



Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions
Records, Series 2-1 School Records
SURNAME MASTER INDEX
INTRODUCTION

*Surnames from attendance records of
schools in 15 states, 1890s-1970s*

*Last updated September, 2011 (still
incomplete); 15,000+ surnames now;
estimated 30,000+ when complete. Some
names from Arizona, Minnesota, Montana,
New Mexico, and Oklahoma not yet
included. See introduction for more
information.*

Alphabetized surnames followed by
ethnic group (Library of Congress terms; see
table), state of school (zip codes; see table),
and box number of records. All spelling
variations included to the extent possible.
However, some variations may have been
omitted due to difficulties in interpreting
some handwritten names.

Ethnic Groups

Library of Congress terms
(supplemented with Ethnologue terms, as
needed) for Native American tribes and
ethnic groups followed by related names that
may appear in the records. "Used for" =
terms used in master surname list, but not
necessarily in the records.

- Achomawi, used for = Pit River; related broad terms = California, Mission

- Acoma; related broad term = Pueblo
- Apache
- Arapaho, used for = Arapahoe
- Arikara
- Assiniboine, used for = Assineboine
- Atsina, used for = Gros Ventre
- Bannock
- Brulé (Lower Brule, Rosebud, Sicangu); = related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux, Lakota
- Caddo
- Cahuilla; related broad terms = California, Mission
- California, used for = Digger, Mission; related narrow terms = Achomawi (Pit River), Cahuilla, Campo, Chumash, Cocopa, Cupeno, Diegueno, Hupa, Luiseno, Maidu, Miwok, Pomo, Serrano, Washo, Yurok
- Campo; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Cayuga; related broad term = Iroquois
- Cayuse
- Chehalis; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Cherokee
- Cheyenne
- Chickasaw
- Chinook
- Choctaw
- Chumash; related broad terms = California, Mission
- Clackamas
- Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish), related narrow terms = Chehalis, Cowlitz, Duwamish (Lushootseed), Lummi, Muckleshoot, Nehalem, Nisqually, Puyallup, Quinault, Skagit (Swinomish), Skokomish, Snoqualmie, Suquamish, Tulalip (Snohomish, Twana)
- Cocopa, used for = Cocopah; related broad terms = California, Mission

- Coeur d'Alene = used for Skitswich
- Chelan, related broad term = Colville
- Chickasaw
- Choctaw
- Colville, related narrow terms = Chelan, Curlew, Entiat, Kettle River, Lake, Methow, Nespelam, Okanagan, Paloo, Sanpoil, Senijextee, Suialet, Wenatchee
- Comanche
- Cowlitz; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Cree
- Creek
- Crow
- Cupeno; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Curlew; related broad term = Colville
- Dakota, used for = Sioux; related narrow terms = Brulé (Lower Brule, Rosebud, Sicangu), Hunkpapa (Standing Rock), Oglala (Pine Ridge), Sans Arc (Cheyenne River), Santee, Sisseton, Yankton
- Delaware
- Diegueno; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Duwamish, related narrow term = Lushootseed; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Eskimo, used for related narrow terms = Inuit, Yupic
- Haida
- Hopi, used for = Moqui; related broad term = Pueblo
- Hunkpapa (Standing Rock) = related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux, Lakota
- Hupa; related broad terms = related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Iowa
- Iroquois; used when narrow terms not available (Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, Tuscarora)
- Isleta; related broad term = Pueblo
- Jemez; related broad term = Pueblo
- Kalapuya, used for = Calapooia
- Keresan; related broad term = Pueblo
- Kettle River, related broad term = Colville
- Kickapoo
- Kiowa
- Kiowa-Apache
- Klamath
- Kootenai, used for = Kutenai, Koutenie
- Luiseño; related broad terms = California, Mission
- Lummi; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Maidu; related broad terms = related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Mandan
- Maricopa
- Menominee
- Methow, related broad term = Colville
- Miwok; related broad terms = related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Modoc
- Mohave
- Mohawk; related broad term = Iroquois
- Muckleshoot, used for = Mickleshoot; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Navajo
- Nehalem, used for = Tillamook; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Nespelam, used for = Nespelim; related broad term = Colville
- Nez Perce

- Nisqually, used for = Nesqualli; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Nooksack
- Oglala (Pine Ridge); related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux, Lakota
- Ojibwa, used for = Chippewa, Ojibwe, Saukteaux
- Okanagan, related broad term = Colville
- Okanagan, used for = Okanogan, Okinagan; related broad term = Colville
- Oneida; related broad term = Iroquois
- Onondaga; related broad term = Iroquois
- Osage
- Oto used for = Otoe
- Ottawa
- Paloos, related broad term = Colville
- Peoria
- Picuris; related broad term = Pueblo
- Pima
- Pomo; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Ponca
- Potawatomi, used for = Pottawatomie
- Pueblo, related narrow terms = Acoma, Jemez, Hopi, Isleta, Keresan, Picuris, Taos, Tewa, Yaqui, Zuni
- Puyallup; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Quapaw
- Quinault; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Salish, used for = Flathead; related narrow terms = Flathead, Kalispel
- Sans Arc (Cheyenne River); related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux, Lakota
- Santee; related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux
- Sauk & Fox, used for = Sac & Fox
- Seminole
- Seneca; related broad term = Iroquois
- Serrano, used for = Morongo; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Shoshoni, used for = Shoshone
- Siksika, used for = Blackfeet, Blackfoot, Piegan
- Siletz
- Sisseton; related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux
- Skagit (Swinomish) ; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Skokomish; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Snoqualmie; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Spokane, used for = Spokane
- Stockbridge
- Suquamish, used for = Port Madison; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Swinomish; related broad term = Coast Salish
- Taos; related broad term = Pueblo
- Tewa, related narrow terms = Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Tesuque; related broad term = Pueblo
- Tlingit, used for = Douglas
- Tohono O'odham, used for = Papago
- Tulalip, related narrow terms: Snohomish, Twana; related broad term = Coast Salish (Puget Sound & Straights Salish)
- Tuscarora; related broad term = Iroquois
- Tututni, used for = Tetotney, Rogue River
- Umatilla
- Umpqua
- Walla Walla
- Washo; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission

- Wenatchee, used for = Wenatchi; related broad term = Colville
- Wichita
- Winnebago, used for = Ho Chunk
- Wyandot, used for = Wyandotte
- Yakama
- Yankton; related broad terms = Dakota, Sioux
- Yaqui; related broad term = Pueblo
- Yuma
- Yurok; related broad terms = California, Digger, Mission
- Zuni; related broad term = Pueblo
- Unidentified = Ethnic group or tribe not given (but often apparent by context of records) or name given not identified with a known group.
- Non-Native = Black, Negro, Mexican, Spanish, White, etc. A few non-Natives attended Catholic schools serving Native Americans.

States

Names followed by zip code, current project status & box numbers of records.

Partial = some names from these 5 states have been entered into the master list, but others have not. Complete = all names from the remaining 11 states have been entered into the master list.

- *Arizona: AZ, 01-05 (partial)*
- California: CA, 05 (complete)
- Idaho, ID, 05-07 (complete)
- Kansas (“Indian Territory”), KS, 07 (complete)
- Michigan: MI, 07-10 (complete)
- *Minnesota: MN, 10-13 (partial)*
- *Montana: MT, 13-19 (partial)*
- North Dakota: ND, 22-23 (complete)
- *New Mexico: NM, 19-22 (partial)*
- *Oklahoma: OK, 23-26 (partial)*
- Oregon: OR, 26 (complete)

- South Dakota: SD, 26-29 (complete)
- Washington: WA, 30-31 (complete)
- Wisconsin: WI, 31-37 (complete)
- Wyoming: WY, 37-38 (complete)

Background

Most Native Americans had surnames by 1900, and most acquired them acquired locally, either from their family and tribal heritage or from local non-Indians. Oftentimes, spellings, capitalization, spacing between words, and the use of hyphens for the same surname varied over time. Some surnames were written first in Native languages and then later in English (or French or Spanish). At St. Labre’s Mission in Montana, Native language surnames were used exclusively through 1904, followed by the exclusive use of English translations beginning the following year.

General Surname Characteristics

- **Non-Native origin:** Reflects historic non-Indian influence and indicates some non-Native ancestry in some instances.
- **Native origin not always recognizable:** When expressed in Native American languages, many surnames, e.g. Cantu, Hustoni, and Sooktis, are not recognizable as Native ones to persons unfamiliar with the languages of origin. Others became indistinguishable when translated into English and shortened to single words, e.g. Fish, White, Wolf.

Common Surnames of Native Origin

- Cherokee: Bushyhead, Kingfisher, Matoy, Youngbird
- Dakota: Eagle Bull, Long Soldier, Red Owl, Yankton
- Eskimo: Egoak, Kinneeveauk, Nageak, Tungwenuk
- Iroquois (Oneida): Metoxin, Powless,

Skenandore

- Navajo: Begay, Redhouse, Silversmith, Yazzie
- Ojibwa: DeNomie, Gokey, Loonsfoot, Onan