<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>TIME (ET)</th>
<th>SESSION TITLE</th>
<th>PRESENTER(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcoming Remarks</td>
<td>David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Exploring History Hub for Genealogists and Researchers</td>
<td>Rebecca L. Collier, Archivist at the National Archives at College Park and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator for History Hub, Darren Cole, Digital Engagement Specialist at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the National Archives in Washington, DC, Kelly Osborn, Community Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and Web Developer at the National Archives at College Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Preserving Personal Collections</td>
<td>Sara Holmes, Management and Program Analyst at the National Archives in St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
<td>Immigrant Records: More Than Just Ship Passenger Arrival</td>
<td>Elizabeth Burnes, Archivist at the National Archives at Kansas City and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lists</td>
<td>NARA’s Subject Matter Expert on Immigration Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Using National Archives Records to Research World War I</td>
<td>Nathaniel Patch, Archivist at the National Archives at College Park and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Naval and Marine Corps Records for Genealogical Research</td>
<td>NARA’s Subject Matter Expert on U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Discovering and Researching Bureau of Indian Affairs</td>
<td>Cody White, Archivist at the National Archives at Denver and NARA’s Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Records</td>
<td>Matter Expert on Native American Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>The Homestead Act: Land Records of Your Ancestors</td>
<td>James Muhn, Researcher, Writer, and Lecturer on Federal Land Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Ann Cummings, Executive for Research Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Federally run schools for American Indian children first emerged in the mid-19th century and became a potent tool of cultural assimilation for decades, before slowly evolving alongside the general changes and improvements in Native American relations. This presentation will discuss the records of Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) boarding and day schools, looking at both individual student case files as well as general administrative records, what was and not saved, what can be found within them, and what privacy restrictions exist. Located at National Archives facilities across the country and often hidden within other BIA series, these records not only chronicle a student's academic career but often health, family, and life after school. General school records paint a portrait of school life and can further flesh out an individual's history at a particular school at a particular time.
Cody White has been an archivist with the National Archives at Denver since 2012 and was recently named Subject Matter Expert for Native American Related Records for the National Archives. He holds a Masters of Library and Information Science from the University of California Los Angeles and a BA in History from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.
Discovering and Researching Bureau of Indian Affairs School Records

Cody White

October 23, 2019
Our Plan For Today

• A brief history of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Education Efforts

• Types of Schools

• Types of Records
  • Access Restrictions/Records That No Longer Exist
  • Student Case Files
  • Administrative Records

• Research Example

• Starting Your Own Research/Resources
What is the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)?

Circa 1940 postcard of "The New Department of the Interior Building," today the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building and home of the BIA.

At the behest of President Franklin Roosevelt's Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, the Indian Craft Shop was opened on the first floor and still today includes works for sale by American Indian artists nationwide.

https://www.indiancraftshop.com/
The Early Years

Great Camp of the Piekanns near Fort McKenzie, Montana, 1833

(National Archives Identifier 530976)
"Art. X. The United States further agree to establish, at the general agency for the district of Puget's Sound, within one year from the ratification hereof, and to support, for a period of twenty years, an agricultural and industrial school, to be free to children of the said tribes and bands, in common with those of the other tribes."

Treaty between the United States and the Nisqualli, Puyallup, and Other Indians at Medicine Creek, Washington Territory, December 26, 1854

(National Archives Identifier 12013261)
The Assimilation Era

Group of Omaha boys in Cadet Uniforms,
Carlisle Indian School, Pennsylvania, 1880
(National Archives Identifier 519136)

Carlisle Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Washington, DC

Art Class, Phoenix Indian School,
Arizona Territory, 1900
(National Archives Identifier 518923)

Phoenix Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Riverside
Evolution in the 20th Century

Stewart Indian School, Nevada, circa 1935
(National Archives Identifier 296123)

Cherokee Central Elementary School, North Carolina, circa 1972
(National Archives Identifier 281596)

Stewart Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at San Francisco.

Cherokee Indian Agency records can be found at the National Archives at Atlanta.
### Types of Schools: Non-reservation Boarding Schools

**Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial School, Michigan, circa 1910**

(Library of Congress Control Number 2007662291)

Mount Pleasant Indian School and Agency records can be found at the National Archives at Chicago.
**Types of Schools:**

**Reservation Boarding Schools**

---

**Indian School, Cherokee, North Carolina, circa 1909**

(Library of Congress Control Number 2007661913)

Cherokee Indian Agency records can be found at the National Archives at Atlanta
Types of Schools:

Day Schools

Pueblo of Sandia Day School, New Mexico, 1936
(National Archives Identifier 2669383)

Records of the Pueblo, Northern Pueblos, Southern Pueblos, and United Pueblos Agencies can be found at the National Archives at Denver.
Types of Schools: Mission Schools

Records of the private Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions can be found at the Marquette University Special Collections and University Archives.

Records of both the Fort Totten and Turtle Mountain Agencies can be found at the National Archives at Kansas City.

St. Ann’s Mission Day School, North Dakota, Undated (National Archives Identifier 118972317)
Types of Schools:
Public Schools

Number of children on the Fort Belknap Reservation at each type of school during the 1930/1931 school year:

- Reservation boarding school: 73
- Non-reservation boarding school: 42
- Mission school: 29
- Public school: 163
The following two slides demonstrate the changing landscape of BIA schools and the shift in location and type over a 20-year period, from 1899 to 1900.

(Images from the Atlas of American Indian Affairs, Francis Paul Prucha, University of Nebraska Press, 1990)
Commencement program listing 1933 graduates from the Genoa Indian School, found in the Charles H. Burke Indian School, New Mexico, files (National Archives Identifier: 6041665)

List of students sent to the Genoa Indian School in 1910 from the Flathead Reservation, found in the Flathead Agency, Montana, files (National Archives Identifier 2165826)
If a record is less than 75 years old, only the student or someone with power of attorney can access it. Upon death or 75 years, the case file is open for research.
What’s in a name?

In earlier school records, the anglicization of native names features prominently as one facet of the assimilation effort.

Shifting family dynamics, often due to death, or simple misspellings, both seen here, leads to differing names—these are all the same student.
Types of Records: Student Case Files circa 1880-1900

Frances King, Seneca (1871- )
Carlisle Indian Industrial School, 1885-1888

(National Archives Identifier 1370839)

Scans courtesy of the Carlisle Indian School Digital Resource Center, Dickinson College Archives and Special Collections
Types of Records: Student Case Files circa 1900-1920

Ramona Cordero, Cochiti Pueblo (1904- )
Santa Fe Indian School, 1912-1921

(National Archives Identifier 74607303)
Types of Records: Student Case Files circa 1920-1940

Ellis War Bonnet/Bull Tail, Brulé Lakota (1916-2000)
Albuquerque Indian School, 1934-1938

(National Archives Identifier 74587286)
Types of Records: Student Case Files circa 1940-1950

John Werito, Navajo (1923-1983)
Southern Ute Boarding School, 1937-1943

(National Archives Identifier 74589173)
Types of Records:
Student Case Files circa 1950-1970

Irene Tsosie, Navajo (1936-1976)
Intermountain Indian School, 1951-1956

(National Archives Identifier 74591828)
Types of Records:

Administrative Records

Found in either specific series relating to education topics/schools or in general correspondence/administrative series, organized chronologically, alphabetically, numerically, alphanumerically, by a locally unique file code system, or the standard agency wide decimal code system instituted in 1926...

Decimal filing codes 800-899 were dedicated to education topics, but education matters show up in other areas, such as Administration and Control, 100-199; and General and Statistical, 1-99

RECORDS VARY GREATLY BY AGENCY!
Types of Records:

Reports

Descriptive Statement of Pupils Transferred to St. Paul's Mission School, Montana, 1887
(National Archives Identifier 139074578)

Teacher's Report of Attendance of Indian Pupils, Harlem Public High School, Montana, 1936
(National Archives Identifier 139074578)
Types of Records: Health and Death

**Yearly Record of Weights of Pupils**, Fort Belknap Boarding School, Montana, 1926
(National Archives Identifier 139074578)

**Grave Yard Plat**, Santa Fe Indian School, New Mexico, 1894
(National Archives Identifier 1353895)

**Monthly Hospital Report**, Charles H. Burke Indian School, New Mexico, 1928
(National Archives Identifier 6040705)
Types of Records: School Building Records

Plan of School Building for Miami Indians, Kansas, 1861
(National Archives Identifier 50926132)

Plat of Buildings, Lodgepole Sub-Station and School, Fort Belknap Reservation, Montana, 1938
(National Archives Identifier 1126876)
Types of Records: School Newsletters
Types of Records: Sports

Albuquerque Indian School Football Season Results, New Mexico, 1933
(National Archives Identifier 68888986)

Albuquerque Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Denver

Girls Basketball Team, Rapid City Indian School, South Dakota, 1910
(National Archives Identifier 139071161)

Rapid City Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Kansas City.
Types of Records: Schedules

**Weekly Program**

**Sunday**
- Inspection of quarters, first Sunday of each month, 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.
- Regimental inspection, second Sunday of each month, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.
- Mass, Catholic church, 10:15 a.m.
- Church, 3:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- Band concert, 3:45 p.m. semi-monthly.
- Regimental parade, 4:30 p.m.
- Chapel, auditorium, 5:00 p.m.

**Monday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 1:30 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- School, 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Second band, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both divisions.
- Mechanical drawing, vocational boys, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
- Orchestra, 4:45 to 5:00 p.m.
- First band, 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.
- Gymnasium, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- School, 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Second band, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both divisions.
- Mechanical drawing, vocational boys, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
- Orchestra, 4:45 to 5:00 p.m.
- First band, 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.
- Choir, 6:15 p.m.
- Gymnasium, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- School, 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Second band, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both divisions.
- Mandolin class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Industrial division.
- Orchestra, 4:45 to 5:00 p.m.
- Church, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- School, 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Second band, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both divisions.
- Free evening for children.

**Friday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- School, 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Second band, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. both divisions.
- First band, 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.
- Society, 7:30 p.m. (First and third Fridays.)

**Saturday**
- Industrial departments, 7:45 to 11:30 a.m.
- Mandolin class, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Choir, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Band, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Inspection of departments, second Saturday of month.
- Academic, 9:00 a.m. Assistant Superintendent.
- Girls’ Industrial, 10 a.m. Principal of Home Economics.
- Boys’ Industrial, 1:00 p.m. Supt. of Industries.

Calendar and Daily Schedule, Sherman Institute, California, 1927
(National Archives Identifier 6040365)

Sherman Institute records can be found at the National Archives at Riverside.
Types of Records: Photographs

Chilocco Indian School classroom, Oklahoma, circa 1912
(National Archives Identifier 2745682)

Chilocco Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Fort Worth

The Meteors, Chemawa Indian School, Oregon, circa 1971
(National Archives Identifier 5585778)

Chemawa Indian School records can be found at the National Archives at Seattle
Types of Records: Art

Untitled painting by Philip Cosen, Fort Apache Indian School, Arizona, circa 1936

"The Swing" by Julian, Pueblo of San Ildefonso Day School, New Mexico, circa 1937

Fort Apache Agency records can be found at the National Archives at Riverside

(National Archives Identifier 2669383)
Research Example:
Let’s Meet Gretchen Ohlerking (1922–2012)

Gretchen at age three along with her mother Mary Rose at their home, from their family’s 1925 Industrial Survey.

(National Archives Identifier 100382415)
One of Gretchen’s student case files is listed in the National Archives Catalog.

https://catalog.archives.gov
Which leads us to the National Archives at Denver!
Gretchen at the Fort Belknap Boarding School

(National Archives Identifier 74588751)
Copy of school application gives clues to other schools Gretchen attended!

Fort Belknap Boarding School, which we already learned, but also Big Warm Day School, Bismark Indian School, and possibly Haskell Institute, since this application copy is for that school.

(National Archives Identifier 74588751)
We check the general records of the Fort Belknap Agency for more local school records.

Gretchen at Fort Belknap Boarding School, 1930
(National Archives Identifier 139074578)

Gretchen at Big Warm Day School, 1935
(National Archives Identifier 139074578)
Gretchen’s Daily Schedule while at Fort Belknap Boarding School, 1928

Daily Program:

RISSING CALL 6:00 A.M.
Dormitory Work
Dairy & Kitchen Detail 6:15 A.M.
Breakfast 7:00 A.M.
Tooth Brush Drill 7:25 A.M.
Industrial Work Begins 8:00 A.M.
School Call (Bell) 8:25 A.M.
Classroom Work Begins 8:30 A.M.
Grades 1, 2, 3 and 4
Grades 5 and 6 alternate
School Assembly (Thursday) 8:50 A.M.
Recall all Departments 11:30 A.M.
Dinner 12:00 M.

Academic & Industrial Department Call 12:55 P.M.
Academic & Industrial Instruction 1:00 P.M.
Recall Academic Department 4:00 P.M.
Recall Industrial Department 4:00 P.M.
Supper 5:30 P.M.
Monday - Denominational Religious Instruction 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Tuesday - Reading, Boys and Girls Night School retarded pupils 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Wednesday - Physical Education (Small Pupils) 6:30 to 7:15 P.M.
Thursday - Physical Education (Large Pupils) 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Friday - Motion Pictures & Children's Socials (alternate) 7:00 to 8:00 P.M.
Little Folks Retire 7:00 P.M.
Call to Quarters 8:30 P.M.

(National Archives Identifier 139074578)
Back to that Haskell School Application

Scope & Content

This series consists of individual student case files of Indians from throughout the country who attended Haskell, an off-reservation boarding school. It typically consists of one page that lists the following information: student name, age, tribe, parent, post office box, date entered, and date of birth. Later files varies from student to student, most files include the student’s name, photograph, date of birth, tribal affiliation, degree of Indian blood line, and Indian block attendance. They may also include a biographical file, transcripts of grades, attendance records, class schedules, reports of grades, disciplinary problems. Some files include correspondence between school officials and students, parents, and reservation officials.

Variant Control Numbers

ARC Identifier: 592971

Archived Copies

Copy 1: Preservation- Reproduction- Reference

Extent (Size): 444 linear feet, 5 linear inches

Contact(s): National Archives at Kansas City (RM-KC)
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108
Phone: 816-268-8000
Fax: 816-268-8038
Email: kansascity.archives@nara.gov
Arriving at Haskell

Postcard from Gretchen to Haskell accepting her enrollment, 1937
(National Archives Identifier 592971)

Student photograph of Gretchen at Haskell
(National Archives Identifier 592971)
Grades, including those from Bismark Indian School, another of our "Lost Schools"

(National Archives Identifier 592971)
The Boarding School Application

DATA REGARDING PARENTS

FATHER
Name in full: Charles Acklino Field Worker
Is parent living?: Yes
Home post office: Big Horse, Montana, W. H. Acklino, Field Worker
Agency post office: Big Horse, Montana, W. H. Acklino, Field Worker
Degree of Indian blood: 2/3
How much land is owned?: None
How much taxable?: None
Estimated value of land: None
Annual income from land: None
Other income: None
Source: None
Amount: None
Owns home?: Yes
Number of rooms in house: 1
Number of rooms in house, occupied by other family members: 0
Number living there: 5
Education: 3rd grade
Occupation: Farm Worker

MOTHER
Name in full: Rose Walklight
Is parent living?: Yes
Home post office: Big Horse, Montana, W. H. Acklino, Field Worker
Agency post office: Big Horse, Montana, W. H. Acklino, Field Worker
Degree of Indian blood: 2/3
How much land is owned?: None
How much taxable?: None
Estimated value of land: None
Annual income from land: None
Other income: None
Source: None
Amount: None
Owns home?: Yes
Number of rooms in house: 1
Number of rooms in house, occupied by other family members: 0
Number living there: 5
Education: Farmer
Occupation: Farmer

List your favorite recreations and hobbies:

Skating, Riding, Hunting, Fishing

List six books you have read during the past year outside of school requirements:

1. CALL OF THE WILD
2. WHITE FANG
3. RAMONA
4. TALE OF TWO CITIES
5. WILD FIRE
6. THE FORBIDDEN RIVER

List any magazines and newspapers you read regularly:

Scholarly

(National Archives Identifier 592971)
Other Records Detailing School Life

Memo from Haskell’s Girls’ Advisor (National Archives Identifier 592971)

Character Rating Chart (National Archives Identifier 592971)

Daily Schedule (National Archives Identifier 592971)
Gretchen’s Health Records

Note from Dr. Renick to Haskell Superintendent regarding Gretchen’s x-ray following her swallowing of a pin in sewing class

(National Archives Identifier 592971)
How to Research

BIA records can be found nationwide!

To research in person, find the contact information, location, and hours of our various National Archives field units, at www.archives.gov/locations.

For overview of records, locations, and some digital items, visit our Catalog at https://catalog.archives.gov/
Other Web Resources

https://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans
Dedication

Tony Dedman, Navajo (1944-1966)

Intermountain Indian School, 1960-1964

(National Archives Identifier 74591828)

Upon graduation in 1964, Tony's school adviser wrote he was "a sincere and conscientious workman. He is loyal and tried his best at all times."

A little over two years later, on May 17, 1966, SPC Dedman, B Co., 1-503 Infantry, 173rd Airborne, was killed in action on Hill 72 in Phuoc Tuy Province, Republic of Vietnam.
Any Questions?
Thank you for attending!

Please stay tuned for the next session.

If we did not get to your question, you may submit it to inquire@nara.gov

Video recording and handouts will remain available at www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-fair
We value your opinion.

Please take a few minutes to complete a short evaluation. Your comments help us maintain the quality of our services and plan future programs.

Click ⇒ Event Evaluation
www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYREventEval