



Guide to Catholic-Related Records in the West about Native Americans
[See User Guide for help on interpreting entries](#)

CALIFORNIA, LAGUNA NIGUEL

new 2006

Pacific Region, Archives Branch

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

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Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30 with additional hours for microfilm research, first Saturday of each month, 8:00-4:30, and second Tuesday of each month, 4:30-8:30

Access: Some restrictions apply

Copying facilities: Yes

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1800-1991

Volume: Approximately 1-2 cubic feet

Description: 4 record groups include Native Catholic records.

A. "Record Group 48, Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior"

Inclusive dates: Between 1849-1903

Volume: Less than 1% of 127 reels of microfilm

Description: "Letters Sent to the Indian Division of the Department of the Interior, M606;" until 1907 when abolished, the Indian Division managed the majority of Indian administration issues. Incoming correspondence includes letters from religious leaders, generally filed in a miscellaneous category, and outgoing correspondence from the Indian Division includes some references to missionary activities.

B. "Record Group 49, Records of the Bureau of Land Management T910, Reel 118"

Inclusive dates: Between 1851-1859

Volume: 1 reel of microfilm

Description: The Bureau of Land Management succeeded the General Land Office; the General Land Office records in California include Catholic Church claims to mission lands within the California private land claims dockets; several pages are illegible; index included.

C. "Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs"

Inclusive dates: 1867-1972

Volume: Less than 1% of 3,301 cubic feet

Description: Selective sampling indicates that Catholic-related records comprise between less than 1% of Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency records, and include documents such as correspondence, quarterly school reports, and

school contracts. Notable correspondents include Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, Catholic mission and school superiors, Indian agents or superintendents, and Commissioners of Indian Affairs. Primary subjects include financial matters and the transfer of students to and from mission schools.

1. "Records of the Chinle Subagency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1938-1956
Volume: Less than 1% of 76 cubic feet
Description: The Chinle Subagency was a unit of the Navajo Area Office established in 1949 and disbanded about 1989.
2. "Records of the Colorado River Agency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1867-1951
Volume: Less than 1% of 322 cubic feet
Description: The Colorado River agency was established in 1864 for Chemehuevi, Cocopa, Havasupai, Hualapai, Mohave, and Yavapai Indians near the Colorado River in Arizona, California, and Nevada. The Fort Mojave School Agency and the Fort Yuma Agency were consolidated with the Colorado River Agency in 1915 and 1935, respectively.
3. "Records of the Eastern Navajo Agency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1909-1944
Volume: Less than 1% of 34 cubic feet
Description: The Eastern Navajo Agency was a unit of the Navajo Area Office established in 1909.
4. "Records of the Fort Apache Agency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1875-1955
Volume: Less than 1% of 229 cubic feet
Description: The White Mountain Reservation was established in 1872 with northern and southern divisions. In 1875, both divisions were under the San Carlos Agency. The reservation was divided in 1897 and the Fort Apache Agency was established for the northern part of the reservation, now known as the Fort Apache Reservation.
5. "Records of the Fort Mojave Subagency and School in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1906-1931
Volume: Less than 1% of unknown cubic feet
Description: The Fort Mojave School and agency were established in 1890 for the Mohave and Chemehuevi Indians. The agency was consolidated with the Colorado River Agency in 1915 and the school continued independently until closed in 1931.
6. "Records of the Fort Yuma Subagency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1907-1952
Volume: Less than 1% of 43 cubic feet
Description: The Fort Yuma Reservation and Boarding School were established in 1884 for the Yuma and Cocopa Indians. It was first under the jurisdiction of the Colorado River Agency and then the Mission Tule River Agency. In 1900, the school was given agency status until it was returned to a subagency of the Colorado River Agency in 1935.
7. "Records of the Hopi Agency in Arizona"
Inclusive dates: Between 1910-1956
Volume: Less than 1% of 7 cubic feet

Description: The Hopi Agency was established in 1869 for the Navajo and Hopi Indians. It was first under the jurisdiction of the Navajo Agency. Originally named the Moqui Agency, it was given agency status in 1899 and renamed the Hopi Agency in 1923.

8. "Records of the Navajo Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1881-1936

Volume: Less than 1% of 568 cubic feet

Description: The Navajo Agency was initially created for Navajo and Hopi Indians in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah in 1852. After 1901, several independent agencies were established that were consolidated as the Navajo Service in 1935. In 1949, a subsequent Navajo Agency was created under the Window Rock Area Office.

9. "Records of the Papago Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1871-1955

Volume: Less than 1% of 321 cubic feet

Description: The Papago Agency was established in 1948 for the Tohono'Odham, Maricopa, and Pima Indians. It was preceded by a number of other agencies beginning in 1864.

10. "Records of the Phoenix Area Office in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1907-1974

Volume: Less than 1% of 614 cubic feet

Description: The Phoenix Area Office was established in 1950 and preceded by the Phoenix Regional Office that was established in 1946.

11. "Records of the Phoenix Indian School in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1942-1965

Volume: Less than 1% of unknown cubic feet

Description: The Phoenix Indian School opened in 1891 and closed in 1989.

12. "Records of the Pima Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1888-1951

Volume: Less than 1% of 389 cubic feet

Description: The Pima Agency was part of a succession of agencies first established in 1864 for the Pima, Tohono O'odham and Maricopa Indians.

13. "Records of the Salt River Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1968-1991

Volume: Less than 1% of 8.3 cubic feet

Description: The Salt River Agency was established in 1985 with the consolidation of the Fort McDowell and Pascua Yaqui Field Offices.

14. "Records of the San Carlos Apache Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1900-1952

Volume: Less than 1% of 50 cubic feet

Description: The San Carlos Agency was established in 1872 for the southern portion of the White Mountain Reservation. From 1875-1897, the agency was responsible for both the northern and southern portions of the reservation, until the northern portion was transferred to the Fort Apache Agency.

15. "Records of the Truxton Canyon Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1895-1951

Volume: Less than 1% of 12 cubic feet
Description: The Truxton Canyon School was established in 1901 and became the agency for the Hualapai and Havasupai Indians. From 1951 to 1964, it was a subagency of the Colorado River Agency, until it was restored as the Truxton Canyon Agency.

16. "Records of the Western Navajo Agency in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1902-1917
Volume: Less than 1% of 321 cubic feet
Description: The Western Navajo Agency is a unit of the Navajo Area Office that was established in 1901.

17. "Records of the Window Rock Area Office in Arizona"

Inclusive dates: Between 1915-1954
Volume: Less than 1% of unknown cubic feet
Description: The Window Rock Area Office was established in 1949 and succeeded the Navajo Service.

18. "Records of the Campo Superintendency in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1919-1920
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: The Campo Superintendency was established in 1910 for the Campo Indians under the Pala Superintendency. In 1920, it consolidated with the Soboba and Pala Superintendencies to form the Mission Agency.

19. "Records of the La Jolla Superintendency in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1909-1911
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: The La Jolla Superintendency was separated from and reconsolidated with the Pala Superintendency in 1909 and 1911 respectively.

20. "Records of the Los Angeles Area Field Office in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1952-1969
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: Unknown

21. "Records of the Malki Superintendency in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1908-1920
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: The Malki Superintendency was established in 1908 from a portion of the San Jacinto Indian Training School Agency for the Aguas Calientes, Cahuilla, Cupeño, and Serrano Indians. It became part of the Soboba Superintendency in 1920.

22. "Records of the Mission Agency in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1870-1962
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: The Mission Agency was established in 1920 through the consolidation of the Campo, Pala, and Soboba Superintendencies.

23. "Records of the Morongo Subagency in California"

Inclusive dates: Between 1922-1947
Volume: Less than 1% of .2 cubic feet
Description: Unknown

24. "Records of the Pala Subagency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1922-1947
Volume: Less than 1% of 128 cubic feet
Description: The Pala Subagency was established in 1922 as a subagency of the Mission Agency and in 1948 it became part of the California Agency.
25. "Records of the Pala Superintendency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1903-1921
Volume: Less than 1% of unknown cubic feet
Description: The Pala Superintendency was established in 1903 from the southern portion of the Tule Mission Consolidated Agency for the Aguas Calientes, Campo, Cahuilla, and Cupeño Indians. In 1920 it was combined with the Soboba and Campo Superintendencies to form the Mission Agency.
26. "Records of the Palm Springs Subagency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1936-1964
Volume: Less than 1% of 48 cubic feet
Description: The Palm Springs Subagency was established in 1936 as a part of the Mission Agency.
27. "Records of the Pechanga Superintendency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1909-1914
Volume: Less than 1% of 1.5 cubic feet
Description: The Pechanga Superintendency was separated from and reconsolidated with the Pala Superintendency in 1909 and 1913 respectively.
28. "Records of the Rincon Superintendency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1909-1911
Volume: Less than 1% of .3 cubic foot
Description: The Rincon Superintendency was separated from and reconsolidated with the Pala Superintendency in 1909 and 1911 respectively.
29. "Records of the Riverside Area Field Office in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1928-1968
Volume: Less than 1% of 206 cubic feet
Description: The Riverside Area Field Office was established in 1955 and was succeeded in 1972 by the Southern California Agency.
30. "Records of the Sherman Institute in California"
Inclusive Dates: 1898-1955
Volume: Less than 1% of 244 cubic feet
Description: The Sherman Institute opened in 1902. It was also responsible for the Perris School that opened in 1893 and closed in 1903.
31. "Records of the Soboba Superintendency in California"
Inclusive dates: 1910-1920
Volume: Less than 1% of 4.3 cubic feet
Description: The Soboba Superintendency was established in 1907 for Cahuilla and Yokuts Indians. It was combined with the Pala and Campo Superintendencies in 1920 to form the Mission Agency.

32. "Records of the Torres-Martinez Subagency in California"
Inclusive dates: 1935-1946
Volume: Less than 1% of 321.0 cubic feet
Description: The Torres-Martinez Subagency was established in 1922 as a part of the Mission Agency.
33. "Records of the Volcan Superintendency in California"
Inclusive dates: Between 1906-1913
Volume: Less than 1% of 2 cubic feet
Description: The Volcan Superintendency was separated from and reconsolidated with the Pala Superintendency in 1909 and 1913 respectively.
34. "Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, M234"
Inclusive dates: Between 1906-1913
Volume: Less than 1% of 962 reels of microfilm
35. "Letters Received by the Office of the Secretary of War Relating to Indian Affairs, M271"
Inclusive dates: Between 1800-1823
Volume: Less than 1% of 4 reels of microfilm
36. "Letters Received by the Superintendent of Indian Trade, T58"
Inclusive dates: Between 1806-1824
Volume: Less than 1% of 1 reel of microfilm
37. "Letters Sent by the Office of Indian Affairs, M21"
Inclusive dates: Between 1824-1881
Volume: Less than 1% of 166 reels of microfilm
38. "Letters Sent by the Secretary of War Relating to Indian Affairs, M15"
Inclusive dates: Between 1800-1824
Volume: Less than 1% of 6 reels of microfilm
39. "Letters Sent by the Superintendent of Indian Trade, M16"
Inclusive dates: Between 1807-1823
Volume: Less than 1% of 6 reels of microfilm
40. "Records of the Arizona Superintendency, M734"
Inclusive dates: Between 1863-1873
Volume: Less than 1% of 8 reels of microfilm
41. "Records of the Michigan Superintendency, M1"
Inclusive dates: Between 1814-1851
Volume: Less than 1% of 71 reels of microfilm
42. "Records of the Oregon Superintendency, M2"
Inclusive dates: Between 1848-1873
Volume: Less than 1% of 29 reels of microfilm
43. "Records of the Washington Superintendency, M5"
Inclusive dates: Between 1853-1874
Volume: Less than 1% of 26 reels of microfilm

44. "Register of Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs,
M18"

Inclusive dates: Between 1824-1880

Volume: Less than 1% of 126 reels of microfilm

45. "Report Books of the Office of Indian Affairs, M348"

Inclusive dates: Between 1838-1885

Volume: Less than 1% of 53 reels of microfilm

46. "Special Files of the Office of Indian Affairs, M574"

Inclusive dates: Between 1807-1904

Volume: Less than 1% of 85 reels of microfilm

D. "Record Group 393: Records of U.S. Army Continental Commands, 1821-1920"

Inclusive dates: Between 1846-1851

Volume: Less than 1% of 7 reels of microfilm

Description: "Records of the Tenth Military Department, 1846-1851, M210;"
includes letters describing Indian attitudes about Catholic missions.