



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

Archdiocese of Washington
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, WASHINGTON

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**The American Catholic History Research Center,
The Catholic University of America**

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101 Life Cycle Institute
Washington, District of Columbia 20064
Phone 202-319-5065
<http://libraries.cua.edu/achrcua/index.html>

Open: Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00, holy days/holidays excepted
Access: Some restrictions apply
Copying: Yes

Holdings of Catholic-related records about Native Americans:

Inclusive dates: Between 1848-1976, n.d.

Volume: At least 9 cubic feet

Description: 5 collections include Native Catholic records; for further information see the website.

/1 "Bureau of Catholic Indian Mission Records"

Inclusive dates: 1848-1976, n.d.

Volume: 411 reels of microfilm

Description: Records of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions and the Commission for the Catholic Missions among the Colored People and the Indians; re: Indian affairs and Catholic Indian missions throughout the United States; microfilmed by Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which holds the original records and controls access to the microfilm.

/2 "Cooper Papers, The John Montgomery, Collection ACUA 049"

Inclusive dates: Between 1920s-1962, n.d.

Volume: Several folders

Description: Papers of Reverend John Montgomery Cooper (1881-1949), a distinguished professor, administrator, theologian, and anthropologist who in 1926, founded the Catholic Anthropological Conference to promote ethnographic studies by Catholic missionaries. Two years later Catholic University established the Department of Anthropology and appointing him Professor and Chair of Anthropology, which he held until his death in 1949. Cooper took 13 field trips to study Cree Indian communities of the James Bay area in Ontario and Quebec, Canada, 1925-1940, when he developed a collaborative relationship with Regina Flannery [Herzfeld], a student and later colleague who also became a Professor of Anthropology at Catholic University. Folders include:

- a. Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions in Series 2 Subject Files (n.d.) and Series 3 Correspondence with directors Monsignor William Hughes and Reverend John B. Tennelly, S.S.
- b. Re: Indians and Eskimos and Catholic evangelization in Series 3 Correspondence with Bishop of Rapid City/ Lead Joseph F. Busch, Reverends Joseph Cataldo, S.J., Berard Haile, O.F.M., Julius Jette, S.J., Martin J. Lonneaux, S.J., Bonaventure Oblasser, O.F.M., Fridolin Schuster, O.F.M., Placidus Sialm, S.J., and Marcellus Troester, O.F.M., Sister M. Inez Hilger, O.S.B., and anthropologists [Regina] Flannery [Herzfeld], I. Irving Hallowell, A.L. [Alfred Louis] Kroeber, Clyde Kluckhohn, Robert H. Lowie, Frank [Gouldsmith] Speck, and the American Anthropological Association, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Canadian Department of Indian Affairs, and UNESCO [United Nations Preparatory Educational Scientific And Cultural Commission]
- c. Re: Ethnographic field notes [Cree Indians?] in Series 3 Correspondence; see also "Algonkian Magic" (Series 3 Correspondence) and "Religion of Gros Ventres [Atsina Indians]" (Series 3 Correspondence and Series 4 Publications)

/3 "Ewing Papers, Charles B., Collection ACUA 044"

Inclusive dates: 1862-1951 (bulk 1870-1883)

Volume: Approximately .5 cubic foot

Description: Correspondence, 1870-1883, legal documents, clippings, and printed materials of General Ewing (1835-1883), first Commissioner of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, 1874-1883, which were compiled by Reverend Peter Rahill for "The Catholic Indian Mission and Grant's Peace Policy, 1870-1884," which was his doctoral dissertation at Catholic University; re: Indian affairs and Catholic Indian missions notably in Washington, Montana, Arizona, and New Mexico; notable correspondents include Archbishops of Santa Fe John Lamy and John Baptist Salpointe, Bishops of Nesqually Augustin Blanchet and Aegidius Junger, Reverends Joseph Brouillet and George Deshon, and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Columbus Delano; includes originals and copies (typescripts) of letters held elsewhere.

/4 "Lindesmith, Reverend Eli W.J. Papers; ACUA 024;

Inclusive dates:

Volume:

Description: Diaries and letters of Reverend Lindesmith (1827-1922) while a chaplain at Fort Keogh, Montana, 1880-1901; re: Cheyenne, Crow, Oglala, and others; also includes 1 folder of correspondence with Mother Amadeus Dunne, O.S.U., 1884-1919, re: mission schools staffed by the Ursulines.

/5 "Muench Papers, The Cardinal Aloisius, Collection ACUA 037"

Inclusive dates: Between 1906-1963 (bulk 1946-1959)

Volume: Few letters believed

Description: Papers of Cardinal Aloisius Joseph Muench (1889-1962), Bishop of Fargo, North Dakota, 1935-1959, who established the Tekakwitha Conference in 1939 as a local association of Catholic Indian missionaries; possible notable correspondents relating to Indian evangelization include officials and officers of the Catholic Central Verein of America and the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, Bishop of Bismarck, North Dakota Vincent J. Ryan, and Auxiliary Bishop of Fargo, North Dakota Leo F. Dworschak.

/6 "National Catholic Welfare Conference-United States Catholic
Conference Records"

Inclusive dates: Between 1919-1966

Volume: Few letters

Description: Believed to include correspondence with the Bureau of Catholic
Indian Missions. Records of the Conference's Committee on Native American
Catholics are held by Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.