



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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

1979; rev. 2004

**National Archives and Records Administration**

**E-10**

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Washington, District of Columbia 20408  
Phone 202-501-5400  
<http://www.archives.gov/>

Open: 8:45-5:00, Monday and Wednesday; 8:45-9:00, Tuesday, Thursday,  
and Friday; and 8:45-4:45, Saturday  
Access: Some restrictions apply  
Copying: Yes

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: 1691-1951 or later

Volume: Total record holdings unknown; quantity and proportion of  
Indian and Catholic related records also unknown

Catholic Indian mission and school records are found in 7 series of Record Group 75, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other series within 7 other record groups. Catholic Indian mission and school records comprise a very small amount of each series. Most Catholic-related Indian records consist of correspondence, quarterly school reports, school contracts and correspondence with the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, members of the church hierarchy, individual missionaries, native leaders, Indian agents, and others who dealt with Catholic mission personnel. Primary subjects include mission lands, related claims, and financial matters. The dates and volumes for the series listed below are for the entire series and not for only Catholic-related records.

/1 "Record Group 48, Office of the Secretary of the Interior"

Inclusive dates: 1849-1880

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records  
unknown

Description: Contains correspondence with missionaries, which is included in  
microfilm publications M825 and M606

/2 Record Group 49, Bureau of Land Management"

Inclusive dates:

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records  
unknown

Description: Contains records on Indian mission lands and related private  
claims, particularly those pertaining to Spanish Franciscan missions in  
California

/3 "Record Group 75, Bureau of Indian Affairs"

Inclusive dates: 1805-1939

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records

unknown Description:

- A. Records of the Office of the Secretary of War relating to Indian Affairs, contains correspondence with missionaries, which is included in microfilm publication M22
- B. Records of the Office of Indian Trade, 1805-1822, contains correspondence with missionaries, which is included in microfilm publications T58 and M16
- C. General Records, 1824-1907, contains correspondence with Missionaries regarding the government Civilization Fund for mission schools, mission land disputes, and other concerns, most of which are included in microfilm publications M18, M-21, M-234, M348, and M574
- D. General Records, 1907-1939, regarding religious training for Indians mission, mission churches, and other concerns
- E. Audiovisual Records, includes photographs
- F. Records of the Education Division, contains correspondence with the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions and missionaries primarily concerned with Indian schools
- G. Field Office Records, contains records of the superintendencies, which are included in microfilm publications Arizona M734, Central M856, Dakota M1016, Idaho M832, Montana M833, Nevada M837, New Mexico T21, Oregon M2, Southern M860, Utah M834, Washington M5, and Wyoming M1016; records of agencies, government schools, and other field offices are held by the regional archives and record centers of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration; see website for further information

/4 "Record Group 79, National Park Service"

Inclusive dates: 1691-

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records

unknown

Description:

- A. Nez Perce National Park, contains records pertaining to St. Joseph's Church
- B. Tumacacori National Park, 1691-ca. 1850, copies of sacramental records with 7582 entries from 4 associated Spanish Jesuit missions that served Apache, Opata, Seri, Tohono O'odham, Yaqui, and Yuma Indians; see National Park Service website for further information, <http://www.nps.gov/tuma/>

/5 "Record Group 208, Office of War Information"

Inclusive dates: 1948

Volume: A few items are Indian and Catholic related

Description: Category "Life in the United States" include pictures of the ordination of Reverend John J. Brown, S.J. (Siksika)

/6 "Record Group 217, U.S. General Accounting Office"

Inclusive dates: -1951

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records

unknown

Description: Accounts of fiscal officers to 1951 and claimants to 1923, which used missionaries as fiscal officers

/7 Record Group 391, U.S. Regular Army Mobile Units

Inclusive dates: 1821-1942

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records  
unknown

Description: Correspondence regarding military responses to civil disturbances  
involving Indians, some of which also involved missionaries

/8 "Record Group 393, U.S. Army Continental Command"

Inclusive dates: 1821-1920

Volume: Quantity and proportion of Indian and Catholic related records  
unknown

Description:

- A. 10<sup>th</sup> Military Department, 1846-1851, most documentation is included  
in microfilm publication M210
- B. Department of Oregon, 1858-1861, includes correspondence with  
Reverend Pierre-Jean de Smet, S.J. (1801-1873)
- C. Department of the Platte, 1866-1898, includes correspondence with  
Reverend John B. Jutz, S.J., superior of Holy Rosary Mission, and other  
missionaries regarding the 1890 massacre of Teton Indians at Wounded  
Knee, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota
- D. Kansas Nebraska Geographical Area, District of the Upper Missouri,  
1865-1867, includes correspondence regarding the establishment of  
Indian missions within Indian Country in the district