

Guide to Rare Books and Documents Related to Native American History and Culture at The Rosenbach

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HISTORICAL NOTE

Dr. A.S.W. Rosenbach possessed a deep and abiding interest in American history, especially the era of the founding of the United States and the settlement of the American West as well as the early history of Latin America. As a reflection of the founder's personal scholarly interest, The Rosenbach's historical collection is very broad. Rare books, ephemera, and manuscript materials that Dr. Rosenbach himself assembled offer a record of American history from the earliest days of exploration and colonial settlement through the populating of the American continents by Europeans, into the nineteenth century and beyond. Many of the items in The Rosenbach's historical collections relate to the lives of Native Americans, their interactions with European colonists and settlers, as well as their dialogues and conflicts with conquering governments.

SCOPE & CONTENT

This Collections Guide includes books, printed documents, and manuscript materials that illuminate aspects of the lives and cultures of indigenous communities in what is now the United States, from the eras of exploration and colonial settlement through the end of the nineteenth century. It also features materials documenting the early history of Spanish exploration and the settlement of Latin America. Most of the items described in the guide depict indigenous culture through the lens of Europeans and Euro-Americans with whom the Native Americans interacted. In other words, the information that most books and documents offer is mediated through White perspectives and traditions of recording, transmitting, and preserving information.

The Rosenbach's holdings possess some notable areas of strength. The collections are rich in explorers' descriptions of Native peoples and their cultures; treaties (including a collection of printed treaties made between the United States and various tribes between 1824 and 1869); and scriptures, liturgical, and devotional works produced for the use of Christian missionaries seeking to convert the Natives both to Christianity and to a European way of life. Many of these missional works are in Native American languages, including Aymara, Delaware, Huron, Massachusetts, Mohawk, Montagnais, Osage, Quechua, Seneca, and Zapotec. Captivity narrative—or tales of whites held captive by Indians—were among the first American best-sellers. Although some of these narratives contained accurate and even sympathetic depictions of Indians, others were pure sensational fiction. A later popular genre, the nineteenth-century dime novel, often presented similar stereotypes. (The Rosenbach owns many dime novels, though they do not yet appear in this guide.)

Among Native American authors and orators whose own words appear in the collections are William Apess, David Cusick, Kahkewagwennaby (Peter Jones), Segoyewatha (Red Jacket), and Simon Pokagon.

Additional important manuscript material concerning Native Americans is found in a large group of documents from colonial Mexico. For a detailed description of this collection, see David M. Szewczyk, *The Viceroyalty of New Spain and early independent Mexico* (Rosenbach Museum & Library, 1980.) Another useful publication about The Rosenbach's Native American holdings is *Words & deeds: Natives, Europeans, and writing in eastern North America, 1500-1850*, by Karim M. Tiro (Rosenbach Museum & Library, 1997).

Please note: **This Collections Guide does not currently offer an exhaustive or comprehensive inventory of The Rosenbach's holdings related to Native American peoples and cultures.**

The Guide was created as part of a focused research project and should be considered an extensive though incomplete sampling of relevant materials in The Rosenbach's collection. Further research and identification of relevant materials is ongoing, and the guide will be updated periodically. Some contextual information about select items has been provided in the entries below by Rosenbach staff. For more information about resources available at The Rosenbach, please make a collections inquiry (<https://rosenbach.org/research/make-an-inquiry/>) or schedule a research appointment (<https://rosenbach.org/research/make-an-appointment/>).

Please also note: The card catalog available in the reading room at The Rosenbach features detailed, if not at this point comprehensive, listings of books and printed documents related to the indigenous peoples of the Americas. To access the card catalog, please make a research appointment.

The Rosenbach's holdings consist of:

- I. Printed U.S. Government Treaties with Native Tribes
- II. Other Printed Documents
- III. Manuscripts
- IV. Books
- V. Artworks and Artifacts

I. Printed U.S. Government Treaties with Native Tribes

Collection of 11 boxes containing 217 treaties and other government records.

Indian Treaties Box 1, Apache–Chicksaw, 1825–1868 (17 treaties)
1079/18 (1) –
1079/18 (17)

Indian Treaties Box 2, Chippewa, 1827–1867 (11 treaties)
1079/19 (12) –
1079/19 (21)

Indian Treaties Box 3, Choctaw–Crow, 1825–1868 (18 treaties)
1079/20 (1) –

1079/20 (18)

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| Indian Treaties Box 4,
1079/21 (1) –
1079/21 (22) | Dakota, 1825–1868 (22 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 5,
1079/22 (1) –
1079/22 (25) | Delaware–Kiowa, 1824–1867 (25 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 6,
1079/23 (1) –
1079/23 (25) | Klamath–Omaha, 1825–1868 (25 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 7,
1079/24 (1) –
1079/24 (20) | Oneida–Ponca, 1825–1865 (20 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 8,
1079/25 (1) –
1079/25 (35) | Sauk–Fox, 1824–1867 (35 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 9,
1079/26 (1) –
1079/26 (17) | Seminole–Stockbridge, 1825–1869 (17 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 10,
1079/27 (1) –
1079/27 (17) | Tabeguache–Yakima, 1828–1868 (17 treaties) |
| Indian Treaties Box 11,
11:1 – 11:10 | Miscellaneous Treaties and Government Records (10 documents)
<i>(Items in this box seem formerly to have been bound together and then disbound in the past. See Part II for detailed description of this box’s contents)</i> |

II. Other Printed Documents

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| Indian Treaties Box 11,
11:1 | Peters, Richard, Clerk of the Council. “A Council held at
“Philadelphia the 21 st August 1744 with the deputies of the
Delaware Indians on account of the murther [murder] of John
Armstrong the Indian trader.”
<i>(Printed treaty with manuscript title page and manuscript
annotations throughout document.)</i> |
| Indian Treaties Box 11, | Peters, Richard, Clerk of the Council. “A treaty with the Indians |

- 11:2 of the Seneca Nation held at Philadelphia the first July 1749.”
(Printed treaty with manuscript title page and manuscript annotations throughout document.)
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:3 “A treaty with the Six Nation Indians held the 16th August 1749 with the report of Richard Peters Esq of the proceedings against sundry persons settled upon land not purchased of the Indians.”
(Printed treaty with manuscript title page and manuscript annotations throughout document.)
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:4 “The report of Richard Peters, Esq; Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania, of the proceedings against sundry persons settled in the unpurchased part of the province aforesaid,” 2 July 1750.
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:5 Jefferson, Thomas. “Report of the Secretary of State, to the President of the United States, of the Qquantity and situation of the lands not claimed by the Indians, nor granted to, nor claimed by any citizens, within the territory of the United States. Read in the House of Representatives, November 10, 1791.”
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:6 [Report from a government committee on Indian relations.]
“The committee to whom was referred that part of the President’s speech, which relates to the improvements of harmony with the Indian nations, within the limits of the United States, by fixing and conducting of Trading Houses, report: [...]” 1 December 1794.
(Single printed leaf with manuscript notes.)
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:7 Pickering, Thomas. “Report of the Secretary of War on the abovementioned resolution.” 26 January 1795.
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:8 “Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, enclosing the report and transcripts of decisions, made by the commissioners, appointed to examine the claims to land, in the district of Vincennes; in conformity with the several acts, making provision for the disposal of public lands in the Indiana Territory. December 23, 1806. Referred to the committee on public lands.” (City of Washington [Washington, D.C.]: A. & G. Way, Printers, 1806).
- Indian Treaties Box 11, 11:9 “Letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting statements, marked A.B.C. & D., referring to ‘All the Treaties Held with the Indian Tribes Respectively, since the Fourth of March, 1789,’ &c. in pursuance of a resolution of the Senate of the thirtieth December, 1812. May 26th, 1813. Printed by order of the Senate of the United States.” (Washington City [Washington D.C.]: Roger Chew Weightman, 1813).

Indian Treaties Box 11,
11:10

“Letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting documents exhibiting the general expenses of the Indian Department, embracing annuities and presents, and the general and particular views of the Indian Trade. In obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 2d March, 1815. March 14, 1816, read and ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate.” (Washington: Printed by William A. Davis, 1816).

III. Manuscripts

AMs 775/21

Pennsylvania Provincial Council. Report of the commissioners to the Albany Congress, 6 August 1754.

AMs 1031/24
(typescript 1040/3)

Schoolcraft, Henry Rowe. Manuscript journal, 24 June 24 – 8 September 1825.

AMs 1040/21

Lieut. Gov. Oliver Andrew. Letter to Rev. Stephen West, Stockbridge, MA, 28 November 1764.

AMs 1040/24

Cession of land by Pumham, sachem of Shawomet, and Sacononoco, sachem of Patuxitt, to the colony of Massachusetts. 22 June 1643.
(Copy transcribed from the original court records by Edward Rawson.)

AMs 1040/25

Philip, Sachem of the Wampanoags. Copy of a deed to William Brenton and others, September 28, 1672, documenting sale of tracts of land near Taunton, MA to Brenton and others, 10 January 1719.
(This is a manuscript copy dated January 10, 1719.)

AMs 1293/11

MacDougall, Duncan. Astoria journal: manuscript, 1810-1813.
(The official record book of John Jacob Astor's fur trading post near the mouth of the Columbia River. Includes much material on the traders' relations with the Chinook and other local tribes.)

IV. Books

A 615t

Hamor, Raphe. *A trve discovrse of the present estate of Virginia, and the successe of the affaires there till the 18 of Iune. 1614. together. With a relation of the seuerall English townes and sorts, the assured hopes of that countrie and the peace concluded with the Indians. The christening of Powhatans daughter and her marriage with an English-man. Written by Raphe Hamor the*

yonger, late Secretarie in that Colony. London: John Beale for William Welby, 1615.

- Af.626g Smith, John. *The generall historie of Virginia, New-England and the Summer Isles: with the names of the adventurers, planters, and governours from their first beginning ano 1584 to this present 1626. With the proceedings of those severall colonies and the accidents that befell them in all their journeyes and discoveries [...].* London: I.D. and I.H. for Michael Sparkes, 1626.
- A 643k Williams, Roger. *A key into the language of America: or, an help to the language of the natives in that part of America, called New-England* (London, 1643).
(*The first work on indigenous languages printed in English.*)
- A 666i Eliot, John. *The Indian grammar begun: or, an essay to bring the Indian language into rules, for the help of such as desire to learn the same, for the furtherance of the Gospel among them* (Cambridge, Mass., 1666).
- A 663m Eliot, John, trans. [Bible. Massachusett]. *Mamusse wunneetupanatamwe up-biblum God naneeswe Nukkone Testament kah wonk Wusku Testament.* Cambridge, Mass.: Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson, 1663-1661.
(*Widely known as the "Eliot Indian Bible," this is the first Bible printed in what is now the United States. Significantly, it is printed not in English but in the Massachusett language. John Eliot, a minister to the early Puritan settlers, devised a system for writing the language and translated the entire Bible. The New Testament was published in 1661 and the Old in 1663. Native Americans had an active part in producing this Bible. One, Job Nesuton, was instrumental in helping Eliot to learn Massachusett, and another, James Printer, a Nipmuc, worked as apprentice to the printers.*)
- A 677n Hubbard, William, 1621–1704. *The present state of New-England: being a narrative of the troubles with the Indians in New-England, from the first planting thereof in the year 1607, to this present year 1677* (London, 1677).
- A 680n Godwin, Morgan. *The Negroes and Indians advocate, suing for their admission to the Church.* (London: printed for the author by J.D., 1680.)
- A 764m AMPM Sergeant, John. *A morning prayer and A prayer before sermon* [in Mohegan]. Boston: s.n., ca. 1764.

- A 767n La Brosse, Jean-Baptiste de. *Nehiro-iriniui aiamihe massinahigan* (Uabistiguiatsh [Québec], 1767).
(*A collection of prayers and a catechism in the language of the Montagnais people of Québec.*)
- A 773 n Rowlandson, Mary, ca. 1635–1711. *A true history of the captivity & restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson, a minister's wife in New-England* (Boston, 1773).
(*The book that established the conventions of the genre of captivity narratives. This tale of her three-month captivity during King Philip's War was enormously popular, running to twenty-three editions by 1828.*)
- A 786p Claus, Christian Daniel. *A primer for the use of the Mohawk children, to acquire the spelling and reading of their own, as well as to get acquainted with the English, tongue; which for that purpose is put on the opposite page. Waerighwagsawe Iksaongoenwa [...]* (London, 1786).
(*The largest portion of the text consists of a catechism and prayers.*)
- A 811n *Native eloquence, being public speeches delivered by two distinguished chiefs of the Seneca tribe of Indians, known among the white people by the names of Red Jacket and Farmer's Brother.* (Canandaigua, N.Y., 1811).
- A 814 H vols. 1 and 2 Allen, Paul. *History of the expedition under the command of Captains Lewis and Clark, to the sources of the Missouri, thence across the River Columbia to the Pacific Ocean, performed During the Years 1804—5—6. By order of the government of the United States. Prepared for the press by Paul Allen, Esquire. In two volumes. 2 vols.* (Philadelphia / New York: Bradford and Inskeep / Amb. H. Inskeep. J. Maxwell, printer. 1814).
- A 824n Seaver, James E., ed. *A narrative of the life of Mrs. Mary Jemison, who was taken by the Indians in the year 1755...* (Canandaigua, N.Y., 1824).
(*Mary Jemison, also known as Dehgewanus, was captured by the Seneca of western New York as an adolescent and decided to remain with them even after she had the opportunity to leave.*)
- A827c Kahkewagwennaby (Peter Jones) 1802–1856. *Collection of hymns for the use of native Christians of the Iroquois, to which are added a few hymns in the Chippeway tongue* (New York, 1827).
(*Kahkewagwennaby was an Ojibwe Methodist preacher, who also wrote a history of the Ojibwe.*)

- A 828da Cusick, David. *David Cusick's sketches of ancient history of the Six Nations: —comprising— first—a tale of the foundation of the great island, (Now North America,) the two infants born, and the creation of the universe. Second—a real account of the early settlers of North America, and their dissensions. Third—origin of the kingdom of the Five Nations, which was called a long house: the wars, fierce animals, &c.* Second edition of 7,000 copies.— Embelished [sic] with 4 engravings. Tuscarora Village: (Lewiston, Niagara co.), 1829.
- A 831s Apes[s], William. *A son of the forest, the experience of William Apes, a native of the forest, written by himself.* 2nd ed., revised and corrected. New York: Published by the author. Printed by G.F. Bunce, 1831.
(*The first full-length autobiography published by a Native American. Apess, a Pequot, was a Methodist preacher who appealed to whites' Christian values to move them to better treatment of the Indians.*)
- A 849l Lewis, R.B. *Light and truth: collected from the Bible and ancient and modern history; containing the universal history of the colored and the Indian race, from the creation of the world to the present time. By R.B. Lewis, a Colored Man.* Boston: Published by a Committee of Colored Men. Benjamin F. Roberts, Printer. 1849.
- MML 0640 Hoffman, Malvina, 1887-1966. *Heads and tales.* Garden City, N.Y.: Garden City Pub. Co., 1943.
(*"My adventure and experiences of 'head-hunting' in the near and far corners of the earth, and how the hundred racial types in the 'Hall of man' of the Field museum in Chicago were selected and modelled on the road."* From the library of Marianne Moore.)
- [Uncatalogued] Pokagon, Simon. *Ogîmäwkwe Mitigwäki (queen of the woods). Also: brief sketch of the Algaic language.* (Hartford, MI: C.H. Engle, 1899.)
(*Pokagon, chief of the Pokagon band of Potawatomi of Michigan, was one of the best-known Native Americans of his day, as author of many published poems and articles and speaker to many white audiences. His book is sometimes described as the first novel written by a Native American, perhaps because the publisher described it as "a real romance of Indian life," but it is really an autobiography, an account of Pokagon's young manhood and early married life. It begins with a fourteen-page sketch of the Algonquin or Algaic language in which it was originally written.*)

V. Artworks and Artifacts

- 1954.0715 “The armorial bearings of the states of Massachusetts and New York.” Black and white etching on ecru wove paper. 12” H x 9.375” W.
(The armorial bearing of Massachusetts features an image of a Native American person.)
- 1954.0781 McGoffin, John. “The announcement of the Declaration of Independence / (State House Philadelphia).” Black and white engraving with etching on ecru wove paper. 6” H x 9.5” W.
(Includes an image of a Native American person wearing leggings, a cloak, and feathers.)
- 1954.0800 Levasseur, Jean Charles (Paris). “L’Amérique indépendante.” Black and white engraving with etching on wove paper. 1778. 16” H x 20.5” W.
(An allegorical scene representing the independence of the United States. It includes an image of a Native American crouching over a turtle in front of a woman holding a liberty cap, i.e. the allegorical figure of liberty.)
- 1954.1821 a Watercolor drawing of a Native American man on cream colored wove paper. Copy of an artwork of John White (ca. 1540-ca. 1593).
- 1954.1822 Fenner, Sears & Co. “Military school, West Point N.Y.” Hand-colored etching on off-white wove paper. 1846-1860. 7.125” H x 10.125” W.
(Border of artwork depicts a knelling Native American holding a bow and peering at an approaching ship.)