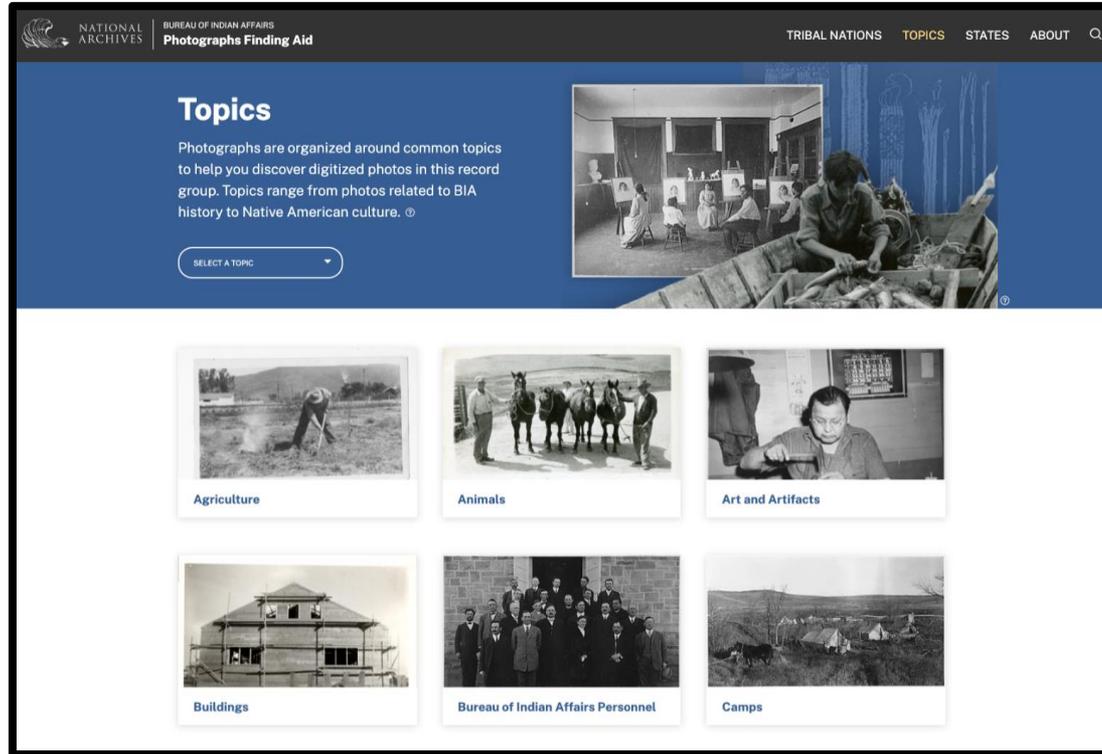
Interested in viewing all Tribal Nations? Visit the [Tribal Nations page](#).



VIEW ALL 6553 PHOTOS

EXPAND





NATIONAL ARCHIVES | BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Photographs Finding Aid

TRIBAL NATIONS TOPICS STATES ABOUT

Topics

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. ⓘ

SELECT A TOPIC

- 
Agriculture
- 
Animals
- 
Art and Artifacts
- 
Buildings
- 
Bureau of Indian Affairs Personnel
- 
Camps

Record Hierarchy

Record Group 75:
Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1793 - 1999

Series:
Photographs, ca. 1923 - ca. 1955

Item:
Project (Wounded Knee Dam - Spillway Construction)

Tag

construction 

 [Add](#)

Comment

Add a comment...

[Policy](#) | [Need Help?](#)

Project (Wounded Knee Dam - Spillway Construction)



[View/Add Contributions](#)



1



NATIONAL ARCHIVES | BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Photographs Finding Aid

TRIBAL NATIONS TOPICS STATES ABOUT

States

Many photographs are associated with the state in which the photograph was taken. Select a state name to see a list of photographs organized by state. ⓘ

Select a state from the map or list below to see photographs organized by state.

NORTHWEST REGION
PACIFIC REGION
WESTERN REGION
SOUTHWEST REGION
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION
GREAT PLAINS REGION
MIDWEST REGION
SOUTHERN PLAINS REGION & EASTERN OKLAHOMA REGION
ALASKA REGION
EASTERN REGION

STATE

South Dakota ▾

These photographs are associated with the state of South Dakota. Use the filters below to narrow down this list by Tribal Nation and/or topic. Select an image to see it and get more information

Filter Results

TRIBAL NATIONS

TOPICS

SELECT TRIBAL NATIONS ▾

SELECT TOPICS ▾

SHOWING 1 - 30 OF 12978 RESULTS



Equipment Reservoir Construction Reservoirs Reservoirs

Explore Photographs of Famous Native Americans



Chief Red Cloud



Photograph of Spotted Tail



Pacer (Peso, Essa-queta), a Kiowa-Apache chief; half-length, seated, wearing earrings



Manuelito, a Navajo chief; full-length, seated



Jesse Cornplanter, descendant of Cornplanter, the famous Seneca chief, making a ceremonial mask, Tonawanda



Pfc. Ira H. Hayes, a Pima, at age 19, ready to jump, Marine Corps Paratroop School



Photograph of Jim Thorpe Standing in His Carlisle Indian School Football Uniform



Minnie Spottedwolf

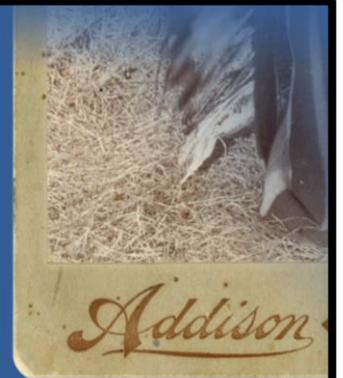
About the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Photograph Records

This digital archival experience contains historical photographs from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

NARA acknowledges that photographs included in this project may evoke memories or feelings from a history of oppression.

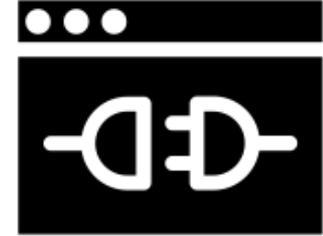
Captions for, and the terms used to describe, the photographs in these records were created at about the time each image was captured.

Some of the terms used at the time may now be considered to be outdated, inaccurate, derogatory, disrespectful, or culturally insensitive. NARA does not alter, edit, or modify original captions, as they are part of the historical record and reflect and document the standard language, attitudes, and biases at the time.



National Archives Catalog application programming interface (API)

- Fuels the finding aid with data from NARA's Catalog
- Updates the finding aid as photographs are newly tagged by citizen archivists or
- Updates the finding aid with newly digitized photographs added to the Catalog



International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

- IIIF, a collaborative, open source framework for cultural heritage institutions to display their holdings online, use for this finding aid's image delivery and image viewer
- Provides an improved user experience for viewing the images



- Next Gen NAC – Fall 2022
- Next Gen NAC API – Fall 2022
- Archives.gov Updates
- NAC Enhancements



The Future

NARA's next steps in future Next Gen Finding Aids and NARA's commitment to engagement with various Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities in their creation



Strategic Alignment

- Strategic Goal 1 Make Access Happen
 - 1.1 By FY 2026, NARA will process 85 percent of archival holdings and increase enhanced descriptions to promote equity in discovery and public access to archival records related to underserved communities.
 - 1.3 By FY 2026, NARA will collaborate with traditionally underserved communities to correct outdated descriptions in the National Archives Catalog and prioritize citizen engagement projects that increase access to records that are important to underserved communities.
 - Apply reparative description to at least 1,000 instances of problematic terms in the Catalog each year;
 - Host at least one citizen archivist transcription project per year;
 - Make at least one dataset available for bulk download by a traditionally underserved community or website each year; and
 - Explore options that would allow users with limited or intermittent internet connections to access records from the Catalog.
- Strategic Goal 2 Connect with Customers
 - 2.3 By FY 2026, NARA will deliver a national program of museums, education, and public programming that demonstrates leadership in equity, accessibility, and diversity.

<https://www.archives.gov/about/plans-reports/strategic-plan/strategic-plan-2022-2026>



Reparative Description and Digitization

Strategy and Goals

- To examine harmful language in legacy descriptions in the National Archives Catalog; to ensure that historical records are described using respectful, accurate, and discoverable terminology; and to develop processes to correct description for under-described and over-described records
- To surface records that are pertinent to traditionally underrepresented and underserved communities through digitization
- To commit to a fundamental principle of meaningful consultation, engagement, and collaboration with community partners to achieve these goals, particularly with communities that NARA has historically underserved.
 - Aligned with direction NARA was given to implement Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
 - Developed Reparative Description and Digitization Working Group Work Plan in Collaboration with NARA's Equity Team



Resources and Links from Archives.gov

Next Gen Finding Aids

- [Bureau of Indian Affairs Photographs Next Gen Finding Aid](#)
- [Record Group Explorer](#)
- [Donated Collection Explorer](#)
- [Presidential Library Explorer](#)

NARA Reparative Description Resources

- [Guiding Principles for Reparative Description at NARA](#)
- [Statement on Potentially Harmful Content](#)
- [Updates on Reparative Description and Digitization](#)

Questions?