

November 2012

One of 44 Lecture Series Continues in November with Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Dwight D. Eisenhower



Above: Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, 1st Cavalry, U.S. Volunteers, ca. 1898.
RG111, Records of the Office of the Chief of Signal Corps, 1860-1982, Photographs of American Military Activity, 1754 - 1954, National Archives.

On **Thursday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m.** the National Archives at Kansas City will host **Dr. Alex Bielakowski** for a lecture titled ***Theodore Roosevelt: The Complete American***. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede this event.

Theodore Roosevelt was more than just a politician. At various times in his life, he was an author, big game hunter, civil service reformer, historian, lecturer, naturalist, New York City Police Commissioner, soldier, and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Roosevelt was also the only man to ever receive both the Medal of Honor for military valor and the Nobel Peace Prize. While his various positions and professions often seemed contradictory, he always managed to make them work together. Bielakowski will discuss how Roosevelt serves as the greatest example of a complete American, a man who never allowed himself to be stereotyped and was always more than he seemed at first glance.

In addition, on **Thursday, November 29 at 6:30 p.m.** the National Archives will host **Tim Rives** for a lecture titled ***Ike: The Education of a Soldier Statesman***. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede this event.

Dwight D. Eisenhower was born on October 14, 1890, in Denison, Texas, the third of seven boys. As a boy, his family moved to Abilene, Kansas and it was in Abilene that the boy who would grow up to become General of the Army and President of the United States developed the skills and character that would see him and the nation through some of the most perilous times the world has known. A voracious reader of military history, other favorite subjects early in his education were arithmetic and spelling. Eisenhower also excelled at sports - baseball and football in particular - but he also boxed, fished, trapped, hunted, camped, and played poker. He learned the latter at the hand of an eccentric outdoorsman and adventurer who taught him how to compute percentages and figure odds, invaluable skills for the future military and political leader. Historians often rate Eisenhower's personnel decisions in the Army and politics as among his greatest skills. Rives will discuss the impact his formal and informal education had and how it contributed to his growth as a military and political leader.

To make a reservation for either or both of these **free events** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov.



Above: President Dwight D. Eisenhower's high school graduation photo, taken 1909. Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives.

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Upcoming Events

All events are held at the National Archives
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

- NOVEMBER 2 - 10:00 A.M. GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: *INTRODUCTION TO BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS RECORDS*
- NOVEMBER 6 - 6:00 A.M. ELECTION DAY: POLLING SITE
- NOVEMBER 8 - NOON GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: *ACCESSING CURRENT MILITARY RECORDS: HOW TO USE EVETRECS*
- NOVEMBER 9 - 10:00 A.M. GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: *BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS RECORDS: STUDENT CASE FILES*
- NOVEMBER 14 - 9:00 A.M. GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: *REMEMBERING 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY VETERANS*
- NOVEMBER 15 - 6:30 P.M. ONE OF 44 LECTURE: ***THEODORE ROOSEVELT: THE COMPLETE AMERICAN***
- NOVEMBER 29 - 6:30 P.M. ONE OF 44 LECTURE: ***IKE: THE EDUCATION OF A SOLDIER STATESMAN***

Gems for Genealogists

The National Archives at Kansas City will offer four free genealogy workshops during the month of November. *Introduction to Bureau of Indian Affairs Records* will be held on Friday, November 2; *Accessing Current Military Records: How to Use eVetRecs* will be held on Thursday, November 8; *Bureau of Indian Affairs Records: Student Case Files* will be held on Friday, November 9; and *Remembering 18th and 19th Century Veterans* will be held on Wednesday, November 14.

Workshop Descriptions:

Introduction to Bureau of Indian Affairs Records

Friday, November 2, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The National Archives holds an amazing assortment of government-created records detailing the lives of a variety of American Indian tribes. Each tribe has a unique set of documents pertaining to its members. These records include: allotment, annuity, land, census, student case files and more. Learn what records are available at the National Archives at Kansas City and how to begin this type of genealogy research.

Accessing Current Military Records: How to Use eVetRecs

Thursday, November 8, from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The electronic veterans' records request (eVetRecs) system creates a customized order form that allows you to request information from your or your next of kin's military personnel record file from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. This step-by-step class explains how to make a request. Attendees can bring a lunch to enjoy during class.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Records: Student Case Files

Friday, November 9, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Did your ancestor attend a government-run boarding school on or near an Indian reservation? For students who attended these schools, administrators maintained files, including applications, correspondence, grades, teacher notes,

and more. Learn about the potential these records hold and how to search for your ancestor in them.



Above: Students in class at the Pierre Indian School. RG75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1793-1999; Pierre School and Agency, photographs compiled 1911-1971.



Above: Illustrated family record (Fraktur) found in Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application file for John Moyer, Maryland, ca. 1800 - ca. 1900. RG15 Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 1773-2007; Case Files of Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Applications Based on Revolutionary War Service, ca. 1800 - ca. 1912.

Remembering 18th and 19th Century Veterans

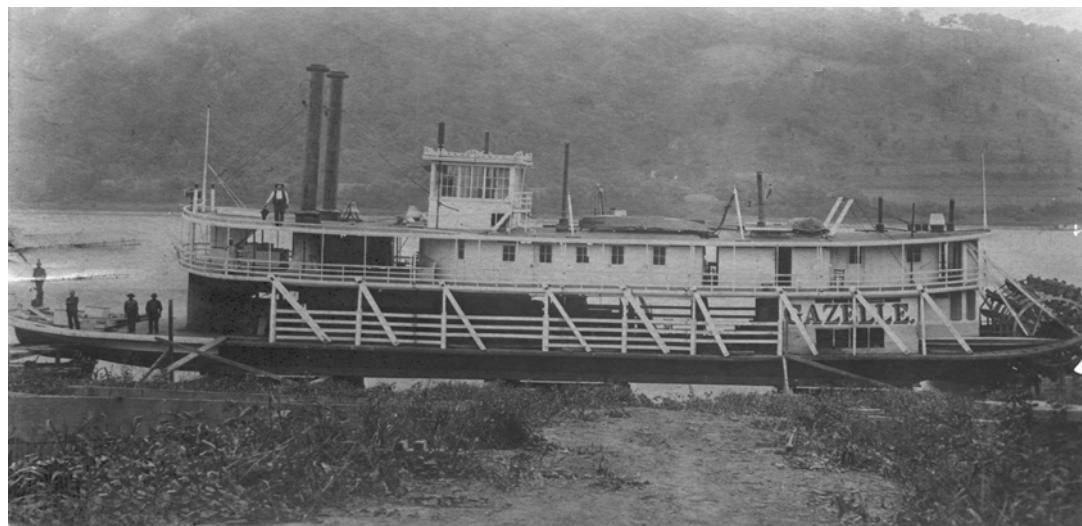
Wednesday, November 14, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

This three-part class will cover records related to Veterans of early American wars, 1770 – 1860; Civil War Provost Marshal Records, 1860 – 1865; and U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866 – 1938. Learn how to search these records using online tools on Archives.gov, Ancestry.com, Fold3.com, and more.

To make a reservation for these **free workshops** please call 816-268-8000 or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.

Between the Rivers: Steamboating in Missouri and Iowa Exhibition

Between the Rivers, an exhibition currently available for viewing at the National Archives, explores the steamboat industry and its impact on the river environment, culture, and economy in Missouri and Iowa from the 1850s to the early 1900s.



Above: The Steamer *Gazelle* in 1908. RG77, Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers.

Steamboats were the most comfortable and least expensive mode of travel in the mid-nineteenth century. Resplendent accommodations awaited cabin passengers, featuring luxurious state rooms, first-class meals in well-appointed dining rooms, and the entertainment afforded by richly-furnished saloons and gambling parlors. While the splendor of these floating palaces made the trip more enjoyable for cabin passengers, the same could not be said for deck passengers. Deck fares furnished travelers nothing but

transportation—no food, restrooms, or protection from the elements. “Deckers” fought for resting places anywhere they could among the livestock, packaged goods, and bulk commodities that packed the boat’s cargo hold and guards.

The exhibit features photographs of many different steamboats, including the Steamer *Gazelle*. *Between the Rivers* incorporates steamboat-related documents along with other photographs and is available for viewing through April 27, 2013. To schedule a group tour call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.

School House to White House Exhibition

The Education of a President: Jimmy Carter

Jimmy Carter

Jimmy Carter was educated in the public schools of Plains, Georgia, where he was a good student who liked to read. His extracurricular activities included basketball and Future Farmers of America. One of Carter's high school teachers, Julia Coleman, had a positive impact on his life, encouraging him to participate in debate and to read books. Carter once said: "She encouraged all of her students to seek cultural knowledge beyond the requirements of a normal rural school classroom." *School House to White House* displays a reproduction of Carter's "Readers Make Leaders" certificate, which recognized his participation in a program begun by Coleman that kept the school library open during the summer. Carter attended Georgia Southwestern College and the Georgia Institute of Technology before being admitted to and graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The exhibit also features a reproduction of a letter Midshipman Carter sent to his mother, Lillian.

To learn more about the presidents and view photographs and documents from their youth, visit *School House to White House: The Education of the Presidents*, available for viewing through February 23, 2013. To schedule a group tour call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.



Above: Young Jimmy Carter with his pony, Lady Lee. Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, National Archives.

Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Wheeler-Howard Act Conference Minutes



Above: Dr. Henry Roe Cloud, a member of the Winnebago Indian Tribe of Nebraska. RG75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Winnebago Agency, Decimal Correspondence Files, 1919-1975.

The Wheeler-Howard Act, otherwise known as the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934, or the "Indian New Deal," dramatically changed the legal and physical landscape of tribal self-determination in the United States. For years the ramifications of laws such as the Dawes Act had devastated American Indian resources so much that it is believed Indian-owned land was slashed by 90 million acres between 1887 and 1934. Consequently, Native Americans struggled to maintain the traditional way of life familiar to so many tribes. In response to the Dawes Act, Commissioner of Indian Affairs John Collier and his team spearheaded and proposed the IRA to alleviate some of the harsh conditions among Native American communities. Before the IRA was passed, conferences were held in various parts of the country to communicate the details of the Act and to invite Native American voices to be heard. One of the conferences, held in Hayward, Wisconsin on April 23-24, 1934, included Indians of tribes in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan, as well as several important figures during this vital time in American history.

Among the advocates for the IRA and attendees of the Hayward conference was Dr. Henry Roe Cloud (Wonah'ilayhunka), a member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, shown above in a photograph from the Bureau of Indian Affairs records of the Winnebago Agency. Dr. Roe Cloud played a pivotal role in improving tribal and Federal Government communication. He was respected by many for his strong educational background and his dedication to reforming American Indian policy. Dr. Roe Cloud was the first Native American to attend and graduate from Yale College, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and philosophy, and a Master of Arts degree in

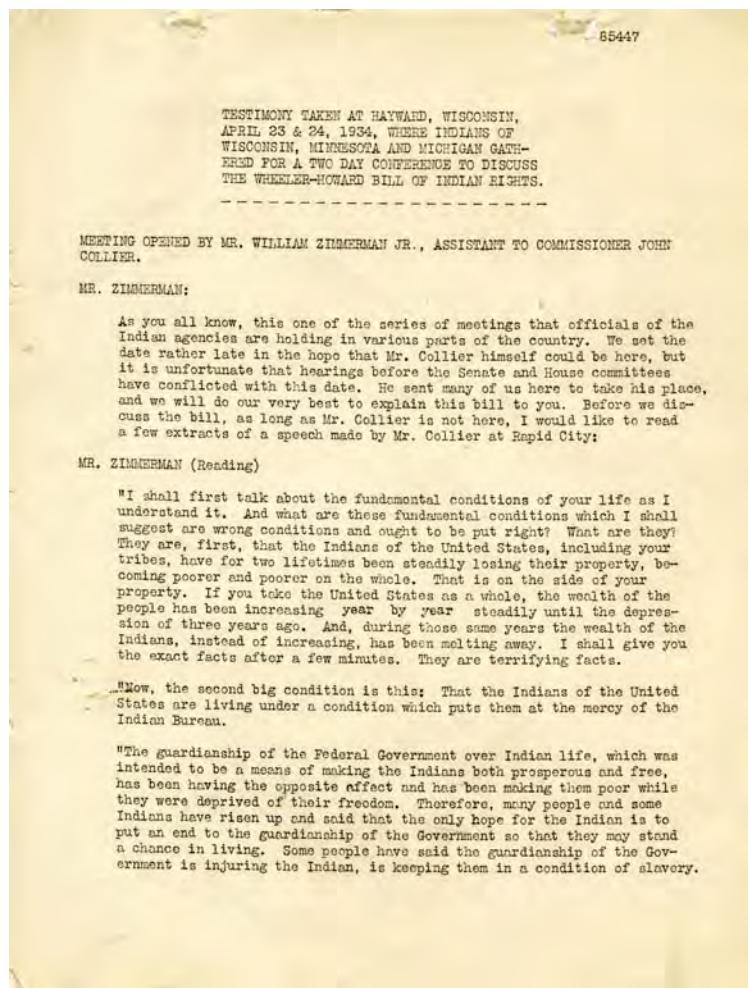
anthropology. His subsequent involvement with the U.S. Federal Government as an official eventually led him to a position to assist tribes in understanding the intricacies of the IRA at the Hayward conference.

Dr. Roe Cloud's responsibilities as conference co-chairman, speaker, and participant are apparent in "Testimony Taken at a Conference on the Wheeler-Howard Bill, April 23-24, 1934," held in the Bureau of Indian Affairs records of the Consolidated Chippewa Agency. The transcript provides a look into many issues faced by Native Americans during the time of the proposed IRA, and also documents thorough communication between tribal delegates and U.S. Government officials.

Dr. Roe Cloud served as a mediator and conduit for questions about the IRA from tribal leaders. In the midst of his duties, Dr. Roe Cloud also elaborated on the current state of American Indians and the numerous factors contributing to poor living conditions, including lack of resources, health disparities, and unemployment. The subject of education and an effort to centralize the contract system for schools with Native American students is also discussed in the transcript. Although the majority of tribal delegates were representatives charged with the responsibility of sharing their opinions of the Hayward

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Right: Testimony taken at a conference on the Wheeler-Howard Bill, 1934. RG75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Consolidated Chippewa Agency.



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was not a single Indian that did not oppose me. The one that talked here previous he opposed me just the same. The White Indian is too susceptible to wrong doing. He always wants the money. That is the reason for such poverty. Our money in Washington is in very small amounts now and still we are writing the Government to ask them to give us some more. Isn't it a fact that future generations should be benefited by some of this money? What is being left for our children—for the future generation? And what then will they live on? All these allottees have sold their 160 acres and I don't believe any of them possess even a twig of a tree and I don't believe they have as much as one shot of gunpowder or a parcel of land!

DR. ROE CLOUD:

Mr. Interpreter, will you tell him that the new bill will protect his land so that there need never be a loss, and also tell him it is safe for his children and grandchildren in future generations.

INTERPRETATION BY FRANK SMART:

MR. GEORGE WALTERS:

That is all I want.

PAUL H. BEAULIEU SPEAKING FOR YOUNG COUNCIL OF RED LAKE BAND:

Mr. Chairman, I have but very few words to say, and I want to start out by congratulating the old Red Lake Indians upon the stand taken in regard to this bill. The Young Council made its stand quite some time ago. That stand was forwarded to the Commissioner on January 27. We still stand on that same thing, and from that you can read between the lines that we had accepted the Indian Rights Bill as a whole, although there might be features we do not approve of. However, as a whole we do approve of the bill. That is our stand and I don't think there is a Red Lake Indian that wants an allotment. I just wanted to correct any impression that might have been created here in this respect.

DR. ROE CLOUD:

You mean then that you stand for the bill as a whole, but that there might be some features you do not approve of or that you are not yet familiar with?

MR. BEAULIEU:

Yes, but we can thrash that out later at home.

DR. ROE CLOUD:

It is interesting to note that these Red Lake people who have never been allotted, and who have watched the experience of other tribes, now say they don't want to be allotted. I think that is exceedingly significant and important.

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Above: Testimony taken at a conference on the Wheeler-Howard Bill, 1934. RG75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Consolidated Chippewa Agency.

conference with their tribes, many voiced support for the possibilities contained in the IRA. In the case of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, a resolution approved by 500 tribal members was passed within the tribe prior to the conference and shared with the assembly.

The Indian Reorganization Act was eventually approved and signed into law by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on June 18, 1934. The Act resulted in many changes for Native American tribes, as well as new challenges. The Wheeler-Howard Act Conference transcript, among other records, provides access to an important point of Native American history, and is a testament to the perseverance of many significant leaders. The records also allow for the legacy of individuals like Dr. Roe Cloud to live on.

The National Archives at Kansas City has thousands of documents related to RG75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, including the Consolidated Chippewa Agency and the Winnebago Agency. For more information, email kansascity.archives@nara.gov or view the Archival Research Catalog at www.archives.gov/research/arc.

Note: This article was written by Jacob Metoken, a Diversity Intern with the National Archives at Kansas City and member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin.

Are you on the National Archives at Kansas City mailing list?

If the answer is "no," then send us an email with your U.S. postal mail information to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or call 816-268-8000. By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about upcoming exhibitions, special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.



The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 15 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. It is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, email kansascity.educate@nara.gov or visit www.archives.gov/kansas-city. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity.

HOURS OF OPERATION

RESEARCH ROOMS and EXHIBIT GALLERIES: Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed on Sunday, Monday, and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.