

Indians of the United States and Canada

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HELPS FOR USING THIS RESEARCH OUTLINE

This research outline has been organized to help you learn important strategies for beginning research in Native American records. It also will help as you become more proficient at Native American research and want to know more about possible sources. This outline will lead you from the beginning steps to more involved types of research.

The outline covers the records about Native Americans in both the United States and Canada. It covers various federal, state or province, and tribal resources. In addition to this outline, you will want to use the following research outlines:

1. United States (30972)
2. Canada (34545)
3. U. S. Military Records (34118)
4. Each U.S. State, especially:
 - Alaska (31038)
 - New York (31069)
 - Oklahoma 31074)
5. Each Canadian Province

You will need some basic understanding of genealogical research procedures. You may want to read the booklet *Guide to Research* (30971), available at the Family History Library and at family history centers.

Opportunities for genealogical research for Native Americans are good because more government records have been created for Indians than for any other Canadian or United States ethnic group. The Family History Library is beginning to expand its Native American collection. Many Indian records are still being obtained from various archives or libraries.

This outline does not cover the “native populations” of the Caribbean, Hawaii, or Mexico.

This outline does not mention all possible genealogical record sources for Native Americans.

Before using this outline, you need to choose a particular ancestor or family that you would like to know more about. The first step will be to identify all you can about this person or family in family sources. This outline will help you research additional information about your ancestors and possibly extend their genealogy, giving instructions and information under the following sections:

- *Part 1. How Do I Find Records About My Ancestors?*

This section is the key in knowing what sources to search and in what order to answer your research questions.

- *Part 2. Has Someone Already Researched My Family?*

This discusses many sources where you might find information compiled by other researchers. It includes databases, published genealogies, biographies, Internet sources, periodicals, and societies that have been established for helping genealogists. As you find information on earlier generations, return to this section to see if the earlier generation has been researched by others.

- *Part 3. What Records Can I Search?*

Most of the information on Native American sources is found in this section. It is a description of each major source used in family history research for Native Americans. The sources are organized according to their value for genealogical research, the most important records being listed first. For strategies for the use of these different records during different periods of time, again refer to the section on *How Do I Find Records About My Ancestors?*

- *Part 4. What Should I Know About Native Americans before I Search the Records?*

You will find background information about history, minorities and reservations or reserves for Native Americans in this section. Read through this material before doing very much original research.

- *Part 5. Where Do I Find Records?*

This section includes information about repositories where you will find original documents about your Native American ancestors. These repositories include the Family History Library, national archives in the United States and Canada, and other repositories.

- *Part 6. What Tools Can Help My Search?*

This section gives information on dictionaries, gazetteers, maps, further reading, and a glossary. These reference tools can help identify places and help you read the records.

PART 1. HOW DO I FIND RECORDS ABOUT MY ANCESTORS?

As you learn about the times in which your ancestors lived, their problems, accomplishments, tragedies, and triumphs, your understanding and success as a family history researcher will grow.

Special Strategies for Indian Research

If you believe you have Indian ancestors, it will help your research to:

- *Identify a specific ancestor who was Indian and learn where he or she lived.* Use the records described throughout this outline, particularly the 1900, 1910, and 1920 United States federal censuses to help identify your Native American ancestor(s). These censuses have separate schedules of Native Americans living on reservations.
- *Identify the tribe and study its history.* Generally, you should know the specific tribe to which your Native American ancestor was born before beginning research. Sometimes you can find this information in United States federal census. When you know the general area where an ancestor lived, you can usually identify the tribe to which he or she belonged. It helps to learn some background information about the tribe, such as migration patterns, marriage and naming customs, and affiliations with churches and government agencies. Because some tribes moved several times, their records may be available in many locations. The following

handbooks describe where tribes lived, their history, migration patterns, customs, and traditions:

Malinowski, Sharon, et. al. *Gale Encyclopedia of Native American Tribes*. 4 vols. Detroit: Gale Research 1998. (FHL 970.1 G131g; computer number 831087.) Volume one covers tribes in the Northeast, Southeast, and Caribbean. Volume two covers in the Great Basin, Southwest, and Middle America. Volume three covers the Arctic, Subarctic, Great Plains, and Plateau. Volume four covers California, the Pacific Northwest, and Pacific Islands.

- *Use as many records as possible.* Often individual documents will only show part of an Native American family. Continue to look for information, and constantly compare the various documents with each other. Each piece of information will assist you in building a more complete and accurate account of the lives of your ancestors. It should be noted that the members in an Native American family often changed over time. For example, in the U.S. federal censuses, children listed in a family could be children of a sibling or other relative of the listed head of family.

The Research Process

To make your research more effective, begin by obtaining some background information, then survey previous research, and finally, search original documents.

All family history researchers, including those looking for Indian ancestors, will benefit from using the following five-step research process.

Step 1. Identify What You Know about Your Family

Begin your research with family and home sources. Look for names, dates, and places in certificates, family Bibles, obituaries, diaries, and similar sources. Ask your relatives for any additional information they may have. It's very likely that your second cousin, great-aunt, or other relative already has some family information. Organize the information you find, and record it on pedigree charts and family group record forms.

Be sensitive to the feelings of family members you contact. Respect their privacy, customs, and wishes. If a relative is hesitant to talk about the past, be cautious and avoid making him or her uncomfortable. Find another way to get the information.

Family Stories and Traditions. While many family traditions are exaggerated, they may include accurate facts. Information about the area of the country an ancestor came from, occupations, nearby towns, rivers, or mountains may provide clues to the name of the tribe or place of origin.

Step 2. Decide What You Want to Learn

Select a specific relative or ancestor, *for whom you know at least a name, a place or tribe where he or she lived, and an approximate date when he or she lived there.* It would also be helpful to know his or her religion and the names of other family members.

If you don't have enough information on your Native American ancestor, review the sources mentioned in step one, which may give the birthplace or residence.

If you do not know the tribe of your ancestor, conduct your research *as if* he or she were non-Indian. When the ancestor no longer appears in non-Indian records, then start to search Indian records.

Next, decide what you want to learn about your ancestor, such as where and when he or she was married, or the names of his or her parents. You may want to ask an experienced researcher or a librarian to help you select a goal that you can successfully achieve.

Step 3. Select a Record to Search

Some unique records of Native Americans that you can use are described in part two of this outline. Often your Native American ancestor can also be found in non-Indian records. Use the national and state or provincial outlines for the place where your Indian ancestors lived to learn about these records.

Read this outline to learn about the types of records used for Native American research. To trace your family, you may need to use some of the

records described in each section. Several factors can affect your choice of which records to search. This outline provides information to help you evaluate the contents, availability, ease of use, time period covered, and reliability of the records, as well as the likelihood that your ancestor will be listed.

Reference Tools

If you do not have enough information to select or use previous research sources or original records, use reference tools from the following categories:

Background Information Sources. You may need some tribal, geographical, historical, linguistic, or cultural information. This can save you time and effort by helping you focus your research in the correct place and time period. You may need to:

- *Learn about the tribe.* Use encyclopedias, references, and history books to learn about the tribe, where they lived, and where they migrated. Look for clues about the people, places, religions, and events that may have affected their lives and records generated about them.
- *Locate the town or place of residence.* Examine maps, gazetteers, postal guides, and other place-finding aids to learn as much as you can about each of the places where your ancestors lived. Identify nearby cities, boundaries, other geographical features, and government agency or ecclesiastical jurisdictions.
- *Learn about Native American jurisdictions.* You will need to know how Native American records are divided. Learn about the local, county, state, provincial, and federal government records that may list tribe members. Which agency or agencies of the Bureau of Indian Affairs served the tribe? Learn about the tribal records. Which churches kept records about this tribe? Are there private collections with information about this tribe? Find out about the clans, bands, Indian nations, or other divisions that may have affected record keeping about the tribe.
- *Use language helps.* The records and histories of Native Americans will usually be written in English, Spanish, French, or Latin. A few other European languages are also used in scattered Indian records. Genealogical word lists for many European languages are available at most family history centers. Occasionally Indian records are

found in the Indian language. You do not need to speak or read a language to search the records in that language, but you will need to learn some key words and phrases. The Family History Library has dictionaries of a few Native American languages.

- *Understand Indian naming customs.* From time to time during their life, many Indians changed their names. Some Indians had an Indian name, an English (or French or Spanish) name, and a Christian name (by which they were known in Church records) at the same time. Understanding these customs can help you locate missing ancestors.
- *Understand tribal customs.* Local customs may have affected the way individuals were recorded in the records. Learn about kinship systems. Sometimes a taboo about speaking the name of the dead must be understood and respectfully handled.

Finding Aids. Catalogs, inventories, or bibliographies identify where a record is available. Indexes help find the person's name in a record. A few finding aids are discussed in this outline. See the appropriate national, state, or province research outline for more information about finding aids.

Genealogical Records

The genealogical and historical records needed to identify an Indian ancestor fall into two categories:

Previous Research Sources. Most genealogists do a survey of research previously done by others. This can save time and give you valuable information. A few sources of previous research are:

- Printed family histories and genealogies.
- Computer databases of family information, such as FamilySearch.
- Family information published in periodicals and newsletters.

Original Documents. After surveying previous research, you will be ready to begin research in original documents. These can often be found on microfilm. Original documents are usually handwritten in the native language of the author,

sometimes Spanish, French, Latin, and Russian. These documents can provide primary information about your family because they were generally recorded at or near the time of an event by a reliable witness. To do thorough research, you should search records of:

- Each place where your ancestor lived.
- The time period when he or she lived there.
- All jurisdictions that may have kept records about him (tribe, town, church, county, agency, state, province, and nation).

Many types of original documents are described in this outline. For genealogical research of Native Americans most family information is found in the records described under:

- Census.
- Land and Property.
- Probate.
- Court Records.
- Schools.
- Church Records.

Step 4. Obtain and Search the Record

Suggestions for Obtaining Records. You may be able to obtain the records you need in the following ways:

- *Family History Library.* You are welcome to visit and use the records at the Family History Library. The library is open to the public. There are no fees for using the records. The Family History Library has a good collection of Indian records, including many of the records available from the National Archives of the United States. If you would like more information about its services, contact the library at the following address:

Family History Library
35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
USA
Telephone: 801-240-2364
Fax: 801-240-1927
e-mail: FHL@ldschurch.org
Internet: www.familysearch.org

- *Family history centers.* Copies of most of the records on microform at the Family History Library can be loaned to more than 3,400 family history centers. There are small duplication and postage fees for this service.

The library's books cannot be loaned to the centers, but copies of many books not copyrighted are available on microfilm or microfiche. You can get a list of the family history centers near you by writing to the Family History Library at the address above or on the Internet:

www.familysearch.org/Search/searchfhc2.asp

- *Archives and local churches.* Most of the original documents you will need are at state, province, church, or local archives; tribal archives offices; or museum libraries. While the Family History Library has many records on microfilm, additional records are available only at these archives. You can request searches in their records through correspondence. (See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for more information.)
- *Libraries and interlibrary loan.* Public, college, and other research libraries may have some published sources for Native American research. Many libraries also provide interlibrary loan services that allow you to borrow records from other libraries.
- *Computers.* The number of genealogical resources accessible by computer is growing rapidly. If you have a computer with a modem, you can search the Internet, bulletin boards, and commercial online services for genealogical information. See the "Internet Resources" section of this outline for details.
- *Genealogical and historical societies.* Many counties, states, and provinces have genealogical and historical societies that collect family and local histories, Bible records, cemetery records, genealogies, manuscripts, newspapers, and records of pioneers. Some societies are able to briefly search their records for you. See the "Societies and Periodicals" section of this outline for details.

- *Professional researchers.* You can employ a private researcher to search the records for you. Few researchers specialize in Native American records. Lists of qualified professional researchers are available from the Family History Library. Other lists are also available from the Board for Certification of Genealogists (P.O. Box 14291, Washington, D.C. 20004), and from the Association of Professional Genealogists (34321 M Street N.W., Suite 236, Washington, D.C. 20007-3552). Local archives, libraries, and societies may also provide the names of individuals in the area who will search records for you. For more information about professional researchers, see our *Hiring a Professional Genealogist Resource Guide* (34548).
- *Photocopies.* The Family History Library and many other libraries offer limited photoduplication services for a small fee. Most will provide a few photocopies, but only if you specify the exact pages you need. Many will also photocopy a few pages of an index or an alphabetical record, such as a city directory for a specific surname.
- *Publishers.* You can purchase records from the publisher if the records are still in print. A local book dealer or library can help you identify and contact publishers. A helpful list of genealogical publishers and publications is:

Hoffman, Marian. *Genealogical and Local History Books in Print*, 5th ed. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1997. (FHL Book 929.1016 H675g; computer number 806326.)

You can purchase Family History Library publications (research outlines, resource guides, and genealogical word lists) from the Salt Lake Distribution Center or from the library. This outline often gives the number you need to order the publications (a five-digit number in parentheses) after its title. You can find titles, prices, and order numbers in the free *Family History Materials List* (34083). The Family History Library and family history centers do not sell books.

- *Bookstores.* Some bookstores carry newer family history books. Often you can obtain out-of-print books from very large bookstores. For a small fee they can advertise nationwide for old books.

When requesting services from libraries, archives, or professional researchers through correspondence, you are more likely to be successful if your letter is brief and very specific. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing within your own country. When writing to other countries, enclose international reply coupons (available from large post offices). You will usually need to send a check or money order in advance to pay for photocopy or search services.

Be careful what you ask for and how you ask for it. If your request violates a custom or taboo, you may not get a response, or you may get a misleading response. For example, many Navajo Indians believe that speaking the name of a dead person is bad. Rather than offend oral history interviewers, some Navajos invented false names for their deceased. *Avoid using offensive terms.* The best way to avoid accidentally offending someone is to study the history of the tribe to become familiar with their customs.

Suggestions for Searching the Records. You will be most successful with Native American research if you can examine the original records or microfilms of the originals. In some cases, only transcripts of the original records are available. These may be easier to read, but may be less accurate than the original records.

Follow these principles as you search the records for your ancestor:

- *Search for the ancestor's entire family.* The records of each person in a family may include clues for identifying other family members. In most families, children were born at regular intervals. If there appears to be a longer period between some children, reevaluate the records for a child who may have been overlooked. Consider looking at other records and in other places to find a missing family member.
- *Search each source thoroughly.* The information you need to find a person or trace the family further may be a minor detail of the record you are searching. Note the occupation of your ancestor and the names of witnesses, godparents, neighbors, relatives, guardians, and others. Also, note the places they are from.

- *Watch for name changes.* Many Native Americans changed their name from time to time, or used different names in certain situations. It helps to find an ancestor's Indian name and English name together in the same document, usually a census.
- *Search a broad time period.* Dates obtained from some sources may not be accurate. Look several years before and after the date you think an event, such as a birth, occurred.
- *Look for indexes.* Many records have indexes. However, many indexes are incomplete. They may only include the name of the specific person the record is about. They may not include parents, witnesses, and other incidental persons. Also, be aware that the original records may have been misinterpreted or names may have been omitted during indexing. Look for each name the Indian ancestor went by during his or her lifetime.
- *Search for prior residence.* Information about previous residences is crucial to continued successful research.
- *Watch out for spelling variations.* Look for the many ways a name could have been spelled. Spelling was not standardized when most early records were made. English speaking clerks may have struggled to spell a hard-to-say Indian name. You may find a name spelled differently than it is today.

Record Your Searches and Findings. Copy the information you find, and keep detailed notes about each record you search. These notes should include the author, title, location, call numbers, description, and results of your search. Most researchers use a *Research Log* (31825) for this purpose.

Step 5. Use the Information

Evaluate the Information You Find. Carefully evaluate whether the information you find is complete and accurate. Ask yourself these questions:

- Who provided the information? Did that person witness the event?
- Was the information recorded near the time of the event, or later?

- Is the information consistent and logical?
- Does the new information verify the information found in other sources? Does it differ from information in other sources?
- Does it suggest other places, time periods, or records to search?

Share Your Information with Others. Your family's history can become a source of enjoyment and education for you and your family. Sharing helps others build on your success and correct mistakes. When you help others, they are more inclined to help you. One way to find an elusive ancestor is to publish what you know and wait for other researchers to contact you with additional information.

Start by sharing the information you find with family members. Some will return the favor by sharing additional information with you. You are invited to share your information with the Family History Library and others in these ways:

- Donate a paper copy of your family history to the Family History Library with permission to microfilm it. For more information, see *Preparing a Family History Resource Guide* (36023). We also encourage you to donate paper copies to public libraries, county historical societies, and state and county genealogical societies in the areas where your ancestors settled. You could request a book notice or book review in each genealogical society's periodical in return for the donation.
- Contribute to the *Ancestral File*.
- Preserve your data at our *FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service* site (*Pedigree Resource File*), and similar sites elsewhere, such as the FamilyTreeMaker.com's *World Family Tree*, Ancestry.com's *Ancestry World Tree*, or the *Everton's Genealogical Helper's* "Computer Roots Cellar."
- Create and add your own family history Internet site to our *FamilySearch Internet Genealogical Service* "Web Site" list. Also register your web site with the most popular search engines, and send a copy to the archives of commercial online services like CompuServe's Roots Forum.

- Collaborate with others by joining and contributing to e-mail lists found on the *FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service*.
- Register with Keith A. Johnson's and Malcolm R. Sainty's annual *Genealogical Research Directory*.
- Contribute to the family group sheet exchanges advertized in *Everton's Genealogical Helper*.

If you are a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, be sure to submit information about your deceased family members so you can provide temple ordinances for them. Your ward family history consultant or a staff member at the Family History Library or your family history center can assist you. You can also use *Members Guide to Temple and Family History Work* (34697) available through the Church Distribution Center.

RECORD SELECTION TABLE: INDIANS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, 1800 to Present

This table can help you decide which records to search.

1. Choose an ancestor to learn about. From column 1, decide what you want to learn about that person; this is your research goal.
2. In Column 1, find the goal you selected.
3. In Column 2, find the types of records most likely to have the information you need, then read the sections in this outline about those types of records.
4. Look in the *Family History Library Catalog* and choose a specific record to search.
5. Look at the record.
6. If you do not find the information you need, search the record types in column 3.

Note: Records of previous research (Genealogy, Biography, History, Periodicals, and Societies) are useful for most goals, but they are not listed unless they are *especially* helpful.

1. If You Need	2. Search These Record Types First	3. Search These Record Types Next
Age	* Sanitation, Census, *Enrollment	*Allotment, *Annuity, Probate, School
Allotment number or information	* Indian Census, *Enrollment, Probate	
Annuity number	* Indian Census	
Birth information	Vital, *Sanitation, Census	Probate, Military, Newspapers
Boundaries and origins	Maps, Gazetteers	Encyclopedias and Dictionaries

Children	Vital, Census,* Allotment, *Enrollment	Probate, Newspapers, Military
Death information	Vital,* Sanitation, Probate	Church, Newspapers, Military
Degree of Indian blood	* Annuity, *School	
English and/or Indian name	* Annuity, *Indian Census, * Allotment	* Court of Claims/Indian Claims Commission
Historical background	History, Encyclopedias and Dictionaries	
Maiden name	Vital, *Sanitation, Probate	Newspapers
Marriage information	Vital, Census, *Allotment	Probate, Newspapers, Military
Naming customs	Encyclopedias and Dictionaries	
Other relatives	Vital, *Sanitation, Census	* Enrollment, *Allotment, Probate
Parents	Vital, Census,* Allotment	Probate, Newspapers, Military
Place-finding aids	Gazetteers, Maps, Encyclopedias and Dictionaries	
Places of residence	Census,*Allotment, Military	Directories
Previous research	Genealogy, Periodicals, Societies	
Record-finding aids	Archives and Libraries, Periodicals	
Relationship to head of the family	Census, *Annuity, *Court of Claims/Indian Claims Commission	
Tribal and/or band affiliation	* Enrollment, Probate, School	

*** For information on these records look in the following sections of this outline:**

Allotment	Land and Property, Census, Probate, Court, Vital, Minorities, History, Glossary
Annuity	Census, Vital, Minorities, History, Glossary
Enrollment	Land and Property, Court, Census, Probate, Vital, Minorities, History, Glossary
Indian Census	Census, Minorities, History, Glossary
Court of Claims/Indian Claims Commission	Court, Land and Property, Minorities, History, Glossary

PART 2. HAS SOMEONE ALREADY RESEARCHED MY FAMILY?

Over the years many genealogies have been compiled by various individuals and organizations. Although this material may include errors, it can also save hours of duplicating the same research.

When you decide which family you want to concentrate your efforts on, it is best to try to find any previous research which may have been done on that family and to coordinate with other researchers working on the same family. Begin by making inquiries among family members to determine if they know of anyone in the family that may have been interested in family history or gathered family data in the past.

Next, search databases, put queries in magazines or on the Internet, and look for published books or articles.

GENEALOGICAL DATABASES

Computerized Databases. A database is a large body of compiled information organized so that selected parts of the information are listed in a logical order. You can search genealogical databases by an ancestor's name, and sometimes also by a date or a place. Some are available in a computerized form, while others are paper or microfiche files.

FamilySearch™. *FamilySearch* is a collection of computer files containing millions of names. *FamilySearch* is a good place to begin your family history research. Some of the records come from compiled sources, and some have been extracted from original sources. The Family History Library and many family history centers have computers with *FamilySearch*. A few *FamilySearch* resource files, such as the U.S. Social Security Death Index, and the U.S. Military Index, are found on the Family History Library and family history center version of *FamilySearch*, but not on the *FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service*.

Family History Library and family history center computers with *FamilySearch* do not have access to the Internet, computer online services, networks, or bulletin boards. Those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations. Limited access to the Internet is available

on a few computers in the Automated Resource Center in the Family History Library.

FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service. The Internet site at www.familysearch.org allows you to preserve your genealogy, order Family History Library publications, learn research strategies, and look for information about your ancestors in the following resources:

Ancestral File, a file of over 35 million names organized into families and pedigrees.

International Genealogical Index, an index of over 600 million names extracted out of vital records primarily from the British Isles, North America, and northern Europe. Use **both** the "A. North America" and "T. World Misc." regions to find Native Americans.

Family History Library Catalog, a description and classification of over 2 million microfilm reels and hundreds of thousands of genealogical books. You can search the catalog by family name, locality, author, book, or film number.

SourceGuide, a resource that contains a collection of over 150 "how-to" research outlines for states, nations, or genealogy topics, an extensive glossary of word meanings, and a catalog helper.

Family History Centers, a list of locations where you can order the microfilms described in the Family History Library Catalog and *SourceGuide*.

Web Sites, a categorized list of thousands of links to Internet sites related to family history.

Collaboration Lists, links you to user-created mailing lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics.

Other Databases on the Internet. You can also use the Internet to find many other genealogical databases. For further details, see the "Internet" section of this research outline.

Off the Internet. Some computerized databases for genealogists are available off the Internet, such as:

Pedigree Resource File. 40 compact discs. Family History Resource File. Salt Lake City: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,

1999. (FHL compact disc no. 162; title number 831357.) This is a set of lineage-linked pedigrees that have been submitted to the Family and Church History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These pedigrees contain unedited notes and sources to about 6 million names. Charts and reports can be printed from this data. It includes a master index.

Vital Records Index North America. 7 compact discs. Family History Resource File. Salt Lake City: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1998. (FHL compact disc no. 91; computer number 833010.) These discs contain information taken from a partial collection of birth, christening, and marriage records of the United States and Canada from 1631 to 1888. They include about 4 million names.

Everton's Computerized "Roots" Cellar, 1640-1990. FamilyTree Maker's Family Archives, 18. [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1998. (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 18; computer number 829953.) Consists of over 200,000 family history queries submitted to *Everton's Genealogical Helper* magazine. Each query lists an ancestor's name, date, and place, and the query submitters name and address.

Paper Databases

Family Group Records Collection. The Family Group Records Collection has about 8 million family group records that were created by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is divided into two sections: the Patrons Section and the Archive Section.

The original family group records in the Archive Section (1942-1969) and the Patrons Section (1962-1977) are on the fourth floor of the FamilySearch Center. The Patron Section (1926-1962 and 1978-1979) are only available on microfilm.

Archive Section. This section of the Family Group Records Collection contains 5 million family group records submitted by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints between 1942 and 1969 for temple work. The microfilms are listed under:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The. Genealogical Society. *Family Group Records Collection, Archives Section 1942-1969.* Salt

Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977, 1993. (On 1998 FHL films beginning with 1273501; computer number 32757.) In 1993 the microfilms of the Archives Section were checked against the original family group records and 18,000 sheets were found that had not been microfilmed. These records were photocopied, and filmed as an addendum (FHL films 1750758-64.)

Patron Section. This part of the collection contains 3 million family group record forms that were submitted to the Church to share genealogical information and identify others working on the same lines. Temple work was not requested. Each section has some names found in no other filming:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The. Genealogical Society. *Family Group Records Collection; Patron Section, 1962-1977.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988-1990. (FHL films 1558711-961; computer number 480987.) Surnames A to KERSEY only. The filming was stopped when it was discovered that 80 percent of the sheets were already in the *Ancestral File*.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The. Genealogical Society. *Family Group Records Collection; Patron Section, 1962-1979.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1966-1980. (On 1165 FHL films starting with 428056; computer number 09156.) 80 percent of these sheets are in the *Ancestral File*. No single filming of all years of the Patron Section exists. The set from 1978 to 1979 comprising films 1281028-89 are not available in the binders at the Family Search Center.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The. Genealogical Society. *Family Group Records Collection; Patron Section, 1924-1962.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1965-1966. (On 614 FHL films starting with 412088; computer number 32343.)

Other Family Group Records.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Spanish-American Mission. *Family Group Records: Collected and Compiled by the Former Spanish-American Mission.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973, 1980. (On 8 FHL films beginning with film 940001; computer

number 1374.) Most of these records were submitted by members of the Spanish-Mexican Mission, which included Mexico and the Spanish-speaking Saints in Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas.

Research Coordination List. For a list of ancestors and the submitters researching them see:

Johnson, Keith A., and Malcolm R. Sainty. *Genealogical Research Directory*. Sidney, N.S.W.: Authors, annual. (FHL book 929.1025 G286grd; computer number 507132.) The 1999 edition includes over 100,000 ancestors with their dates and places, and about 40,000 submitters' addresses.

INTERNET

The Internet can be a valuable tool to help family history researchers do the following:

- **Search large databases** for genealogical data, compiled genealogies, and reference information such as telephone numbers and addresses.
- **Search computer archives and libraries** for query replies, compiled genealogies, and research suggestions.
- **Search library catalogs** on the Internet for family history books, local histories, and local manuscript records which you could order through interlibrary loan.
- **Join mailing lists and news groups** on the Internet regarding your ancestor's family, ethnic group, locality, or a historical event in which your ancestor participated.
- **Locate other researchers** interested in the same ancestors. Look for relatives who put up genealogical web sites. Find out who contributed information about your relatives to databases and computer libraries. Also, investigate the membership directories of genealogical groups to see who is researching your ancestors.
- **Send and receive e-mail** to ask a specific individual or organization for information.
- **Post queries** on genealogical message boards for information about a particular ancestor or how to do research in an area. Other researchers may reply with the help you need.
- **Join in computer chat and lecture sessions** for ideas, inspiration, and tips to help your research.
- **Share your genealogy** by contributing to Internet databases and genealogy interest group libraries.

- **Put up a web site** with your genealogy on it, and register it with FamilySearch, search engines, and related Internet gateway sites.
- **Publish on the Internet** your genealogy or genealogical articles.
- **Order** family history publications, supplies, or services over the Internet.

An increasing number of public libraries provide network services for their visitors to use. Family history centers do not usually have access to computer online services or networks.

Some Internet sites require a fee before allowing access to their services. The list of computer sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at little or no cost. *Addresses for various sites are subject to frequent changes.*

Information obtained by computer are generally transcriptions or secondary sources; therefore, they often contain inaccuracies and should be verified in original records where possible.

Finding Resources on the Internet

It takes time and practice to learn how to navigate through the Internet. Local genealogical societies often have computer interest groups or members who are familiar with computer genealogical research.

To find information on the Internet, there are three good ways of getting started: using search engines and using genealogical gateways. You may wish to add some of these search engines and gateways for genealogical sources to your "favorites" or "bookmarks" so you can find them again quickly.

Search Engines

Search engines are sites that search the Internet for a site containing certain keywords. Different search engines search in different ways, so you may want to try more than one. Following are the Internet addresses for some of the most common search engines:

NorthernLight	www.northernlight.com/
Yahoo	www.yahoo.com/
AltaVista	www.altavista.com/
InfoSeek	www.infoseek.com/
HotBot	www.HotBot.com/
Lycos	www.lycos.com/

Gateways

Gateways are sites that act as a catalog grouping Internet sites by topic. Using these sites can save many hours of rambling about the Internet.

Many sites include *links* to other related Internet sites. Once you have found one site that is interesting, other sites that are linked to it may also be useful.

The following are some of the major sites that are helpful for Native American family research:

General Sites

FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service [Internet site]. [Salt Lake City]: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 22 March 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.familysearch.org. At this site you can access the Family History Library Catalog, *Ancestral File*, *International Genealogical Index*, *SourceGuide*, lists of family history centers, and lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics. You can also learn about and order Family History Library publications. For a list of Native American family history web sites, select **Custom Search**, then **Web Sites**, the category **Native Races**, click on the **List of Links** box, and **Search**.

Howells, Cyndi. "Native American." In Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet [Internet site]. Puyallup, Wash.: Cyndi Howells, 29 December 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.cyndislist.com/native.htm. This list has more links to other Native American genealogical sites and describes more resources than any other site on the Internet.

"Native American." In FamilyTreeMaker.com [Internet site]. N.p.: Genealogy.com, LLC, 27 December 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.familytreemaker.com/00000380.html. This site lists addresses and telephone numbers to contact, and reference books. It also includes a genealogical Internet site finder with dozens of Native American links.

Stark, Gene. "Gendex — WWW Genealogical Index." In Gendex [database online]. N.p.: G. Stark, 14 December 1999 [cited 30 December 1999]. Available at www.gendex.com/gendex/. Surname index of every personal genealogical site on the

Internet known to the compiler, over 12 million individuals.

"Native American Heritage Genealogy Site." In Native American Heritage [Internet site]. Austin, Tex.: LearnFree.com, 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.nativeamericanheritage.com/genealogy-g.html. This is a well-done step-by-step explanation of how to find Native American ancestors. It includes a list of selected Internet site links.

"Native American History and Genealogy." In New Mexico Genealogical Society [Internet site]. Albuquerque, N.Mex.: NMGS, 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.nmgs.org/linkna.htm. This is a list of links to the Internet sites of different Indian tribes.

"Native American Indian Genealogy Webring Homepage." N.p., 1997? [cited 30 December 1999]. Available at <http://members.tripod.com/~kjunkutie/natvrng.htm>. A place for registering and finding home pages with information about Native American genealogy.

Wilson, Vicki. "Native American Research in Michigan." [Internet site]. N.p.: Vicki Wilson, 10 November 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at http://members.aol.com/ht_b/roundsky/introduction.html. This site has 10 lessons for doing genealogical research for Indians in Michigan. The principles and record types apply to most tribes.

"Genealogy of the First Americans." In RootsWeb.com [Internet site]. N.p., 12 July 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/~nativeam/. Arranged by tribe, nation, reservation, agency, and school. This is a free list of literature, maps, bulletin boards, archive and library mailing addresses, Internet sites, and a large, regularly-updated research coordination list called *RootsWeb Surname List*.

"USGenWeb Native American Sites." In The USGenWeb Project [Internet site]. N.p., 1999? [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.rootsweb.com/~nativeam/usgenweb.htm. This is a cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county and state.

Strom, Karen M. "WWW Virtual Library - American Indians." [Internet site]. N.p.: K.M. Strom, 14 November 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.hanksville.org/NAresources/. This is an index to Native American resources on the Internet.

United States Government Sites

"Bureau of Indian Affairs On-Line." In U.S. Department of the Interior [Internet site]. [Washington, D.C.]: BIA, 23 November 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html. This describes the policies, programs, and organization of the BIA. It includes information about searching for Indian genealogical information, maps of Indian lands, and officially recognized tribes.

"Search Hints for Genealogical Data in NAIL." In National Archives and Records Administration [Internet site]. [Washington, D.C.]: NARA, 6 December 1999 [cited 29 December 1999]. Available at www.nara.gov/nara/nail/nailgen.html. Describes Native American records in the National Archives. Also includes the *National Archives Information Locator (NAIL)* index to many of these records.

Canadian Government Sites

"Indian and Northern Affairs Canada." [Internet site]. Ottawa, Ont.: Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, 1999? [cited 30 December 1999]. Available at www.inac.gc.ca/. Text in English or French. This site gives information about tribes, laws, treaties, court records from Canada's Department on Indian and Northern Affairs, and has links to other Internet sites regarding Canada's aboriginal people.

Manuals explaining key genealogical network tools, search engines, news groups, and surname sites are available at bookstores and on the Internet.

GENEALOGY

Genealogy describes a variety of records containing family information that has previously been gathered by societies, archives, tribes or other family members. These records can contain pedigree charts, correspondence, ancestor lists, abstracts of records, and collections of copied documents. These items can be a good source of information but need to be

carefully evaluated for accuracy. The "Genealogy" section of the *United States Research Outline (30972)* describes printed compilations and manuscript collections that contain information about some Native American ancestors.

UNITED STATES

Family Histories. Many people have produced histories about their families that may include genealogical data, biographies, photographs, and other information. These usually include several generations of the family. The Family History Library has an extensive collection of over 70,000 published United States and Canada family histories and newsletters. Copies at the library are listed in the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog. Not every name found in a family history will be listed in the catalog, so be sure to check the index if a book has one.

Major collections of printed family histories are also found at most of the archives and libraries. Many large libraries have the indexes and catalogs to published family histories described in the "Genealogy" section of the *United States Research Outline (30972)* and the *Canada Research Outline (34545)*.

For an example of the kind of family history these catalogs might cite, see:

Brown, Stuart E. *Pocahontas' Descendants*. Berryville, Va.: Pocahontas Foundation, 1985. (FHL book 929.273 P75b 1985; computer number 377608.) This family history is indexed and includes information on the Bolling, Cabell, Coolidge, Harrison, Page, Ruffin and related families.

Private Collections. Some families, libraries, and societies have private collections that have been compiled by individuals, organizations, libraries and other groups. These collections are also a valuable source of genealogy when researching your ancestor. Some of the private collections are not circulated (loaned) to other institutions:

Duke University. Library. *Duke Indian Oral History Collection and Index*. Cambridge Mass. : General Microfilm, 1981. (On 8 microfilms beginning with FHL film 1486555; fiche 6077908-62 [set of 310];

computer number 490684.) A collection of oral histories of Indians from around the United States housed at Duke University.

The Draper Manuscript Collection is a significant regional source that includes records of Native Americans.

Draper, Lyman Copeland. *Draper Manuscript Collection*. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Library, 197-?. (On 147 FHL films beginning with 889098; computer number 254597.) The *Draper Manuscript Collection* consists of nearly 500 volumes of manuscripts, papers, and books collected by Draper about the history of the trans-Allegheny West, a region including the western areas of the Carolinas and Virginia, all the Ohio River Valley, and part of the upper Mississippi Valley from the 1740s to 1830. The collection is divided into 50 series. Some series are titled by geographic area, some by the names of prominent frontier and Indian leaders, and some by topic. The bulk of the collection consists of notes from interviews, questionnaires, and letters gathered during Draper's extensive travels and research to learn about frontier history. Personal papers are much more rare than government or military records. The collection includes many items of a genealogical or biographical nature. For an inventory and partial indexes, see:

Harper, Josephine L. *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*. Madison, Wis.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1983. (FHL book 977.583/M1 A3h; fiche 6050187; computer number 37812.) This guide gives series and volume descriptions for some of the Draper manuscripts. There are several indexes at the end of the book, including a name and subject index and an additional personal data index.

Wolfe, Barbara Schull. *Index to Lyman C. Draper Manuscripts*. Logansport, Ind.: B.S. Wolfe, 197-?. (FHL book 977.583/M1 A3w; computer number 525504.) The name index gives the series and volume numbers, but is not complete.

Indian Pioneer Papers, 1860-1935. Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus Microform, 1989. (FHL fiche 6016865-981 [set of 1012]; computer number 545067.) These papers contain interviews of people married to Indians, those living on or near a reservation, and other information concerning life in the Oklahoma Territory. An index is included.

McLaughlin, James. *Major James McLaughlin Papers, 1855-1937*. Richardton, N.Dak.: Assumption Abbey Archive. (On 39 FHL films beginning with FHL film 494467; computer number 213071.) These papers include correspondence kept by James McLaughlin, who was an Indian agent in North Dakota from 1876 to 1896 and an Indian inspector from 1895 to 1923. An index is included. For details see:

Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Major James McLaughlin Papers. Richardton, N.Dak.: Assumption College, 1969. (FHL book 973 A1 no. 200; computer number 213071.) This guide contains a description of the roll numbers and includes an index to Indian agencies.

Pratt, John Gill. *John G. Pratt Papers, 1834-1899 in the Kansas State Historical Society*. Topeka, Kans.: KSHS, [1970?]. (On 13 FHL films beginning with 812758; computer number 65983.) These are papers regarding Indian agency correspondence, newspaper articles, business papers, account books, allotments, and vouchers.

Bennett, Archibald F. *Indian Descendants; Research Data (Pedigrees, Letters, Notes)*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1967. (FHL Film 528753; computer number 331678.)

Adams, James Taylor. *James Taylor Adams Collection*. St. Louis, Mo.: R. R. Seibel and D.A. Griffith, 1971. (On 13 FHL films beginning with 1689768; computer number 549065.) This is a list of families from Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee primarily about Adams families and relatives.

CANADA

Many Canadian families have produced family histories or newsletters containing genealogical information, biographies, photographs, and other information. Many of the histories are listed in:

Canadian Genealogy Index 1600s-1900s, from the Genealogical Research Library. Novato, Calif.: Broderbund Software, 1996. (FHL compact disc no. 9 of 118; computer number 793135) This compact disc gives dates and places for about two million names. It also includes source information.

BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the Native American's birth, marriage, and death information as well as the names of his parents, children, and other family members. Biographies often include photographs, family traditions and stories, clues about an ancestor's place of origin and residence, church affiliation, military service, and activities within the tribe or community. The information must be used carefully, however, because there may be inaccuracies.

Individual Biographies

The Library has individual biographies written about specific individuals. These individual biographies deal with famous Indians, mostly Chiefs of tribes, such as:

Eaton, Rachel Caroline. *John Ross and the Cherokee Indians*. New York: AMS Press, 1978. (FHL book 970.3 C424er; fiche 6101831; computer number 540162.)

The Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog will lead you to biographies and published family histories on specific Indians.

Compiled Biographies

Hundreds of brief biographical sketches have been collected and published in compiled biographies, sometimes called "biographical encyclopedias." These collections deal with prominent and well-known citizens of a particular area. They may also include biographies of scientists, writers, artists, activists and prominent people of other professions.

Generally, Native Americans will not be found in early local county histories or in family histories. By the middle of the 20th century, many Native Americans were becoming prominent leaders in different fields. The Family History Library has many compiled biographies of these Native Americans. A few of these are:

Malinowski, Sharon, and Simon Glickman. *Native North American Biography*. 2 vols. N.p., 1996. (FHL book 970.1 N212n; computer number 778824.) This biography contains several hundred biographies and includes a surname index.

Biographical and Historical Index of American Indians and Persons Involved in Indian Affairs. 8 vols. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1966. (FHL book Q970.1 Un3b; films 1636598-605; computer number 63092.) This book contains biographies of several hundred Indians, Indian agents and others who worked for the BIA. It is arranged alphabetically by subject, Indian tribe and person's name.

Sonneborn, Liz. *A to Z of Native American Women*. New York: Facts on File, 1998. (FHL book 970.1 So59a; computer number 827394.) This source contains biographies and pictures of over a hundred women. It contains indexes by name, tribe, year of birth, and area of expertise.

SOCIETIES AND PERIODICALS

Societies can help whether your ancestors joined a society or not. Historical societies have collected histories and other important documents describing the area(s) around them. Genealogical societies, lineage and hereditary societies, and family associations have collected family histories, pedigrees, and other family records. Societies can provide research assistance, maps, and other helps. Some societies allow only members to use their records. See the *United States Research Outline 30972*, Internet genealogical sites for directories of societies.

Genealogical Societies

Genealogical societies have been organized in all states, provinces, and most counties. They generally collect family documents, publish periodicals, help you contact local record searchers, and have special projects and indexes. Your local public library and the Internet may have guides to help you locate these organizations.

Historical Societies

Historical societies generally collect historical documents of local interest, publish periodicals, and have special projects and indexes. They also have been organized in all states, provinces, and most counties. Your local public library and the Internet may have guides to help you locate these organizations.

The American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia has collected a large amount of information on Indians:

Freeman, John F. *A Guide to Manuscripts Relating to the American Indian in the Library of the American Philosophical Society*. Philadelphia, Pa.: APS, 1966. (FHL Book 970.1 F877g; computer number 213459). This list of manuscripts is arranged by tribe, language, and area.

The Oklahoma Historical Society has a biographical index about Indian Records, various state and local histories, family information, letters and records of various tribes, census rolls, journals of explorers, and military records:

Oklahoma Historical Society. Indian Archives Division. *Catalog of Microfilm Holdings in the Archives & Manuscripts Division Oklahoma Historical Society 1976-1989: Native American Tribal Records and Special Collections*. Oklahoma City, Okla. : The Society, 1976-1989. (FHL Book 970.1 Ok4cm, computer number 559780.) Their address is:

Oklahoma Historical Society Museum
The State Museum of Oklahoma
2100 North Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Telephone: 405-521-2491
(One of the largest collections of Indian historical documents in the world.)

Other Organizations

You may want to check with museums in the area where your ancestors lived to see if they have any information about tribes. For example:

Kelley House Historical Museum Index to Indians and Others, ca. 1850-1960. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1991. (FHL film 1765076 item 2; computer number 645711.) This card index includes an index to the 1860 census and other records in the Kelley House Museum in Mendocino, California.

Military veterans organizations are also a good place to look for those who served in various wars and branches of the service. These are described in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline 34118*.

For military records of Indian Wars, see:

Order of the Indian Wars
P.O. Box 7401
Little Rock, AR 72217
Telephone: 501-225-3996

Periodicals

Most historical societies and genealogical societies and some family organizations publish magazines and newsletters. They typically focus on the records of a particular county, while a few may specialize in records of a particular ethnic group or religion. Periodicals often include family genealogies and pedigrees, transcripts of local courthouse records, church records, family Bibles and cemetery records, helpful articles on history and research methodology, information about local records, archives, and services, book advertisements and book reviews, research advertisements, and queries or requests for information about specific ancestors that can help you contact other researchers.

North Native American periodicals generally are more historical in nature, but some publish documents relating to Indians such as transcripts of sources and tips on research methodology and sources. Historical and genealogical societies near Indian reservations also publish transcripts of records and other material of interest to the Indian family historian. A bibliography for Indian periodicals is:

Danky, James P. *Native American Periodicals and Newspapers, 1828-1982*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1984. This book is available through the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and through inter-library loan. It contains periodicals for both the United States and Canada.

There is also a name index to Native American periodicals produced in Wisconsin in:

Danky, James P. *Index to Wisconsin Native American Periodicals, 1897-1981*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1983. This microfiche index contains over 44,000 entries. The index is the largest name index to Native American periodicals in existence. It is available at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and through interlibrary loan.

A few major Indian periodicals include:

The Journal of American Indian Family Research. 1980-. Published by Histree, 803 So. 5th Ave., Yuma, AZ 85364. (FHL book 970.1 J825j; computer number 15643.) In addition to histories of different tribes, queries, bibliographies, and research tips, this source contains abstracts of tribal rolls, court records, and treaties. It is indexed only in the *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)*.

Journal of Cherokee Studies. 1976- Published by the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, P.O. Box 770-A, Cherokee, N.C. (FHL book 970.3 C424jc; computer number 512202.) This periodical contains historical articles and biographies of notable persons. It is indexed in PERSI and there is a ten year index in:

Carden, Gary. *Index for the Ten-Year Treasury of the Cherokee Studies, 1976-1986*. N.p.: Friends of Sequoyah, 1985. (FHL book 970.3 C424jc index; computer number 604965.) This indexes the subjects and authors in articles about Cherokees in Oklahoma and North Carolina.

SENA: Southeastern Native American Exchange. 1997-. Published by Jacqueline Hines, P.O. Box 161424, Mobile, AL 36616-2424. (FHL book 970.1 F35s; computer number 803612.) This quarterly periodical contains information on the Cherokee, Creek, Chickasaw, and Choctaw Indians. It contains abstracts of citizenship rolls, court records, and articles about Native American genealogy and history. It is unindexed and is not in PERSI.

Indexes

Some Native American genealogical periodicals have annual indexes in the final issue of the year. For nationwide indexes to the first two of these and other family history periodicals see:

PERiodical Source Index (PERSI). 31+ vols. Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1986-. (FHL book 973 D25per 1847-1985; fiche 6016863 [set of 40] (1847-1985; computer number 444407; book 973 D25per (1986-1990); fiche 6016864 [set of 15] (1986-1990); computer number 658308.) This indexes over 1.1 million articles in over 5,000 English-language and French Canadian family history periodicals. For further instructions, see the *Periodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119). For easier-to-use, more complete computer editions of the index, see:

Periodical Source Index [CD-ROM}. Orem, Utah: Ancestry™, and the Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1997. (FHL compact disk no. 61; computer number 808087.) This does not circulate to family history centers. It merges all 31+ volumes into one index.

“Periodical Source Index Search.” In Ancestry.com [Internet site]. [Orem, Utah]: Ancestry, 1999. Available at www.ancestry.com/ancestry/search/3165.htm. This online database is available only to Ancestry.com members for a subscription fee.

Copies of periodicals are available from the local societies that publish them. Major archives with genealogical collections will have copies of many periodicals, particularly those representing the area they serve.

The Family History Library subscribes to numerous periodicals. These are listed the Family History Library Catalog in several ways. If you know the title of a periodical, use the Author/Title Search. To find Native American periodicals, use the Subject Search of the Family History Library Catalog.

PART 3. WHAT RECORDS CAN I SEARCH?

This section is a description of each major source used in family history research for Native Americans. The sources are organized according to their value for genealogical research, the most important records being listed first. For strategies for the use of these different records during different periods of time, again refer to the section on *How Do I Find Records About My Ancestors?*

CENSUS RECORDS

A census is a count and description of the population. Censuses have been taken by the government primarily for population studies and taxation purposes. Census records are especially valuable because they list a large portion of the population. They can provide information where all or portions of other records are missing. Generally, you will find more complete family information in more recent censuses. Use the information with caution since some information may be incorrect.

Searching Census Records. When searching census records, it is important to remember the following:

- Accept the ages with caution.
- Women are usually are not listed by their maiden names.

- Information may be incorrect.
- Spelling of names and places may vary from modern standard spellings or from how they may be listed in other sources.
- Search the surrounding area if you do not find a family at the expected address.
- When you find your family in one census, search that same location in the earlier and later census records for additional family members.
- Because the handwriting can be difficult to read, it may be helpful to figure the age that a hard-to-find person should have been in a particular census, scan the age column for that approximate age, and then look for the name.

What information is given in census records?

Census records can provide personal information about:

- family relationships
- age
- year of birth
- birthplace
- value of real and personal property

There were many different kinds of Indian censuses taken. They were taken on prescribed forms, and the forms were changed periodically. In searching for Indian ancestry in census records, it would be helpful to learn the history of the census to understand the importance of these records.

EARLY CENSUS

One of the earliest Indian censuses available is the 1832 Parson's and Abbot's census of the Creek Indians. This was an attempt to record the number of Creek Indians living in Alabama. It is important that a person using these books read the introduction to understand the importance of this roll in Creek history. This census identifies the names of the principal chiefs and heads of the household, where they resided, the number of people living in the household, and whether they owned slaves:

Abbott, Thomas J. *Creek Census of 1832 (Lower Creeks)*. Laguna Hills, Calif: Histree, 1987. (FHL book 970.3 C861a; computer number 461489.) It is indexed by name.

Parsons, Benjamin S. *Creek Census of 1832 (Upper Creeks)*. Laguna Hills, Calif: Histree, 1987. (FHL book 970.3 C861pa; computer number 594470.) It is indexed by name.

Agency Census Rolls

Congress required Indian agencies to take an annual census of Indian reservations starting in 1884. The census forms contained different information, depending on the year the census was taken.

1885-1912 The census forms contained the individual's Indian name, English name, sex, age, relationship, tribe, and reservation. After 1885, the roll would most likely have two numbers assigned: one is the order number in which the name appeared on the current census; the other is the order number in which the name appeared on the last census. A few of the censuses show the names of persons who were born or died during the year, along with date of birth and death. The information on the form could be either typed or hand-written.

1913-1928 This includes the census roll numbers (both past and present), the English and Indian name, relationship to family, date of birth, sex, reservation, and tribe.

1929 These forms included the name of the tribe, reservation, past and present census roll numbers, Indian and English names, annuity or allotment number, sex, date of birth, degree of blood, marital status, and relationships in the family. In this census, if a man had a plural wife, the oldest wife was listed first, with her unmarried children. The other wives and their children are listed in order of their ages.

1930-1940 This census contained the roll number, surname, given name, sex, age at last birthday, tribe, degree of blood, marital status, relationship to head of the family, jurisdiction where enrolled, name of the post office, county, state, ward of the state, and allotment or annuity identification number. In the later censuses, the form also contains information on how many live or still births a woman had.

Many of these census returns were deposited in the National Archives and condensed under the title *Indian Census Rolls*. The Family History Library has these census rolls, such as:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Indian Census Rolls, Blackfeet Agency, 1890-1939*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0595. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1965. (FHL film 573849-57; computer number 691392.) These census records include the Blackfeet, Kainah, Siksika, Piegan and Ojibwa Indians. The births and deaths for some later years are also included.

Several tribes were exempt from annual census taking. For example, the Five Civilized Tribes and states like New York, which had state reservations, had no censuses taken under this act. Some tribes that were to have an annual census didn't take one because the agent failed to do so. The Navajo tribe had a census taken in 1885 but did not have another taken until 1915.

To use these censuses you must know the tribe, the name of the head of the household, and the agency. The census rolls are arranged alphabetically by the name of the Indian agency, name of the tribe, and then by year. A particular tribe may have been under the authority of many Indian agencies, so the right Indian agency must be found in order to find an ancestor on these rolls.

There are problems in using these records. The person could be listed by an Indian name, his English or Christian names, or any number of different spellings of the name. The names used may have differed with each census. Many Indians did not have a surname and given name and only used one name. The census takers often didn't speak the native language so the names and the spelling may have been written incorrectly. Most Indian names could be used by either males or females. In some tribes, the mother's surname was used. Often Indians did not live close to others, so the census taker may have missed them.

Another problem is the definition of relationships in an Indian family. The term brother or sister may not have the same meaning to the Indians as is recognized by the white culture. The Cherokee and other tribes took in children or other nonrelatives and called them brother and sister, aunt and uncle, or grandparents without them having a blood relationship.

With all these concerns, census rolls still give a location and a family clan and will add to the understanding of the ancestor.

Federal Census

Federal census enumerators often did not count Indians that either lived on reservations or roamed on unsettled land. When doing Native American research before 1880, Indians were often identified on the census forms as "Mulatto" or "Black," especially in the southern states. It was left to the discretion of the census taker whether to identify them as Native American.

The federal census before 1870 included names of Native Americans who had cut off tribal affiliations, but it is difficult to identify them as Native Americans. There are four volumes of schedules for a special 1880 enumeration of Indians living near military installations in California, Washington, and the Dakota Territories. There was no census taken in the Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) in 1880, but there is a census taken by the Cherokee government..

The most important federal censuses for Native Americans were taken in 1900 and 1910, since they include separate "Indian Population" schedule sheets usually found at the end of the population schedule for a county. Indians who had incorporated themselves in the general population were enumerated there. The 1900 and 1910 census may provide the individual's Indian and English name, their tribal affiliation and that of their parents, degree of Indian blood in themselves and their parents, education, and land allotment information. After 1910, the federal census offered no separate Indian schedule.

For more information on the United States federal censuses and indexes and the information they contain, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

State Census

State census records may also be helpful in New York, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. These censuses often have an enumeration of the reservations. See the research outlines of the individual states for information on state census records.

Canadian Census

When searching for Canadian native races in the census, Eskimo, Inuit, and mixed blood groups such as the Metis could be included. Native Americans and

Inuit groups are called “First Nations.” More than half of the 410,000 Canadians who claimed descent from native races in the 1981 census were “status Indians,” affiliated with bands living on reservations or otherwise registered with the federal government.

Canadian federal censuses are only available from 1851 to 1901. If the Indians were not living on a Reserve, they may have been included in the census with the general population. However, the census forms do not indicate that they are Indian. In 1901 the census enumerators of the older provinces of Canada were instructed to include the Indian population, so the censuses for the earlier and more populated areas include more Indians in the census.

Census returns for the territories and provinces established after 1870 are incomplete.

From 1871 to 1917 the Department of Indian Affairs (DIA) took its own Indian census annually. In 1917 the DIA decided to take a census every 5 years. These censuses were not taken until 1923 because of the delay caused by World War I. From 1924 to 1959 these tribal censuses were taken and published. Unfortunately, many of these census records were lost or have not been transferred to the National Archives of Canada.

For other clues in finding an ancestor in Canadian census records, see the *Canadian Research Outline* (34545) and the research outlines for each province.

LAND AND PROPERTY RECORDS

Land records often are the most accurate and dependable records available to prove Native American relationships. You are more likely to find an Native American ancestor in land records than most other records. They are public records and generally are not restricted, especially to tribal members.

Early colonial deeds were the beginning of land records. Most of the early records were kept by local governments. In nearly all of the early sales, Native Americans reserved all that was of value to them: the right to fish and hunt on the premises. When one tract was sold, they simply moved to new territory, which in turn they sold and moved further west.

Land Allotments

Land allotment records were created when, the federal government extinguished title to reservations and allotted land to individual members of tribes in 1887. This was part of a new policy in which the individual Native Americans would supposedly become independent of government supervision. An Native American head of family residing on a reservation was entitled to 160 acres; each unmarried person over the age of eighteen was entitled to eighty acres; and every other person under eighteen years of age was entitled to forty acres. After twenty-five years, the individual would then be issued a patent by the federal government for that parcel of land. Not all reservations allotted their lands, so not every tribe has these records.

When an allottee died, his or her right to an allotment passed to the heirs according to the degree of relationship. The acreage was not divided among the heirs with each receiving a full title to a portion of the acreage, but each heir received a portion of the right of the allotment to the entire parcel of land. The General Allotment Act also included a means of passing the rights to that allotment to heirs. It also allowed some sales of the allotments, under specific conditions. Generally all parties holding any fractional rights to an allotment had to agree to the sale of those rights.

In order to keep the degree of relationships straight, a record was kept called the *register of families*. See the “Probate Records” section of this outline for details. This register showed family relationships in the immediate family, plus aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Allotment records include plats, tract books, and allotment schedules. These records are arranged by tribe and enrollment number. The content of the records varies from tribe to tribe, but usually includes applications for allotment, plat maps designating the allotted land, registers of names of allottees and description of their allotments, and information about contested allotments and improvements made to the land before selection.

Tract Books are records of the status of land and land transactions arranged geographically by subdivision. Tract Books can provide the following information: name of the allotted individual, patent number, rate of land, property description, and the assignee of the property.

Township plat maps can show allotments obtained by family members located next to each other.

Identification of an ancestor may help associate him or her with a specific band within a tribe. Some village plats show an entire region, with names filled in for each individual plat. Most were performed by the Bureau of Land Management, then turned over to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Allotment schedules record individual allotments to Native Americans. They usually include: plats of the land being allotted, affidavits of eligibility as an Native American and identity of the tribe, testimonies of claimant or witnesses; name, age, marital status, assignee of the allotment, and information on the twenty-five-year moratorium and any releases from the moratorium. Allotment schedules also may contain homestead entries by certain tribes, records of surveys, scrip stubs that have been redeemed for land, and trust information. They are arranged by allotment number.

Patents. Once the individual Native American proved his competency to manage his allotment, a patent was issued to him by the U.S. government. The percentage of Native Americans who actually received a patent for an allotted piece of land was fairly low, but once a person obtained a patent, he had the right to sell his property to anyone. In order to find information in these records, the name of the allottee and tribal affiliation must be known. Usually there is an index to the allotment register.

Other Types of Land Records

The Land Division of the BIA was established in 1846. There are records for surveying and allotting of land and the sale and leasing of it. Most of the surveys of Indian lands and reservations use metes and bounds. The records also show claims and the enrollment of Indians, a process that entitled them to land.

A large portion of the records are papers and correspondence. There are registers of correspondence and other important sources from 1855 through 1906 concerning land matters and the enrollment of the Five Civilized Tribes.

Sales and Leases

Leases of Indian Allotments were frequently made by the 1890s. Reservation land could not be sold without the consent of Congress, though leasing to outsiders

was permitted. Leases were usually made for a term of ninety-nine years and are often found recorded among land deeds for each particular county or town. These records will document that the property was being leased, from whom, and the length of lease.

Customarily, before Indian land was sold, it was appraised, usually by commissions established for that purpose. Appraisal records consist of schedules of valuations, which give the location, area (usually in acres), and appraised value of tracts or lots of reservation lands, trust lands, town sites, and other lands.

Direct sale of Native American lands could take place once the right to patent was obtained or the actual patent was issued. If a fee patent had not yet been issued, the resale of Native American allotments was usually documented in federal records.

Scrip

Scrip was given to Native American tribes, such as Choctaws and Chippewas. Scrip allowed the recipient to select public lands rather than be assigned to specifically defined allotments. It was also distributed to “half-breeds,” some of whom were not necessarily living on tribal lands when the treaty was signed. Scrip selections were restricted to designated areas, depending on the treaty. These lands had to be located and defined by the recipient before the rights to that property could be resold.

Heads of households and individuals with mixed blood over the age of 21 could qualify. Most of these applications were made after removal to new areas. This means the records show current residence as well as previous residences, and several cases identify family members who remained in the area.

Records of the Bureau of Land Management that pertain to scrip are housed at the National Archives. Some are recorded among individual land office records such as the Sioux Half-Breed Scrip congressional acts of 1854 and 1858. These provide scrip for “half-breeds” or mixed bloods of the Dakotah or Sioux Nation of Indians in exchange for their right to reservation land. There are also similar records for Choctaw Scrip for 1842 and 1845. Scrip records are also available for Chippewa Half Breeds of the Lake Superior, Pembina, and Red Lake bands.

Military Bounty Lands

The Veterans Administration has several thousand bounty land warrant applications based on the service of Indian scouts, Indian soldiers, and other soldiers in Indian wars, and other wars of the United States.

A pension or bounty land warrant applications file may contain one or more applications of a veteran or his dependents or heirs, documents supporting the identity, service or character of the claimant, and evidence of the action taken on the claim. A veteran's application was a sworn statement and included date of application, name, address, age, birthplace, date of birth of the veteran, date and place of enlistment and discharge, rank, company and commanding officer, physical description, occupation, date and circumstances of any disability resulting from his service and medical treatment received, names and date and place of marriage of the veteran's parents, date and place of marriage and divorce, names and dates of birth of children, his addresses since leaving the service, his signature or mark, and sometimes date and place of death. Claimants often submitted evidence to support their applications, such as marriage certificates, wills, commission, discharges, or miscellaneous correspondence.

Claims Commission

An Indian Claims Commission was created to hear, investigate, and determine the validity of claims against the United States filed prior to August 13, 1846 by a tribe or any other group of Native Americans. In 1978 it stopped taking cases, and all remaining cases were transferred back to the U.S. Court of Claims.

The records of the Indian Claims Commission are grouped into several collections. One set presents the cases heard by the Commission dating from a treaty signed in 1785 to the closing of the Commission's office in 1978. A second set of records covers the decisions reached by the Indian Claims Commission from 1948 to 1981, and another set of records covers the expert testimony before the Indian Claims Commission.

Land Entry Papers

Land entry papers are the documents accumulated to determine the entitlement of individuals to patents for title to tracts of land in the public domain. Through

1908 most of the land entry papers are arranged by state and land office and thereunder by type of entry.

Most of the land entry papers are in case files. There are two major categories for Indian lands: allotments of land to individual Indians and sales of tribal land. The files for allotments usually are numbered sets for individual land offices with no tribal breakdown. Most of these files were for allotments of public domain land to Indians who were not living on a reservation.

Patents and Deeds

A patent is a document by which the United States transfers title to land to another party. Usually the original patent is sent to the new owner, and the Bureau of Land Management keeps a copy. There are Seminole homestead deeds, called deeds rather than patents, because they were to be issued by the Seminole Nation rather than the United States. Other records concerning patents and deeds include schedules of unpatented Creek lands (1878), lists of Choctaw and Chickasaw homestead patents (1906), an index to nonreservation land deeds and deeds to the United States in trust from 1933 to 1948, and a record of fee patents from 1943 to 1952.

ENROLLMENT RECORDS

Enrolling individuals as members of a tribe was done for several reasons. Native Americans were enrolled for the purposes of allotment, to provide a base for tribal membership, to determine eligibility for payments from claims cases, and to establish the descendants of recognized adult tribal members.

Enrollment records usually include personal information about the individual being enrolled, such as name, age, sex, degree of Indian blood, agency where enrolled, and other data. Names of relatives and their relationship may also be indicated on the enrollment records.

Guion Miller Rolls

An extensive enrollment of the Cherokees was made from 1907 to 1908. In 1902 the Cherokee filed three suits in the U.S. Court of Claims to press their claims for funds due them under their treaties of 1835, 1836, and 1845 with the United States. The court awarded more than \$1 million to be distributed to all Eastern Cherokees alive on 28 May 1906, who could prove they were members of the eastern Cherokee tribe at the time of the treaties or were descended from

members who had not been subsequently affiliated with any other tribe.

The Cherokee Claims Commission, headed by Guion Miller, began its work in 1906. In his report of 1909, he stated there were 45,847 separate applications filed, representing some 90,000 individuals. Out of this number, 3,436 Cherokee east of the Mississippi and 27,284 Cherokee west of the Mississippi were certified as being eligible to participate in the award. Each applicant who wished to participate was asked for his or her full English and Indian name, place of birth, name of husband or wife, names of children, place of birth and date of death of parents and grandparents, names and ages of brothers and sisters, and names of uncles and aunts.

Those who were rejected fell into several groups: those who left the Cherokee Nation in the East before 1835, those who filed after the final application date of 31 August 1907, illegitimate children were rejected even when their brothers and sisters were admitted, those who had dual tribal ancestry, and those who failed to prove the required relationship. The index to the 1909 Guion Miller Roll is found in:

Blankenship, Bob. *Guion Miller Roll Plus of Eastern Cherokee, East and West of the Mississippi, 1909*. N.C.: Cherokee Roots, 1994. (FHL book 970.3 C424gm, computer number.) This index includes first name, last name, Miller Roll number, Miller Application number, age in 1906, degree of Indian blood, address, town and state.

The two volume index and claim files are available at the Family History Library. They can be found in:

United States. Court of Claims Eastern Cherokee Applications, August 29, 1906-May 26, 1909. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1104. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1981. (On 348 FHL films beginning with 378594, computer number 53662.)

When the Guion Miller Commission was terminated, the federal government printed a list:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Roll of Eastern Cherokees Entitled to Participate in the Fund Arising from the Judgement of the Court of Claims of May 28, 1906. Washington, D.C.: n.p., [19-?] (FHL film 547137; computer number 377852.)

To locate an ancestor in the Cherokee tribe, first search the index in *Eastern Cherokee Applications ...* The index is on film 378594 item 2, and find the name in the general index which is arranged alphabetically by surname. Record the application number, which is listed in the first column.

The records of the application numbers begin on FHL film 378595 and are listed numerically by number. When the application number is found, it will indicate the film number which contains the record of the ancestor.

Dawes Commission Enrollment Records

When to Use the Records. Use the Dawes Commission enrollment records if your ancestor was:

- A member of either the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, or Seminole Indian tribe in the southeastern United States.
- Alive during the enrollment period between 1896 and 1905. If your ancestor died prior to 1893, you could search for surviving children or grandchildren in the Dawes Commission records.

Origin of the Records. In 1893 Congress established a commission to exchange Indian tribal lands in the southeastern United States for new land allotments to individuals in Oklahoma. The *Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes* was also called the *Dawes Commission* after its chairman, Senator Dawes. More than 250,000 people applied to this commission for enrollment and land. Just over 100,000 were approved.

Content of the Records.

- *Enrollment cards* (also called census cards) include residence, roll numbers, names of family members, relationships, ages, sex, degree of Indian blood, enrollment date, place and number, parents and their enrollment date or place, spouses, divorces, children or grandchildren.
- *Applications for enrollment* include affidavits, vital records, letters, questionnaires, and decisions mentioning relatives, dates, and places.
- *Letter logs* include name, address, date of letter, file number, date received, subject, and action taken. Letters are with the applications.

Five Steps to Using the Dawes Commission Records

Step 1. Use the Index to Find an Ancestor's Roll Number.

Find the index in book, microfilm, or microfiche format:

United States. Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *Index to the Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory*. Washington, D.C.: Govt. Print. Off., [1907]. (FHL book 970.1 Un3c index; film 962366; fiche 6051501 [set of 8]; computer number 13279.) The fiche is clearer than the film.

Search for an ancestor's name in the index. The index is arranged in tribal groups. You may need to search for the name in *roughly* alphabetical order in each of 29 tribal groups listed in this table of contents:

Index Tribal Group	Page
Choctaws by Blood	1
New Born Choctaws by Blood	91
Minor Choctaws by Blood	101
Choctaws by Marriage	107
Choctaw Freedmen	117
Minor Choctaw Freedmen	151
Mississippi Choctaws	155
New Born Mississippi Choctaws	164
Minor Mississippi Choctaws	165
Chickasaws by Blood	167
New Born Chickasaws by Blood	197
Minor Chickasaws by Blood	201
Chickasaws by Marriage	204
Chickasaw Freedmen	209
Cherokees by Blood	238
Minor Cherokees by Blood	428
Delaware Cherokees	460
Cherokees by Marriage	462
Cherokee Freedmen	464
Minor Cherokee Freedmen	492
Creeks by Blood	497
New Born Creeks by Blood	559
Minor Creeks by Blood	568
Creek Freedmen	572
New Born Creek Freedmen	607
Minor Creek Freedmen	613
Seminoles by Blood and Freedmen	616
New Born Seminoles by Blood	633
New Born Seminole Freedmen	635

By Blood were people who were born members of the tribe.

New Borns were children born after 1902.

Minors were children who were added to the rolls in 1906.

By Marriage were noncitizens or "whites" who married into the tribe.

Freedmen, Freedmen Minors, and Freedmen New Borns were former slaves of tribal members, or descendants of former slaves.

Copy the tribal group and roll number from Index to Final Rolls.

When you find your ancestor's name, copy (1) the name of his or her tribal group, and (2) the roll number in the right column of the index.

Can't Find a Name in the Dawes Commission Index?

Before concluding your ancestor's name is not in the index, consider:

- The name may be spelled differently, for example, *Anne* instead of *Ann*, or *Thos.* instead of *Thomas*. Search for variant spellings.
- Look for your ancestor by his or her English name, Indian name, middle name, nickname, initials, married name, or maiden name.
- Maybe he or she was listed under a different tribe or category than you expected. Look in each of the 29 sections of the index.
- If your ancestor was a Cherokee by Blood you could also search:

Blankenship, Bob. *Dawes Roll "Plus" of Cherokee Nation 1898*. [North Carolina]: Cherokee Roots Pub., [19—]. (FHL Q book 970.1 B611d; computer number 739669.) This index lists name, roll & census card number, Miller roll and application number, age, and sex.

Rejected Applications. Your ancestor's application may have been rejected. The Dawes Commission finally rejected about 60 percent of the applications. Only a few rejected applications are in previous indexes.

An index to most of the rejected applications is on the Internet site at

www.nara.gov/nara/searchnail.html. Select the *NAIL Standard Search* and type your ancestor's given name, surname, or both in the *Enter Keywords* field, then click **Submit Search**. If the *Total Hits Retrieved*: is one or more, you can click **Display Results** and eventually see a digital image of the census card on the computer screen.

The "Field No." in the upper-right corner of the card is the census card number to use to find the application for enrollment in Step 4 below.

If your ancestor does not seem to be on the Internet, you could write for help from:

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
PO BOX 6216
FORT WORTH, TX 76115

Step 2. Use the Rolls to Find and Copy the Census Card Number

Find the final rolls in book or microfilm format.

United States. Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *Final Rolls of Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory*. Washington, D.C.: Govt. Print. Off., [1907]. (FHL book 970.1 Un3c; film 908371 item 2; computer number 13279.)

Search the final rolls and copy the census card number.

Look for the tribal group and roll number copied during Step 1. When you find the roll number and your ancestor's name, write down the **census card number**.

Step 3. Find the Census Card on Film, and Copy It

Determine the microfilm number of the census card.

- Find the following entry in the Family History Library Catalog:

United States. Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *Enrollment Cards for the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1186. Washington, D.C.:

National Archives, 1981. (FHL film 1490262-353; computer number 437594.)

- Look up the tribal group and census card number to determine which of the 93 films has the census card (also known as the enrollment card). Write the film number of the census card on your research log.

Retrieve the film, search for the census card in numerical order, and photocopy the card.

Can't Find a Card on the Film?

There are three groups of cards:

- "Straight" is for approved applications.
- "R" is for rejected applications.
- "D" is for doubtful applications.

Your ancestor's card may have a "D" or an "R" number. The catalog lists the "D" and "R" numbers after the "straight" numbers.

Step 4. Find the Application for Enrollment on Film, and Copy It

Determine the film number of the application for enrollment.

- Look again at the catalog to find the following entry:

United States. Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes. *Applications for Enrollment of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1301. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1981. (On 468 FHL films starting with 1439798; computer number 500219.)

- Look for your ancestor's tribal group and census card number to determine the film number of the application packet. Write the film number of the application packet on your research log.

Retrieve the film, and find and copy the application packet.

Step 5. Look for Your Ancestor's Name in the Letter Logs

There are 21 letter logs which are in order alphabetically by the first two letters of the surname. Look for spillover names at the end of each letter of the alphabet. Your ancestor's name probably appears

in only a few of them, but take a few minutes to search each log anyway. Logs list name, address, date of letter, file number, date received, subject, and action taken:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Index to Letters Received by Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, 1897-1913*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1314. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1983. (FHL film 1694814-36; computer number 535922.)

Reference Book

Hone, E. Wade, *Land & Property Research in the United States*. Salt Lake City, Ancestry, 1997. (FHL book 97 R27h.) This is a thoroughly detailed book about all land records in the United States, with a special section 5 (pages 199-212) dealing with Native American lands. It includes charts, plats and maps.

Canadian Land Records

The system of land allocation on Canadian Indian Reserves is complicated. Indian lands could only be surrendered to the Crown, and the government would then allocate land to the Indians. Before the Indian Act of 1951, Indians obtained the right to occupy, use, and pass on to their heirs parcels of reserve lands. They were given "location tickets" which showed their right to occupy the land. These tickets were replaced by certificates of possession, certificates of occupation, and notices of entitlement. Some of these records date to the 1800s. The more recent records include the name and tribe of the person receiving the land, the date of the transaction, and a description of the parcel of land on the reserve.

Beginning in 1951, the Indian Land Registry kept a register of the disposition of Indian lands. The staff of the DIA has made an effort to review historical records before 1951 and has gathered original deeds and other land documents to include in the Registry. These documents include land sales books, leases, and patents to Indian lands. Indian land documents are also scattered throughout the correspondence files of the DIA. The Red and Black series and the DIA's Central Registry Files (CRF) include documents relating to the individual purchases and the issuing of patents for Indian lands.

The Family History Library has very few records dealing with Indian lands in Canada. Many of the

records of the DIA, including the Indian Land Registry and the CRF, are now in the custody of the National Archives of Canada in Record Group 10. For an explanation of these records, see the book *Records of the Federal Department of Indian Affairs at the National Archives* cited in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline.

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records that describe the distribution of a person's estate after he dies. These records are helpful because authorities often began recording probate actions before birth and death records. Probate records often identify additional children or relationships that may have been missed or unreadable in other records. Native Americans were allowed to make wills starting in 1910.

In general the probate process produces court records created after an individual's death that relate to a court's decisions regarding the distribution of his estate to his heirs or creditors and care of his dependents, land allotment, registers of families, heirship and wills are all types of records that may be involved in an Native American's probate process.

Traditionally the Indian groups distributed personal belongings after death in customs unique to their group. Some burials included not only the deceased but his or her personal belongings as well. You will want to study a tribal history to learn its customs.

Register of Families: (1890-1900) These registers were compiled by agents of the BIA to determine relationships for the purposes of heirship finding in allotment cases. The records contain the Indian and English names of the individual, marital status, his age or birth date, names, ages, relationships, and allotment information regarding his parents, brothers, sisters, children, uncles, aunts, and at many times other living relatives as well. After many years the Register of Families became too bulky and awkward to use, so many agencies began keeping an "Heirship."

Heirship: (1908-1923) In 1908 the BIA began determining the heirs of a deceased Indian allottee. The property, especially land, owned by Indians could be passed on to the heirs of the deceased. A number of records, called heirship records, were created to determine the heirs of the Indian and the percentage of the property they should receive. Types of heirship records include: Affidavit as to Lawful Heirs, Report of Heirship, Data for Heirship Finding, Departmental

Findings Determining the Heirs of Deceased Indians, Inherited Interests in Estates, Index and Heirship Card-Enrollee, Estate Files, and Heirship Cases.

These records usually contain the name of the deceased, the birth and death date, the allotment, patent or probate number, a description of the allotment, number of acres of land, and the names of his heirs, including the percentage of their share of the estate. These records may also include the names of the parents, spouse, grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, children, and other relatives with their ages or birth dates, marital status, address, and tribe or band affiliation.

Heirship records can be found in the offices of the different BIA agencies. Some records are available at the Family History Library, such as:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Grand Ronde-Siletz Agency. *Heirship Records, 1887-1930*. Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1978. (FHL films 1025306-8; computer number 68557.) Included in these records are allotment heirship cards, allotment of estate record cards, estate record sheets, and inherited interests in estates cards. These records contain the name of the deceased and his birth and death dates, parents' and spouse's names, the allotment, patent, probate and file numbers, a description of the allotment, the names of the heirs, and their percentage of the share.

Wills: (1906-1921) After 1910 Indians could make a will with the approval of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in Washington D.C. Wills contain the testator's name, residence, legatees or names of heirs, relationships, description of land and property (allotment number), date of will and probate, the tribe, date of death, age at death, signatures, witnesses, and date of approval by BIA.

For Native American wills in the National Archives, see:

Bowen, Jeff. *Native American Wills and Probate Records 1911-1921*. Signal Mountain, Tenn.: Mountain Press, 1997. (FHL book 970.1 B675n; Computer number: 811514.) Includes will transcripts and an index.

Estate files: These files were collected by various levels of the Bureau of Indian Affairs consist of wills, reports on heirship. They usually include such

information as name, tribe, agency, allotment number, description of allotment, place of residence, date of death, age at death, names of heirs, and their share of the estate.

Inheritance Examiners Report: These reports include applications, decisions of the tribal commissioner, and notices to applicants. They are arranged alphabetically by name of an applicant. Carbon copies of letters sent arranged by surname.

Probate records are available at the National Archives, National Archives regional offices, local offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Family History Library.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION RECORDS

As early as 1803 the United States encouraged Native Americans to move from their lands in the East to Indian territories west of the Mississippi River. In 1830 President Andrew Jackson supported a law allowing Indian land in the Southeast to be exchanged for land in the West. Under this law the U.S. military was in charge of removing many Indians from the east. Conditions during this removal were sometimes harsh, including what some tribes call the "trail of tears." Some Indians who were willing to give up their tribal affiliations and rights were legally allowed to remain in the East. Some Indians avoided authorities and remained behind illegally.

The removal records created during this time help to identify many Native American ancestors and give information about their migration. For a more detailed discussion of Indian removal records, see Curt B. Witcher's and George J. Nixon's "Tracking Native American Family History" cited fully in the "Where Can I Learn More" section of this outline.

Native American migration records include censuses, muster lists, removal records, correspondence, reservation records, and a few passports.

Registers were made of those who wished to remain in the East. Census rolls were usually taken to determine how many tribal members were to be moved. Muster rolls were often kept by the military unit assigned to remove the tribe. These muster rolls included the names of those being removed. They were usually recorded prior to the removal, but sometimes were taken after the arrival to the new residence. Both need to be checked to see if the ancestor made it to the new location. There are many reasons an ancestor may not

have arrived: intermarriage with a non-Indian, death on the march, escape from the march, permission to settle in another area before the destination was reached. Contents include name, sometimes number of persons in each family by age group and sex, and original residence of each head of family. Some muster rolls can be found interfiled with the Correspondence files of the Office of Indian Affairs:

United States. Office of Indian Affairs. *Letters Received, 1824-1881 Registers of Letters Received, 1824-1880*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M0018 and M0234. Washington, D.C.: The National Archives, 1942, 1956. (On 1088 microfilms beginning with film 1638620; computer number 511653.) This source includes correspondence from all sources concerning Indian lands, emigration, treaty negotiations, conflicts, claims, licenses, population, education, health, employees, supplies, and many other subjects relating to Indians and the operation of the Office of Indian Affairs. The letters are arranged alphabetically by the name of the field jurisdiction or subject heading, then by year and by the first letter of the surname of the writer. Each register volume is divided into alphabetical sections and includes a cross-reference to other letters.

Other records deal with emigration agents (a BIA record) who assisted in the removal of the Indians from one area to another. These records can be found in the Office of the Commissary General of Subsistence, which from 1830 to 1836 directed the transportation and subsistence of emigrating Indians.

Reservations sometimes took a roll of the residents and new arrivals, depending on the agent in charge. Agency records also contain a record of new arrivals, once again depending on the agent in charge.

In general Indians were not considered citizens before 1924 and were not normally given U.S. passports for visits to foreign countries. However, Indians were often required by Indian agents to get permission to visit another tribe or part of the United States. These permits were often called passports. You may be able to find such tribal passports among agency or tribal records or correspondence.

The following is a listing of some of the records that are available:

Watson, Larry S. *Names and Claims of Creek Indians Who Moved at Their Own Expense, 1830-1840*.

[Lawton, Okla.]: Histree, 1980. (FHL book 970.3 C861ws; computer number 215264.) This is a list of Creek Indians who moved from the state of Alabama to Oklahoma between 1830 and 1840.

Foreman, Grant Ulysses. *Indian Removal: The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972. (FHL book 970.1 F761i; fiche 6088736; computer number 29610.) This includes the removal of the Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Seminole.

COURT RECORDS

Court records contain the names of individuals involved in confrontations, thefts, and destruction of property. They may give a person's age, residence, occupation, or family relationships. Friends and neighbors may be listed as witnesses. Indian court records, where they exist, may also give the citizenship of non-Indians, adopted non-Indians, intermarriage with non-Indians, or unauthorized non-Indian settlers (intruders).

Though court records contain helpful genealogical information, they are time consuming and difficult to use. For this reason you should not use them until you have used other records first. Many different courts exist on the national, state, and county level. Most court records are arranged by date only and are not well indexed. Separate court records were seldom kept for Indians.

Government Court Records

From the beginning of British rule in the United States and Canada, the government created agencies, laws, and treaties for dealing with the Indians. As the government made treaties and agreements with the Indians that the government subsequently broke, the Indians began seeking justice through the Indian Department and the United States Court of Claims.

Treaties that resulted in the relocation of Indians were especially troublesome. Some treaties designated blocks of land as Indian lands, and Indians were moved from their homes to those lands. Some treaties created reservations (or reserves in Canada) where the Indians had to move. Indians who live on reservations are subject to tribal laws, but they are also subject to treaties made between their tribes and the federal government. At first the governments tried to force Indians to live on reservations or reserves. In recent

years, living on a reservation or reserve has become optional. Indians not living on a reservation are not subject to the terms of the treaties.

By 1946, there were so many court cases pending against the United States government, mainly as a result of the removals, that the Indian Claims Commission was created to handle the claims. The Commission only heard cases for problems that arose before August 13, 1946. They expected to have all their cases resolved within five years. However, there were so many claims that the Commission was operated until April 10, 1977. On that date the remaining cases were transferred to the United States Court of Claims. To this date some of the cases are not resolved. Cases heard by the Indians Claims Commission are found in:

United States. Indian Claims Commission. *Decisions [Cases Decided] by the Indian Claims Commission*. Frederick, Md.: University Publications of America, 1975-1979. (On 346 FHL fiche beginning with 6076301; computer number 521822.) An index to the decisions is on microfiche 6076301. This does not circulate to family history centers.

Jordan, Jerry Wright. *Cherokee by Blood: Records of Eastern Cherokee Ancestry in the U.S. Court of Claims, 1906-1910*. 9 vols. Bowie, Md : Heritage Books, 1987-1997. (FHL book 970.3 C424j; computer number 452841.) This is a listing of eastern Cherokee mentioned in the U.S. Court of Claims records.

Many records regarding the Five Civilized Tribes have been collected by the Oklahoma Historical Society, Indian Archives Division. Some of them are court records from the circuit, district, and supreme courts.

As a result of the court cases brought against the government, various types of records were created that are unique to the Indians. They include land allotments, tribal enrolment records, special censuses, the Guion Miller Rolls, records of the Dawes Commission, heirship records, and claims. For more information on these records, see the "Land Records," "Probate Records," "Census," and "Laws and Legislation" sections of this outline.

Court Records Created by Indians

No equivalent court records have been found among the Indians before they were relocated to reservations

and reserves. After the relocations, tribes were given power to regulate their own affairs on the reservation. The tribal councils were responsible for creating and executing laws and resolving disputes within the tribe. Most of these court records are in the custody of the tribal council of the respective tribes. Any access to these records must be obtained through them.

The library has few Indian court records but many government court records about Indians. These are usually found in the subject search of the Family History Library Catalog under the name of the tribe.

SCHOOL RECORDS

Before 1880, religious societies and missions usually directed the education of Indians. Many of the Indian school records can be found in the records of the churches. See the "Church Records" section of this outline for help in finding church records.

In 1885, the Bureau of Indian Affairs established an Education Division to oversee the education of Indian children. There were several types of schools which Indians attended.

Types of Schools

Boarding Schools--These schools were established by the Federal government and could either be reservation schools (located on the reservation) or nonreservation schools (those not on the reservation but which accepted students from various tribes and localities). The student lived away from home and with other Indian students. Indian families and the government tried to place students close to their homes. When placement was not possible due to overcrowding, children were sent to schools in other states.

Day Schools--These government schools were attended by children who lived at home.

Church or Mission Schools--These schools were maintained by a religious order, although some schools changed ownership between the government and churches. Some tribes used tribal funds to pay the student's tuition.

Public Schools--Most students attended public schools instead of private schools. Around the mid-1900s the government-sponsored schools were dissolved and the education of all Indian students became the responsibility of the public schools.

School Records

Local agencies had boarding schools on or near the reservations. These schools maintained files on the individual students. The records included the student's name, age, sex, tribe, degree of Indian blood, name of parent or guardian, name of reservation or agency, attendance, subjects taken, grades, health history, and name and location of the school. The records can be found in the school or at the agency which maintained the school.

Some examples of school records include:

Haskell Institute. *School Records, 1884-1953*. Fort Worth, Tex.: National Archives, 1978. (On 7 FHL films beginning with 1205530; computer number 68586.) The Haskell Institute was a special advanced school for Indian students. These records include annual school census reports, enrollment books, student records, matriculation records, pupil rosters, and records of Haskell Institute Indians in twentieth century wars.

United States Indian School (Carlisle, Pennsylvania). *Catalogue, 1912*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1979. (FHL film 1032846 item 9; computer number 29413.) This includes a list of graduates between 1889 and 1910.

School Census Records

School censuses were taken by the agents of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and were reports of children of school age, whether or not they were enrolled in school. They generally included the student's name, residence, age, and name of the parent or guardian. They also may have included the sex, tribe, degree of Indian blood of the student and parents, address, name of the reservation or agency, attendance information, and condition of health.

The National Archives has a large collection of school census records sent in from the different agencies from 1912 to 1939. Local Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies have earlier school census records. The Family History Library has many of the school census records from the agencies and the National Archives, such as:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Standing Rock Agency. *School Records, 1886-1941*. Kansas City, Mo.: Federal Archives and Records Center, 1977. (FHL film 1204879 item 5 and 1204880; computer number 68415.) This school census

indicates the child's name, age, sex, date of birth, degree of Indian blood, attendance, name of the school, grade level, and name of the parent or guardian.

Bantin, Philip C. *Guide to Catholic Indian Mission and School Records in Midwest Repositories*. Milwaukee: Marquette University, 1984. (FHL book 970.1 B228g; computer number 761829.) This book contains the names and addresses of the Catholic missions, churches, and orders in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin. The schools are listed by state and town and it includes a history of the church or mission, the dates the records were kept, and a description of the holdings. It is indexed.

CHURCH RECORDS

The following section is a guide and explanation of the Native American records available in the United States and Canada that were kept by various religious denominations. Not all records will be helpful in your search for your ancestors. They will, however, give you an idea of what records were kept and how they were kept. Not all tribes were taught by missionaries, and not all missionaries kept a record of the Indian names in their records.

When researching your family, know your tribal affiliation if possible. Learn the history of your tribe, their customs, and the basic area in which they lived. Study the area(s) geography, politics, and religion to determine what denomination(s) took charge of the area(s) in which your people lived. When you determine that, study the denomination(s) to learn where the records are kept, what records were kept, how the records were kept, and the history of the church. Each church has its own policies on record keeping, and some records may be more complete than others depending on time period, availability of the materials to keep records, and other obstacles that may have occurred.

Church records are very important for family research because civil authorities in most states did not begin registering vital statistics until after 1900. They are excellent sources of names, dates, and places of births, marriages, and deaths. For addresses and phone numbers of different religious denominations and their archives, see the *United States (30972) and Canada (34545) Research Outlines*.

United States Church Policy

During President Grant's "Peace Policy," Indian agencies were assigned to church bodies. The Quakers were the first to practice this in 1869, with other major denominations participating by 1872. By 1880 most of the churches had given up their responsibilities for agencies. The Jesuits, Quakers, Moravians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Lutherans, Dutch Reformed, Baptists, Catholics, and Latter-Day Saints were among the denominations that participated.

For further details see the following:

Keller, Robert H., Jr. *American Protestantism and United States Indian Policy, 1869-1882*. Lincoln Nebr.: University of Nebraska Press, 1983.

Rahill, Peter James. *The Catholic Indian Missions and Grant's Peace Policy, 1870-1884*. Washington D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1953. (FHL film 1009063 item 3.; computer number 69383.) This book includes an index.

Canadian Church Policy

Church records are important for pre-Confederation research. Since civil authorities did not begin registering vital statistics in most provinces until after 1867, church records are the major information source before this date. Church records continued after civil registration began in the 1860s or later, but often are not as accessible after that date. Some churches kept more detailed records than others, especially those that did not baptize infants or who did not keep church registers unless required by law. You can find a person's religious affiliation listed in Canadian censuses beginning in 1851.

As Canada has no single repository of church records, the location of records depends on the religion and the location of the church. Some church records are stored in places decided by authorities of each denomination and sometimes by the individual congregation. Provincial archives have some copies of church registers. See research outlines of the provinces for their addresses.

The following is a partial list of Native American resources generated by some religious denominations.

Baptist

McCoy, Isaac. *History of Baptist Indian Missions. A Series in American Studies*. New York: Johnson Reprint, 1970. (FHL book 970.1 M137h; computer number 142512.) Includes Delaware, Potawatamie, Ottawa, Sauk, Five Civilized Tribes, Osage, Shawnee, Kickapoo, Otoes, Omaha, Ponca, and Pawnee tribes.

Lutheran

Keiser, Albert. *Lutheran Mission Work among the American Indians*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Xerox University Microfilms, [197-?]. (FHL film 989497 item 4; computer number 78551) This is not circulated to family history centers.

Moravian

Moravian Church. *Records of the Moravian Mission among the Indians of North America*. New Haven, Conn.: Research Publications, 1969. (On 40 FHL films beginning with 1017681; computer number 78169.) Text in English and German, includes many language dictionaries and indexes for various tribes in New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kansas, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Ontario. May include diaries, autobiographical memoirs, year-end summaries, lists of members with biographical details, or parish registers.

Guide to the Records of the Moravian Mission Among the Indians of North America: From the Archives of the Moravian Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. New Haven Conn.: Research Publications, 1970. (FHL book 970.1 M797g; computer number 313959.) Includes writer, type of material, dates, and languages.

Schwarze, Edmund. *History of the Moravian Missions among Southern Indian Tribes of the United States*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993. (FHL fiche number 6104001; computer number 267824.)

Presbyterian

Presbyterian Church in the United States. *Indian Correspondence, 1830-1895; index, 1830-1895*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (On FHL 57 films beginning with 906123; computer number 79040.)

Roman Catholic

Spanish Roman Catholic churches were established in Florida, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California beginning in the 1500s. Some early missions were dissolved when Spain lost the territory and Indian uprisings made it difficult to protect the missionaries. Some documents dealing with the Spanish missions may be found in the records of the State Archives and Historical Societies of the different states and in archives in Spain. For information on the records of these early missions, see the "Church Records" sections of the research outlines of the individual states.

The earliest church records from these missions are from St. Augustine, Florida:

Catholic Church. Cathedral St. Augustine, Florida. *Church Records, 1594-1924*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL films 1015293-306; computer number 358355.) These records include baptisms, marriages, confirmations, deaths, and burials for "whites" and "coloreds." The "colored" records include blacks and some Indians and mixed bloods. These records are in Spanish and are partially indexed.

The Catholics began missionary work in New Mexico in 1598, Arizona and Texas in the late 1600s, and California in 1697. These missions continued with limited growth until 1767, when the Jesuits were ordered out of Spain and all her American colonies. The Franciscans, lead by Father Junipero Serra, took charge of the abandoned California missions and established nine missions between 1769 and 1784. The missionaries converted the Indians to Christianity with varying degrees of success. Some Indians willingly accepted Christianity and were baptized, but others had it forced upon them. The Family History Library has the records of many Spanish missions and churches, including:

Catholic Church. Mission San Diego de Alcalá. *Book of Baptisms, San Diego Mission*. San Diego, Calif.: University of California Library Photographic Service, 1973. (FHL film 944001; computer number 81636.) This is an English translation of the baptismal records of the San Diego Mission from 1769 to 1822.

Catholic Church. Out Lady of Guadalupe (Toas, New Mexico). *Church Records, 1701-1956*. El Paso, Tex.: Golightly, 1957. (FHL film 17010-23;

computer number 414045.) Text partly in Spanish, including baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and deaths.

Catholic Church. Mission Santa Barbara. *Mission Registers, 1776-1912*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (FHL film 913165-9; computer number 79097.) These unindexed registers include baptisms, marriages, burials, and other church records. They are in Spanish and include the person's name, the date of the event, age, and parents' and godparents' names.

MEDICAL RECORDS

By 1886 the agents of the BIA were instructed to record information about Native Americans who used health services for any kind of treatment. There were a number of different records kept, including physician's records, clinic and hospital records, individual records, and sanitary records of the sick and wounded (including births and deaths). Physicians, nurses and other health workers reported on the sick and injured on the reservation and in boarding schools and sent reports on the health problems to the agents in charge. These letters are kept in the Commissioner's Office.

The most complete health records before 1934 are the "Sanitary Record of Sick, Wounded, Births, Deaths." An example of these records is:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Round Valley Agency. *Sanitary Records of Sick & Etc., 1890-1905*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975. (FHL film 976991; computer number 345749.) These records include the patient's name, sex, tribe, disease, when taken sick and whether recovered, continued or deceased, date of death, whether over or under age 5, and at the birth of a child, the names of the parents are given.

Other types of medical records kept include the Individual Health Record and Family History Medical Data. The Individual Health Record usually includes the name of the Indian, sex, tribe, birth date, address, and a medical history, including immunization records, medical tests, and disease history. Some Family History Medical Data records are available at the Family History Library, including:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Klamath Agency. *Family History and Medical Data, 1904-1937*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah,

1978. (FHL films 1028454 item 2 and 1028455; computer number 33053.) This record includes the Indian's name, English name or English translation of the name, tribe, census or allotment number, year born, medical history, parents' names, and the names of other relatives, including grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles, and their census numbers.

Medical records are usually not indexed and cover only a portion of the tribal members. These health records can be found in the records of the Indian Agency in the area where the person lived.

MILITARY RECORDS

Military records identify individuals who served in the military or who were eligible for service. Many Native Americans have served in the United States and Canadian military and are found in their records.

The following records can give clues to help find your Native American ancestor: muster rolls, personnel files, regimental account books, letters of deportment, lists of officers, pay vouchers/records, pension records, records of leave, and descriptive rolls.

United States

Revolutionary War: (1775-1783)

O'Donnell, James H. *The Cherokees of North Carolina in the American Revolution*. Raleigh, N.C.: North Carolina State University Graphics, 1976. (FHL book 970.1 A1 no. 112; computer number 494516.) This book is unindexed.

Indian Wars and Conflicts: (1780's to 1890's)

Dunlay, Thomas W. *Wolves for the Blue Soldiers: Indian Scouts and Auxiliaries With the United States Army, 1860-1890*. Lincoln, Nebr.: University of Nebraska Press, 1982. (FHL book 978 M2du; computer number 478906.) This history of Indian scouts with the United States military contains an index to names and tribes.

Downey, Fairfax Davis. *The Red/Bluecoats, the Indian Scouts, U.S. Army*. Ft. Collins, Colo: Old Army Press, 1973. (FHL book 970.1 D758r; computer number 212937.) The tribes who supplied scouts to the United States army were the Apache, Crow, Pawnee, Shoshone, Comanche, Kiowa,

Blackfeet, Navajo, Seminole, and some Dakota, Arapahoe, Arickana, and Cheyenne Indians. This book is indexed and includes a list of awards the Indian scouts received.

Buecker, Thomas R. and R. Eli Paul. *The Crazy Horse Surrender Ledger*. Lincoln, Nebr: State Historical Society, 1994. (FHL book 970.1 C859h; computer number 733587.) This contains names (head of families) of the Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho at the Red Cloud Agency. It also recorded those who returned following the great Sioux War.

Civil War: (1861 to 1865)

Native Americans served in both the Union and the Confederate military.

Union

Hauptman, Lawrence M. *The Iroquois in the Civil War: From Battlefield to Reservation*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 1993. (FHL book 970.1 H294i; computer number 671903.) This history is indexed and includes a bibliography.

United States. Veterans Administration. *Veterans Administration Payment Card, 1907-1933*. National Archive Microfilm Publication, M0850. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1976. (On 2539 FHL films beginning with 1634036; computer number 500541.) This is a record of payments to pensioners, except for World War I. The cards are arranged alphabetically by surname. Native American names are listed at the beginning of each letter of the alphabet.

Confederate

Forman, Grant. *History of the Service and List of Individuals of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Confederate Army*, 2 vols. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1948.

United States. Record and Pension Office. *Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers who Served in Organizations Raised Directly by the Confederate Government*. National Archive Microfilm Publication, M0258. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1963. (FHL Film 880283-97; computer number 278791.) This source provides a listing of various Indian volunteers from the following tribes: Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Osage, Seminole.

World War I: (1917 to 1918)

United States. Selective Service System. *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. National Archive Microfilm Publication Number, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On 4383 FHL films beginning with 1509347, computer number 504818.) A typical card lists names, home address, age, birth, citizenship status, occupation, employee's name and address, race, dependents or nearest relative, and physical description. The third registration taken in September 1918 identifies citizen and noncitizen Native Americans.

World War II: (1941-1945)

Indians at Work: A News Sheet for Indians and the Indian Service. Washington, D.C.: Office of Indian Affairs, 1944. (FHL book 970.1 Un3i v.12; computer number 215365.) This lists war dead by state, including name, residence, place of death; lists of prisoners of war by state, name, residence, place of capture; wounded in action by state, name, residence, place; and lists of awards for valor, decoration, rank, name, and residence.

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Indians in the War: Burial of a Brave*. Chicago: United States Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Affairs, 1945. (FHL book 970.1 A1 no. 1; FHL film 824082 item 2; computer number 148418.) This contains awards for valor by decoration, then name, rank, tribe, state; war dead arranged by state, then name, tribe, place of death; wounded in action arranged by state, then name, tribe, place where wound occurred. It also contains chapters on ceremonial dances in the Pacific, a Choctaw leads the guerrillas, Navajo Code Talkers, Indians who fought on Iwo Jima; Indians working for the Navy; Indian women working for victory, and Indian Service Employees in the war.

They Talked Navajo "diné bi-zaad choz-iid" The United States Marine Corps Navajo Code Talkers of World War II. A Record of their Reunion July 9-10, 1971. Window Rock, Ariz, 1971. (FHL book 970.3 N227tt; computer number 672018.) It includes the names and addresses of those who attended.

Canada

The Department of Militia and Defense (DMD) during World War I and the Department of National Defense (DND) during World War II, did not officially keep their record of Indians distinct from non-Indians. The DIA did. During the war, Indian agents were directed to provide headquarters with regular lists of enlistments, records which are now found in the Red Series of central registry headquarters files (RG 10, vols. 3180-3182, file 452124 (various parts). The Red Series (so named because of the color of the books) also contains information about the Veterans' Land Act (VLA), Indians of British Columbia (ICBC), and Soldier Settlement Act (SSA).

Gaffen, Fred. *Forgotten Soldiers: An Illustrated History of Canada's Native Peoples in Both World Wars*. Penticton, B.C.: Theytus Books, 1984.

Paterson, T.W. *Canadian Battles and Massacres: 300 Years of Warfare and Atrocities on Canadian Soil*. Langley, B.C.: Stagecoach Pub, 1977. (FHL book 971 M2p; computer number 7864.)

BUSINESS RECORDS AND COMMERCE

Business records about Indians include records of fur trading companies, canneries, and employment records of various companies. These records or histories of businesses and commercial companies do not usually give dates or places of birth, marriage, or death. Most sources discuss business and company dealings and general history.

Fur Companies

Fur companies kept records of their employees, including Indians, and their wives, the areas where employees were assigned, and some Catholic Church baptisms and marriages. These fur companies include the Minnesota-Michilimackinac Company 1695-1821, American Fur Company, North West Company, North American Commercial Company, and the Hudson Bay Company, which are listed in books such as:

New England Company (London). *Records of the New England Company, 1660-1906*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1991. (On 11 FHL films beginning with 1786518 item 6; computer number 655699.) These include information on Indians and trading.

Hudson's Bay Company. Records of this fur trading company are some of Canada's most important because of the amount of territory they controlled. Until 1870, the company controlled almost four-fifths of the Territory of present-day Canada, including northern Quebec and Ontario and most of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon and Northwest Territories. It was also active in areas now in the United States, including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Hawaii.

The Hudson's Bay Company Archives records include journals and correspondence (on 1,900 rolls of microfilm) for more than 200 trading posts (1703-1894), and lists of officers, servants, and contracts (1774-1904). Records of employees usually give name, age, occupation, pay rate, and location of employment. Hudson Bay Company records about Indians can be divided into several categories:

- *Factory records.* Hudson Bay Company factory records are from the Office of Indian Trade established in 1806. As early as 1795 the British government built factories for Indians. At first the Indians were sold goods at cost to establish harmonious relations. Later, the purpose was to make the Indians dependent on the government. The Canadian Office of Indian Trade continued until the year 1822. The United States also established a factory system in 1806 for similar purposes.
- *Farming records.* Some groups and tribes took up farming and ranching.
- *Trading posts records.* Trading posts (forts) were a stopover for Indians who would trade for goods, but few records mentioned the names of Indians who traded there.

Records to about 1904 are not at the Family History Library but may be loaned to public libraries. Further information is available from:

Inter-Library Loans
Hudson's Bay Company Archives
Provincial Archives of Manitoba
200 Vaughan Street
Winnipeg, MB, CANADA R3C 1T5
Telephone: 204-945-4949
Fax: 204-948-3236
e-mail: hbca@chc.gov.mb.ca

For information on ordering films through interlibrary loan on the Internet see:

www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/resource/access.html

Sources available through the Family History Library include:

Hudson's Bay Company Archives. *Microfilm Register*. [Winnipeg, Man.: Hudson's Bay Co. Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba], 1988-1989. (FHL Film 1730847-48; computer number 589859.) This is not circulated to family history centers. This is not a name index to the records but a description of the various series in the records.

Briggs, Elizabeth. *Biographical Resources at the Hudson's Bay Company Archives*. Winnipeg, Man.: Westgarth, 1996. (FHL book 971U33b; computer number 790683.) This includes many personal names and good descriptions of how to use the records, including dozens of "native censuses."

Rich, E. E. *The History of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1670-1870*. 2 vols. The publications of the Hudson's Bay Record Society, 21-22. London: Hudson's Bay Records Society, 1958-1959. (FHL book 971 B4h v. 21-22; computer number 229726.) This book contains a general history mentioning many Indian tribes but few personal Indian names.

Mitchell, Elaine Allan. *Fort Timiskaming and the Fur Trade*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1977. (FHL book 971 U3m; computer number 818431.) This source contains a history with many references to Indian tribes and includes a good bibliography.

Fisheries and Canneries

While the majority of the fisheries and canneries were operated by Asian workers, numerous Indian people also were employed. Fisheries and canneries were located in Washington state and Alaska. Cannery records sometimes give the name and residence of the head of the household and family members living with him. Because of the remoteness of Alaskan canneries and because fishermen were often at sea during censuses, cannery records may be the only records where these natives were recorded. One source of cannery records is:

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Records of Alaska Division of Bureau of Indian Affairs Concerning Metlakatla, 1887-1933*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1333. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1984. (FHL film 1695294-97; computer number 535807.) This source contains records of company transactions and contract documents in addition to lists of shareholders, including Indians and contract disputes. It is unindexed. It sometimes lists family members.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP RECORDS

United States

By 1924 about two thirds of the Indian population were citizens. The Naturalization Act of 1924 entitled "all non-citizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States be, and they are hereby, declared to be citizens of the United States: Provided, that the granting of such citizenship shall not in any manner impair or otherwise affect the right of any Indian to tribal or other property." Some tribes had already acquired citizenship in one or more of the following ways: treaties signed with Indian tribes, special statutes naturalizing named tribes or individuals, general statutes naturalizing Indians who took allotments, or general statutes naturalizing other special classes, such as Indian women who had married non-Indian men. The Potawatomi of the Woods became citizens in 1864 under a treaty of 1861 when the tribe received allotments after their removal to Kansas. These people were called Citizen Potawatomi.

Kesek, Joan. *Federal Naturalizations for the First District of Kansas*. Overland Park, KS: J. Kusek, 1990. (FHL book 978.1 P4k; computer number 571039.) This book lists Delaware, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi Indians who became United States citizens before 1902.

Before Indians could vote in national, state, or county elections, they could participate in tribal elections. The Family History Library has the tribal voting registers and election returns for the Cherokees from 1873-1909:

Oklahoma Historical Society. Indian Archives Division. *Elections in the Cherokee Nation for all Districts, 1873-1909*. Oklahoma City, Okla.: The Society, 1976. (FHL films 1666197 items 6-7 and

1666198; computer number 797645.) These unindexed election records include the names of those who voted and the payment of the election workers.

Schaefer, Christina K. *Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States*. Baltimore, Md: Genealogical Publishing, 1997. (FHL book 973 P4s; computer number 798891.) Pages 377-387 cover Indians. This appendix identifies sources of Native American citizenship records in a table format. The headings in the table include: National Archives record group and decimal number, Title of Record, Tribe/Band, State(s) covered, and Repository.

Canada

Before the Indian Act of 1876, most of the Indians in Canada did not have franchise rights. They had to give up their status rights as an Indian to have rights as a citizen to vote. The Indian Act says, "All Indians with a university education or its equivalent must become full citizens with voting rights and relinquish his special rights as an Indian." It also says "Indians who farm their allotment over a period of three years are to be enfranchised and receive absolute title to the land." In 1951 a revision to the Indian Act lowered the requirement for citizenship and voting rights by requesting only character references and proof that an Indian could earn a living outside a reservation. By 1960 Indians had been given the national franchise (citizenship) with no loss of Indian rights, and by the 1980s most had gained their "Indian status" back.

For further reading, see individual state and provincial research outlines, *Canada Research Outline (34545)*, and *United States Research Outline (30972)*.

LAWS AND LEGISLATION

Laws and legislation contain the names of very few Indians. They usually list only the names of the Indians who signed the documents, and they don't contain genealogical information.

Knowing about the laws is valuable to genealogists because many of the records genealogists use would not have been created without the laws. This is especially true with Indian research. Governments made treaties with Indian nations as if they were foreigners. The treaties resulted in land distribution records, censuses, and court records that are unique to Indians.

Little information on Indian laws is included in this section because early records created by the Indians themselves were either destroyed or have not been found. The organization in most tribes was informal. In most cases, the family was the central unit of the Indian culture. The band, which were usually composed of near kindred, was the only clearly defined political unit in many tribes. Each family group and each band had a leader who changed from time to time. Rules governing interactions between individuals and groups were prescribed by custom. Real and personal property was minimal and rarely created disputes. Persuasion and physical force were the only methods of arbitrating disputes. People outside the tribe were viewed as potential enemies.

As the Europeans began settling in America, they established their own laws, began to make treaties with the Indians, and kept written records of their decisions. England, France, Spain, and Russia had the most influence in the Americas. When a colonial governor made a law, he was representing the European government that ruled his colony. New York was an exception. From the beginning they made their own treaties with the Indians. Virginia was probably the largest colony of the United States in precolonial and colonial times. Laws made by the governor of Virginia between 1619 and 1792 are found in:

Hening, William Waller. *The Statutes at Large, Being a Collection of All the Laws of Virginia from the First Legislature in the Year 1619*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1958. (FHL film 162029-40; computer number 96909.) These books contain the treaties and laws made with the Indians during the early time period. The treaties contain the names of Indians who signed them.

Two kinds of laws were made that affect Indian genealogy. There are laws to govern individuals which include *criminal* and *civil* law, and laws made between governments which include *treaties*, *statutes*, and *agreements*.

Civil and Criminal Laws

These laws are intended to see that crimes are punished and that individuals deal fairly with each other. Civil and criminal laws are the same for all citizens; therefore, no separate books of this type are kept for Indians.

A comprehensive listing of United States Federal legislation dealing with the Indians is:

Cohen, Felix S. *Handbook of Federal Indian Law*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico, 1971. (FHL book 970.1 C66f; film 1597929 item 10; computer number 211704.) This includes an index.

United States Treaties

Several hundred treaties were formally ratified and passed into law before the making of treaties with Indians was terminated in 1871. These treaties had the same status as treaties with sovereign nations.

The purpose of many treaties was the extinguishment of Indian title to land and to regulate commerce with tribes to assimilate Indians into white society. Ninety-six ratified treaties deal with the establishment of peace and allegiance to the United States. Two hundred thirty treaties concerned land cessions, and 76 of these called for Indian removal and settlement in the west. The Indians viewed the treaties as a means of preserving themselves as a people and sought from the government recognition of exclusive right to the use of a well defined area, and to be protected from non-Indian encroachment. Indian leaders, most of whom made their mark beside their names, interpreters who witnessed the treaties, and council participants signed the documents.

After 1871, agreements were submitted to the congress and enacted into laws. Most ratified agreements were published by the Office of Indian Affairs.

Many of the records of treaties and agreements are available in published form. These treaties have limited genealogical information, but include the names of individual Indians who signed the treaties, their English names, and their tribe, band, or clan. Part blood men and whites who married Indian women were used as interpreters, and their names are included.

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. *Documents Relating to the Negotiation of Ratified and Unratified Treaties with Various Indian Tribes, 1801-1869*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, T0494. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1960. (FHL film 1695663-72; computer number 535791.) The first film explains these documents.

Kappler, Charles Joseph. *Indian Treaties, 1778-1883*. New York: Interland, 1972. (FHL book 970.1 K142i; computer number 213213.) These treaties are arranged by date. They are indexed by the name of the treaty and the tribe or band, but there is no index to names of Indians.

United States. Congress. *American State Papers: Documents, Legislative and Executive of the Congress of the United States*. Salt Lake City; LaCrosse, Wis.: Genealogical Society of Utah; Brookhaven Press, 1959, 1975, 1977. (On 29 FHL films beginning with 1631827; computer number 277508.) The documents relating to Indian affairs 1789-1827 are in Class 2 of these papers on films 1631829 and 1631830. These volumes are indexed by the name of the whites dealing with the Indians, the tribe, and subject.

Canadian Treaties

Only about one half of the lands of Canada have been the object of a formal agreement or treaty between the Indians and the federal government. For money or trade goods, Indians agreed to surrender land. The land cession treaties were designed to provide the government a safe and secure method of acquiring land which was occupied by Indians. A source of Indian treaties involving Canadian land is:

Indian Treaties and Surrenders. Saskatoon, 3 vols.: Fifth House, 1992. (FHL book 970.1 In2c; computer number 732713.) This is indexed by location, tribe, and treaty number. Volume 1 contains an index for volumes 1 and 2. Volume 3 is also indexed. The names of Indians who signed the treaties are included in the text of the treaties but are not indexed.

NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers publish notices of marriage, divorce, death, funerals, and obituaries. Notices include names of persons involved, the date of the event, and may contain maiden names, names of parents, and other living relatives. Newspapers also publish articles of local interest, including religious and social events in the community with the names of those involved. Some newspapers serve several communities and devote columns to the everyday happenings in the area. Newspapers also include legal notices, estate sales, and advertising for local businesses.

To find the names and locations of newspapers, use the reference books cited in the "Newspapers" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) and the *Canadian Research Outline* (34545). Additional information can be found in the "Newspapers" section of the individual state or province outlines. Sources for Native American newspapers include:

Littlefield, Daniel F. *American Indian and Alaska Native Newspapers and Periodicals, 1826-1924*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1984. (FHL book 970.1 L73a; computer number 335259.) This includes newspaper titles by tribe, location, and time periods.

The earliest and most helpful Native American newspapers were produced by the Cherokees. The newspapers were in both Cherokee and English. The *Cherokee Advocate* was published in the Oklahoma territory. An abstract of this newspaper from 1845 to 1906 is:

Mauldin, Dorothy Tincup. *Cherokee Advocate Newspaper Extracts*. Tulsa, Okla.: Oklahoma Yesterday Pub., 1991. (FHL book 970.3 C424cad; computer number 732389.) The abstracts consist of tribal news, such as citizenship information, public notices, school lists, and election results. They also include family data, such as births, marriages, and deaths of individuals. Most volumes are indexed.

Churches and missions of various denominations also printed newspapers for the tribes they had jurisdiction over.

Contact local libraries in the area where your ancestor lived to locate existing newspapers. Placing a notice in a local newspaper may help you contact people who have information about your family.

VITAL RECORDS

Vital records for the Indians were not generally recorded until about 1880. Records may have been kept by a tribal group, the state, the county, a church, or a jurisdiction of the BIA.

Many birth, marriage, or death certificates may not indicate the correct racial designation. If the registrant was not aware that the individual was of Indian ancestry, especially if the event occurred to mixed bloods off the reservation, the racial portion of the certificate might be marked white where Indian should

have appeared. Some part-Indians may have ignored their Indian heritage and checked the white column.

Other sources of Indian vital records may be found in church records, tribal enrollment records, supplements to census records, and sanitary records of sick, wounded, births, and deaths.

After 1934, Indians were given the right to manage their own affairs through tribal councils. Since then, they have kept their own vital records. They patterned their vital statistics forms after those being used by the states in which they resided.

State Vital Records

Each state developed its own laws and created a statewide registration system. See research outlines for each state.

New York State has its own Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Indians of New York are under the jurisdiction of the state and have not been under the Federal Government administration. To find vital records in New York, first search on a county level and then the state level.

Supplements to Census Rolls

These are sometimes referred to as *Supplementary Rolls*. In the Indian censuses for the period of 1885-1940, a supplemental census was taken that included records of births, deaths, and sometimes marriages.

The *Addition Rolls* link children to parents. Both *Addition* (birth) and *Deletion or Deduction* (death or transfer from reservation) *rolls* give tribal affiliation, blood degree, and residence.

The *Addition Rolls* contain the census roll number, name, date of birth, whether live birth or stillbirth, sex, tribe, whether a ward of the government, degree of Indian blood of the father, mother, child, and residence.

The *Deletion Rolls* contain the last census roll number, name, date of death, age at death, sex, tribe, whether ward of the government, degree of Indian blood, cause of death, and residence.

These are available at National Archives and local offices of the BIA, and many are on microfilm at the Family History Library.

Tribal Vital Records: (1934-present)

Tribal birth records list the name, date and place of birth, parents, names, ages, residence, and occupations. The marriage records contain the names of bride and groom, ages, date and place of marriage, witnesses, date of recording, name of official, and names of parents. The death records include the name, date and place of birth, date and place of death, names, ages, birthplaces and occupations of parents, name and residence of informant, date and place of burial, and cause of death. These are available at the Tribal Council offices and in each tribe.

Indian Agents also kept a record called the **Register of Families**. The births and deaths were recorded as they occurred. This record was maintained to establish the degrees of relationship. It was referred to in determining cases of allotment relationships and heirship documentation. Each entry of the *Register of Families* gives the name, age, marital status and amount of allotted land. See the "*Probate Records*" section of this outline for further information.

Canadian Vital Records

The major repositories for Canadian Indian records are the Federal Department of Indian Affairs and the National Archives of Canada.

Genealogical & Archives Research Unit
Special & Administrative Services Division
Indian & Eskimo Affairs program
Dept of Indian Affairs Program
400 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa ON K1A 0H4
Canada

National Archives of Canada
395 Wellington St
Ottawa ON K1A 0N3
Canada

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has copies of many vital records, primarily before 1920. However, if a record was never kept, was not available in the courthouse at the time of microfilming, was not microfilmed, or is restricted from public access by the laws of the state, the Family History Library *does not have a copy*. You may use the records of the library for your family research, but the library does not issue or certify certificates for living or deceased individuals.

For further information see individual state and provincial research outlines, *Canada Research Outline (34545)*, and *United States Research Outline (30972)*.

OTHER RECORDS

Other types of records that are not discussed in this outline can be found in the Locality Search or Subject Search of the Family History Library Catalog, including:

- Bible Records
- Bibliography
- Correctional Institutions
- Kinship
- Names, Geographical
- Names, Personal
- Notarial Records
- Obituaries
- Occupations
- Public Records
- Tax records
- Voting Registers

PART 4. WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT NATIVE AMERICANS BEFORE I SEARCH THE RECORDS?

To be successful in finding your ancestors, it helps to understand historical events that occurred during their lifetime. These events are what shaped every day life and may also have resulted in records containing information about your ancestors. Learning about wars, governments, laws of the land, and religious ideas of that time will help you to understand political and religious boundaries along with movement and settlement patterns.

HISTORY

United States History

Researchers doing Native American family history research need to know the eight time periods commonly associated with Native American history in the United States. Each time period has its own unique set of records. However, some records created in one period did overlap into other time periods. These time periods and important events will help identify areas and records you can search. Use all the records together as building blocks for your family research.

Conversion Period (First Contact to about 1830)

The Indians' first contact with Europeans occurred at various times in various regions. Missionaries appeared first among the Indians of Spanish Florida in 1565. Spanish missionaries helped settle New Mexico in 1598. The French sent missionaries to Quebec, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi Valley as early as 1608. The English, who were less inclined to missionary efforts than other Europeans, established their first permanent settlement in Virginia in 1607. Spanish missions were started in California in 1697. Russian missionaries helped settle Alaska in 1784 and reached as far south as Fort Ross, California, by 1812. The tribes of the Great Plains and mountain west were the last Indians to come into extended contact with missionaries and their conversion period lasted beyond that of other areas, sometimes as late as the 1850s. The records created in this time period include:

- Church records
- Land records
- Factory (Trading Post) records

Treaty Period (1789 to about 1883)

During this period the federal government treated Indian tribes as distinct nations. For several tribes this was the same policy used by European colonial governments before the American Revolution. The treaties almost always required the Indians to cede land to white settlers and move away from those settlements. Treaties did not always list all the members of the tribe. The records created in this time period include:

- Treaties
- Annuity Rolls

Removal or Concentration Period (1830 to mid-1850s)

In 1830 the United States Congress passed the Indian Removal Act. This act called for the removal of most Indians east of the Mississippi to lands west of the river. Forced to move, frequently under harsh conditions to marginal land with a different climate, the Indians often suffered widespread poverty, hunger, illness, and death. Some tribes were forced to move several times for various reasons. This was often a time when tribes began to mix and merge together.

The earliest removal records were created as early as 1815. Even though the *removal period* did not start

until 1830, some tribes were already moving or being moved to other areas in the West. The records created in this time period include:

- Early census rolls
- Muster lists
- Removal records
- Correspondence records

Reservation Period (About 1850 to 1887)

By 1890 most of the Indian wars were over and the Indians were confined to reservations. However, some tribes in the East were under state authority rather than federal, so the Bureau of Indian Affairs authority did not extend to them. Most of the state reservation tribes are in the state of New York, with some in other New England states. Also by 1871 the majority of the Indians were confined to reservations, and it was no longer necessary for the federal government to negotiate with the tribes as independent governments.

In the reservation period, the federal government wanted to separate Indians and whites by confining the Indians to reservation lands usually considered of little or no value to whites. This period was marked by frequently corrupt or incompetent Indian agents who embezzled provisions and money sent by the government to help Indians or as part of their treaty payments. Agents often tried to suppress the Indian culture and force “civilization” on the Indians.

Nomadic or desperate Indians who left their reservations often caused United States military reprisals against their tribe. It was difficult for hunting tribes to adjust to the lack of plentiful game where they were confined. Also, each tribe would have its own reservation but sometimes ended up sharing land with old tribal enemies.

Some of the best genealogical and family historical records available on Native Americans were created during this time period:

- Annual census rolls
- School records
- Sanitary records

Allotment Period (1887-1934)

In 1887 the General Allotment Act was passed. The goal of the act was the assimilation of the Native American into mainstream America and to move them toward self-sufficiency. The act made the land

holdings of the tribe individualized. Prior to this the land of the tribe was held in common. The tribes’ lands were surveyed into 160 acre plots for each family head, 80 acre plots for single persons 18 years or older, and 40 acre plots for single persons under 18 years. Another goal of the allotment was to teach farming techniques, individualism, and private ownership to Native Americans. The records created in this time period include:

- Allotment
- Land records
- Heirship records/Family Registers

Reorganization Period (1934-1953)

In the 1920 the federal government began to take the position that Native Americans should not be coerced into giving up their culture. In 1934 the Indian Reorganization Act was passed, giving Indian tribes the right to their own local government on the reservations through tribal councils. The records created in this time period include:

- Claims records
- Tribal enrollment
- Vital records
- Wills

Termination Period (1953-1970)

In the 1950s some government officials began to believe Indians could best be integrated into American white society by doing away with their tribes and reservations. An effort was made to terminate the special relationship between Indians and the federal government and through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to end all reservations. Only a few tribes were actually terminated. Most tribes have now been restored to full status. Some tribes are still in the process of gaining recognition.

Self-Determination Period (1970 to the Present)

The tribes today keep their own records. They educate their young in schools on or near the reservations. They are teaching their young the history, languages, knowledge, and culture of the past.

For further reading see:

Francis, Lee. *Native Time: A Historical Time Line of Native America*. New York: St. Martin’s, 1995. (FHL book 970.1 F844n; computer number

769908.) This book includes the history, laws, leaders, heros, literature, legends, songs, and philosophy developments between the 1400s and 1994.

Canada History

- **1763** In the treaty of Paris, France ceded all North American possessions to Great Britain. The British royal proclamation of 1763 recognized the right of Native Americans to all land in British territories outside established colonies except Hudson's Bay Company land. The Crown claimed the exclusive right to negotiate land surrender and peace treaties with the Indians and prohibited settlement in areas not covered by land cession treaties.
- **1857** The Gradual Civilization Act, which made Canadian Indians noncitizens, created a voluntary process by which Indians were expected to seek enfranchisement by accepting citizenship and renouncing any legal distinction as an Indian. Elected band councils (to replace traditional leaders) were set up with limited powers over reserve affairs.
- **1869** The Gradual Enfranchisement Act responded to Indian resistance to the establishment of elected band councils, by giving agents power to depose traditional leaders for dishonesty, intemperance, and immorality, and to impose elected band councils. This act also stipulated that Indian women and their children would lose their Indian status when they married non-Indians.
- **1876** The Indian Act guaranteed that funds received by Indians from the sale of natural resources would be invested in the government-operated Indian Trust Fund. The act also recognized the responsibility of the government for the health, welfare, and education of Indians and the necessity of financing their agricultural and industrial enterprises. It prohibited the use of alcoholic beverages by Indians. All Indians with a university education were made full citizens and relinquished their special rights as an Indian. People legally defined as Indians are known as status Indians. The Indian Act made elected band councils voluntary. Location tickets, re-introduced in Eastern Canada, were part of a plan to lead Indians to abandon the practice of holding land in common. Location tickets give individuals rights to twenty hectares of reserve land. Indians who farmed their allotment over a period of

three years were enfranchised and received title to the land.

- **1885** Amendments to the Indian Act prohibited Indians from traveling off their reserves without a pass from an Indian Affairs agent, prohibited the reelection of deposed Indian leaders, and prohibited Sun Dances and potlatches.
- **1920** The federal government amended the Indian Act to allow for compulsory enfranchisement.
- **1939** The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Eskimo (Inuit) are to be legally regarded as Indians. This makes them the responsibility of the federal government.
- **1951** The revised Indian act lowered the requirement for citizenship and voting rights by requesting only character references and proof that an Indian could earn a living outside a reservation.
- **1960** Indians were given the national franchise.
- **1974** The federal government established the Office of Native Claims to evaluate and negotiate Indian land claims.
- **1977** The Canadian Indian Rights Commission replaced the Indian Claims Commission.
- **1982** The Indians along with the Inuit and métis were recognized as the aboriginal peoples of Canada. Those who lost their status as Indians through marriage were reinstated as Indians and band members. Their children also gained Indian status but not band membership for another 2 years.
- **1985** Indian women who lost their legal status through marriage to men who did not possess Indian status regained their status.

Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. Local histories describe the settlement of an area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. They can also contain lists of early settlers, soldiers, civil officials, and other related information.

County and town histories may include separate sections or volumes containing biographical information. They can also provide background information about events that influenced your family's

lifestyle, the community and environment in which your family lived. For further information about the value and uses of local histories see the “History” sections of the *United States Research Outline* (30972), and the *Canada Research Outline* (34545).

Tribal History

Most tribes in the United States did not start keeping their own histories until about 1934, and some did not start keeping them until much later. Some tribes in Canada may have started keeping records as early as 1841. Some earlier histories are available that were written by agents, priests, and other persons involved with the Indians in both the United States and Canada.

Oral History

Oral histories are genealogies or histories passed from one generation to another by voice or hand signs. They are sacred to the tribe and family members. When non-Indians started recording the histories, some items in the history may have been changed by the Indians to preserve the sacredness.

South Dakota. University. American Indian Research Project. *Oyate Iyechinka Woglakapi : The People Speak for Themselves; An Oral History Collection*. Vermillion, S.D.: Institute of Indian Studies, 1970. (FHL book 970.1 So87o; computer number 215168.)

MINORITIES

If your ancestor married into a tribe or if he or she married someone from outside the tribe, then he or she may be in one of the following groups.

Mixed blood

In the United States and Canada there are groups that are not fully accepted as Caucasian, Black, or Indian. These people have often faced challenges in connection with their ethnic identity and have sought historical documentation to find their ancestry. Among the ancestors of mixed racial groups are Cubans, Greeks, Italians, Mexicans, Moors, Portuguese, Turks, Welsh, Native Americans, African Americans, and Hessian soldiers. For an example, see:

Rice, Horace R. *The Buffalo Ridge Cherokee: A Remnant of a Great Nation Divided*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Book, 1995. (FHL book 970.3 C424rh; computer number 727648.) This group of

Cherokees were deemed not Indian because of Afro-American intermarriage.

Melungeons

Melungeons have been called “Blue People,” “Free Persons of Color or FPC or FC,” “nobody at all,” “mulatto,” “free black,” and “colored.” There is much speculation on the ancestry of the Melungeons. Whatever the ancestry, they have been listed as part of the Indian section in census records and other early government records and treated as such.

Ball, Bonnie S. *The Melungeons: Their Origin and Kin*. [Berryville, Va.: Virginia Book], 1969. (FHL 973 F2bLL; computer number 19900.)

Bible, Jean Patterson. *Melungeons Yesterday and Today*. [Tenn.]: J.P. Bible, 1975. (FHL book 973 F2bjp; computer number 486392.)

Freedmen

After the Civil War, the emancipation of the black slaves in Indian Territory (Oklahoma) was not official until all of the Emancipation treaties were signed in 1866. When slavery ended, the Five Tribes were required to adopt their former slaves into full citizenship or help with their removal to ceded or other specified areas. Few ex-slaves chose to relocate. Cherokees, Creeks, and Seminoles adopted their former slaves shortly after the treaties were concluded. Choctaws adopted theirs only in May 1883. Chickasaws never adopted theirs, except for a period of less than four years when the former slaves were accorded partial citizenship.

In the 1890s as statehood was becoming inevitable, final settlements were made for all of the citizens of each nation. The “Black Indians” sought to be entered on the tribal rolls and to obtain the benefits of payment and land allotment being given to other Indian citizens. When it was time to apply for enrollment, the “Black Indians” had to distinguish themselves from the blacks who had come into the territory after Emancipation. In order to be enrolled, an Indian freedman and his or her slave owner had to testify in front of the Dawes Commission. See the “Land Records” section of this outline for information on the Dawes Rolls.

Walton-Raji, Angela Y. *Black Indian Genealogy Research: African-American Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage, 1993.

(FHL book 970.1 W178b; computer number 359328.) This book covers how to do genealogical research for African-Americans who were married into and adopted by the five civilized tribes.

Slaves

Slaves were held in all of the Five Civilized Tribes, but compared to the general population of the United States very few Indians owned slaves. Marriage between Indians and persons of African descent was forbidden except intermittently in the Muskogee nation. After the American Civil War, marriage between Indians by blood and blacks was uncommon, except among the Creeks and Seminoles.

Some of the northwest coast tribes were hierarchical, with clearly marked class divisions between chiefs, nobles, and commoners based on wealth and heredity. There was also grading within each class. Outside and below these classes were slaves, in some villages making up a third of the population. These were usually prisoners of war but sometimes were individuals who had lost status because of debt. One could also be born into slavery, one of the few regions in North America where this happened. Slaves had no rights of any kind and could be put to death at the will of their masters.

During the 1600s the English traded guns and other items to the Creek and Cherokee in return for Indian slaves from the interior Indian nations (Choctaw and Shawnee, among other tribes).

In the early 1800s the Shoshoni raids were for the acquisition of captives, who as slaves were useful to other Indians, Spaniards, and French because of the high trading value.

Abel, Annie Heloise. *The American Indian as Slaveholder and Secessionist*. 1915. Reprint, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1992. (FHL book 970.1 Ab34ai; computer number 27956.) This book is indexed and includes some transcripts of the Wichita Agency and the papers of Fort Smith.

Mulatto

Mulattos are a mix of Caucasian and Afro-American. During the 1800s and the early 1900s, the census takers lumped together anyone who was not white as Mulattos. This included black, mulatto, Indian, Jew, Arab, Asian, or anyone with as much as one-sixteenth so-called nonwhite blood.

Métis

The Métis in Canada are descendants of fur traders and Canadian Indians. There is considerable variation in both the use of the term and in material culture. In 1941, before the "Halfbreed" category was deleted from the census, only 27,790 had been listed for the three prairie provinces, a figure that is too low. In 1981 when the word *Métis* was introduced as a census category, 100,000 identified themselves as such across the country.

Native People, Native Lands: Canadian Indians, Inuit, and Métis. Rev. ed. Ottawa: Carleton University Press, 1987. (FHL book 970.1 N213nc; computer number 490808.) This includes historical information concerning the Indians and Métis in Canada.

Watson, Larry S. *Finding Your Métis Ancestors*. Yuma, Ariz.: Histree, 1995. (FHL book 970.3 M566w; computer number 755912.) This discusses the history and lists the records of the Métis.

Milne, Kim. *Children of the Country: A Guide to Indian and Métis Sources*. Winnipeg, Man.: Manitoba Genealogical Society, Inc., 1988. (FHL book 971 F23m; computer number 506989.) This lists sources at the Manitoba Genealogical Society, Manitoba Provincial Archives (Winnipeg), Glenbow Library and Archives (Calgary), and other societies, archives, and libraries where material can be found for Métis research.

Inuit

Inuit is now used for those formerly referred to as Eskimo. The term Inuit has been officially adopted in Canada.

Dickason, Olive Patricia. *Canada's First Nations: A History of Founding Peoples From Earliest Times*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992. (FHL book 970.1 D551c; computer number 712257.)

RESERVATIONS

United States

The idea of a separate Indian country came about soon after the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Removal of Indians to western lands was suggested by Thomas Jefferson and became policy after 1830.

Indian reservations were established mostly during the mid to late 1800s, and the Indians were removed and restricted to reserved land to encourage white settlement and westward expansion. The Europeans dealt with the Indians by treaty, as they would a separate nation, believing that the natives would gradually be assimilated. This did not happen, and the Indian tribes were removed further west as land was needed for the population expansion. With the approval of the United States governing agencies, the tribes governed themselves within these reservations.

Reservation records can include such documents as birth, marriage, death and divorce records, agency passes, annual reports, beef issues and rations, heirship cases, tribal council reports, grazing and cattle brands, land allotment cards, annuity rolls, school records, family registers, sanitary records, probate fees, tribal adoptions, tribal newspapers, yearly reservation census, pony claims, and others. Many of these records are only available through the reservation.

See the “Internet Resources” section of the outline for internet sites regarding reservation records and addresses. For information on the various United States reservations, see:

Indian Reservations: A State and Federal Handbook. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1986. (FHL book 970.1 In2; computer number 496583.) This book is arranged by state and then alphabetically by the name of the reservation. It includes the location of the reservation and the tribal headquarters, the names the tribes, and the land status, history, culture, government, population, economy, climate, transportation, recreation, and community facilities of each reservation.

Canadian Reserves

The Indian Reserves in Canada were created by both the British and French governments beginning in the 18th century. They were established to provide homes and land to cultivate, but also to avoid land disputes and to give the government more control over the Indian population. As a result of the Indian Acts passed by the Canadian government, the administration and government of reserve lands was given to the Indians. They have full use of the lands, including timber and other natural resources, and the lands cannot be sold without their consent. A list of Canadian Reserves can be found in the appendix of:

Handbook of Indians of Canada. Ottawa: Geographic Board, Canada, 1912. (FHL book 970.1 H191hc; film 1415251 item 15; computer number 29160.) This book contains a list of Reserves, their location, the tribe or band, and the number of acres.

CEMETERIES

Indian burials varied from tribe to tribe. Huron dead were buried in a common pit; most Plains Indians were placed on scaffolds; Northwest tribes were known as the totem pole Indians. The poles were monuments of a person’s family crests. Some were fashioned to hold the ashes of deceased relatives.

As Native Americans embraced Christianity, their burials may have been recorded in church records. Specific sections of the cemeteries may have been set apart for Indian burials.

You may find clues to burial locations in church records, death certificates, and local histories. Reservations and BIA agency offices may contain records of local burial grounds. Before visiting a cemetery on reservation or tribal property, obtain permission from tribal officials.

PART 5. WHERE DO I FIND RECORDS?

This section includes information about repositories where you will find original documents about your Native American ancestors. These repositories include the Family History Library, national archives in the United States and Canada, and other repositories.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Archives collect and preserve original documents or copies from organizations such as churches or governments. Libraries generally collect published sources such as books, maps, and microfilm, but have also collected some original materials. This section describes some of the repositories of genealogical and historical records and sources for Native Americans.

If you plan to visit one of these repositories, learn about them on their Internet site, or contact the organization and ask for information about their collection, hours, services, and fees.

For information about additional repositories with Native American records, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of the Family History Library’s United States Research Outline (30972), Canada Research Outline (34545), and the research outline for each state or province where your ancestor lived.

National Archives and Libraries

United States. One of the largest collections of Native American material is housed at the National Archives and at their Field Branches. This includes Journals of the Continental Congress, Congressional Reports of Committees, Reports of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, reports of the Bureau of American Ethnology, War Department records, WPA Interviews of Indians on various reservations, individual History Cards, censuses, agency records, tribal records, and church records. Some of the information found in these records are names, dates, places, and tribal affiliation. They may contain any kind of record such as a census, list of individuals removed to another place, deaths, depredations suffered by Indians from non-Indians, names of Indian agents, and employees records. The records most often used by genealogists are censuses, military records, and Native American genealogies.

There are several field branches serving different states and containing different records. You may want to write or call before visiting to find the availability and accessibility of the records in each area. The addresses and telephone numbers can be found in the United States Research Outline (30972). They can also be found in:

Hill, Edward E. Guide to Records in the National Archives of the United States Relating to American Indians. Washington, D.C.: n.p., 1971. (FHL book 970.1 H551g; computer number 154874.) This briefly describes civilian agency records including field office records, census rolls, treaties, territorial papers, and military records.

Canada. The Canadian government collects records about Canadian history, culture, and people. Many such records are at the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa, formerly called the Public Archives of Canada. For details and addresses, see the Canada Research Outline (34545).

The National Library of Canada is not the same as the National Archives. Although it has the same street and postal address, it has a helpful collection of published genealogies, manuscripts, histories, and

many other records. Write for information about their holdings and services.

State (or Provincial) Archives and State Libraries

United States. Most state archives and state libraries store their records separate from those of the national government. They serve as repositories for records pertaining to their particular area. Addresses are available in the Family History Library’s state and provincial research outlines and at your public library.

Canada. Each Canadian province has its own archives that are separate from those of the national government. These repositories have many records valuable for genealogical research regarding native peoples in their particular area. You may contact each provincial archive for information about its services. The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and the Archives of Ontario lend microfilms to public and university libraries in North America that participate in the interlibrary loan service. The other archives do not. None of the archives have sufficient staff to research records for you, but they may be able to furnish names of researchers you can hire.

For addresses and more information about Canadian provincial archives, see the Family History Library research outline for the province of interest.

County Courthouses, Town Halls, and Municipal Offices

Many of the key records essential for genealogical research were created by local county or town governments. These include court, land and property, naturalization and citizenship, probate, taxation, and vital records. The county courthouses and town halls are the primary repositories of these valuable records. (However, some courthouse records have been destroyed or transferred to state archives.) The Family History Library has copies of many of these important records on microfilm.

The individual counties have organized their records and offices in many different ways. The state research outlines provide further information on how to obtain these records.

Municipal offices in Canada, comparable to county courthouses and town halls in the United States, cannot legally provide copies of their vital records. A directory of addresses and telephone numbers of the

municipal governments is cited in the Canada Research Outline (34545).

Agencies

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agencies kept records. There are three levels for the Bureau of Indian Affairs Offices. The first is the local BIA office (agency or subagency). You can find good genealogical information in a number of records dating back to the establishment of the agency. The second level is the Area Office, which is usually limited primarily to land records. The third level is the Commissioner's Office in Washington, D.C. Almost all of the Commissioner's records have been transferred to the National Archives and are only available there. Be sure to call ahead to get the hours the agency is open and to get an idea of what records are available. The areas covered by BIA offices have changed over time.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Aberdeen Area Office)

115 Fourth Ave. SE
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Telephone: 605-226-7343
Fax: 605-226-7446

Covers the following agencies: Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Fort Berthold, Fort Totten, Lower Brule, Pine Ridge, Rosebud, Sisseton, Standing Rock (North Dakota), Turtle Mountain, Winnebago, Yankton.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Albuquerque Area Office)

P.O. Box 26567
Albuquerque, NM 87125-6567
Telephone: 505-766-3754
Fax: 505-766-1964

Covers the following agencies: Jicarilla, Laguna, Mescalero, Northern Pueblos, Ramah Navajo, Southern Pueblos, Southern Ute, Ute Mountain, and Zuni.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Anadarko Area Office)

W.C.D. Office Complex
P.O. Box 368
Anadarko, OK 73005-0368
Telephone: 405-247-6673
Fax: 405-247-2242

Covers the following agencies: Anadarko, Concho, Horton, Pawnee, and Shawnee.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Billings Area Office)
316 N. 26th Street
Billings, MT 59101-1362
Telephone: 406-657-6315
Fax: 406-657-6559

Covers the following agencies: Blackfoot, Crow, Fort Belknap, Fort Peck, Northern Cheyenne, Rocky Boy's, and Wind River.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Eastern Area Office)
3701 N. Fairfax Drive
Mailstop VASQ 260
Arlington, VA 22203
Telephone: 703-235-3006
Fax: 703-235-8610

Covers the following agencies: Cherokee, Choctaw, New York, and Seminole.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Juneau Area Office)
P.O. Box 25520
Juneau, AK 99802
Telephone: 907-586-7177
Fax: 907-586-7169

Covers the following agencies: Anchorage, Bethel, Fairbanks, and Nome.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Minneapolis Area Office)

331 South Second Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2241
Telephone: 612-373-1000
Fax: 612-373-1186

Covers the following agencies: Great Lakes, Michigan, Minnesota, Red Lake, and Sac and Fox Field Office.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Muskogee Area Office)

101 N. 5th St.
Muskogee, OK 74401
Telephone: 918-687-2296
Fax: 918-687-2571

Covers the following agencies: Chickasaw, Okmulgee, Osage, Miami, Talihina, and Wewoka.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Navajo Area Office)
P.O. Box 1060
Gallup, NM 87305
Telephone: 505-863-8314
Fax: 505-863-8324

Covers the following agencies: Chinle, Eastern Navajo, Fort Defiance, Shiprock, and Western Navajo.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Portland Area Office)
The Federal Building
911 NE 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-4169
Telephone: 503-231-6702
Fax: 503-231-2201

Covers the following agencies: Colville, Chiloquin Sub-Agency, Flathead, Fort Hall, Northern Idaho, Makah, Metlakatla Field Station, Olympic Peninsula, Plummer Field Office, Puget Sound, Siletz, Spokane, Umatilla, Warms Springs and Yakima.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Phoenix Area Office)
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001
Telephone: 602-379-6600
Fax: 602-379-4413

Covers the following agencies: Colorado River, Eastern Nevada, Fort Apache, Fort Yuma, Hopi, Papago, Pima, Salt River, San Carlos, Southern Paiute Field Station, Truxton Canon, Unitah & Ouray, and Western Nevada.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Sacramento Area Office)
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1846
Telephone: 916-978-4691
Fax: 916-978-4695

Covers the following agencies: Central California, Northern California, Palm Springs Field Agency and Southern California.

The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development was established in 1966 to replace the department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. The 1968 reorganization created three programs, one of which was Indian and Inuit Affairs. An office of Native Claims was established in 1974 to represent the government in claims negotiations with

native groups. The department commonly called DIAND is responsible for the administration of the resources and affairs of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Terrasses de la Chaudiere
10 Wellington Street
Hull, Quebec
Postal Address:
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H4

The following are the regional offices:

Indian and Inuit Affairs (Atlantic Region)
P.O. Box 160
40 Havelock Street
Amherst, Nova Scotia B4H 3Z3
Telephone: 902-661-6200
Fax: 902-661-6237

Indian and Inuit Affairs (Ontario Region)
5th Floor
25 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1M2
Telephone: 416-973-6234
Fax: 416-954-6329

Indian and Inuit Affairs (Saskatchewan Region)
2221 Cornwall Street
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 4M2
Telephone: 306-780-5940
Fax: 306-780-5733

Indian and Inuit Affairs (British Columbia Region)
Suite 340
1550 Alberni Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 3C5
Telephone: 604-666-7891
Fax: 604-666-2546

DIAND (Northwest Territories Region)
P.O. Box 1500
Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2R3
Telephone: 403-669-2500
Telephone: 403-669-2709

DIAND (Yukon Region)
345-300 Main Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2B5
Telephone: 867-667-3100
Fax: 867-667-3196

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (Quebec Region)
P.O. Box 51127
Postal Outlet G.
Roy
320 St. Joseph Street East
Quebec, Quebec G1K 8Z7
Telephone: 418-648-7551
Fax: 418-648-4075

Indian and Inuit Affairs (Manitoba Region)
Room 1100
275 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3A3
Telephone: 204-983-4928
Fax: 204-983-7820

Indian and Inuit Affairs (Albert Region)
630 Canada Place
9700 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4G2
Telephone: 403-495-2773
Fax: 403-495-4088

For further information see:

Canadian Almanac & Directory. Toronto: Copp, Clark. Annual. (FHL book 971 E4ca; computer number 160632.) This is a listing of various libraries, government offices, and other information.

Russell, Bill. *Records of the Federal Department of Indian Affairs at the National Archives of Canada: A Source for Genealogical Research*. (FHL book 970.1 R911r; computer 832183.) This book includes a list of Indian records at the National Archives of Canada.

Tribal Offices

Since the Indian Reorganization Act in 1934, some tribes in the United States have started to keep their own records. They keep the same records as a county or town would keep, such as land, probate, or vital records. Be sure to call the office ahead of time to get the hours the office is open and what records are available. In Canada records at the tribal offices may start later than 1934.

Other Libraries

Public Libraries. Remember to use your local public library. Some have sections devoted to speciality areas

such as genealogy, Native Americans, and other ethnic or historical collections.

Addresses of many private Canadian archives, libraries, museums, educational centers, tribal headquarters, newspapers, and other nongovernmental organizations controlled by or serving Indians, Inuit, and mixed-blood groups are listed in:

Snyder, Fred, ed. *Native American Directory: Alaska, Canada, United States*. San Carlos, Ariz.: National Native American Co-Operative, 1982. (FHL book 970.1 B768s; computer number ???.)

Museums sometimes have archives or libraries with helpful information. For addresses, see:

Brascoupé, Simon, ed. *Directory of North American Indian Museums & Cultural Centers* 1981. Niagara Falls, N.Y.: North American Indian Museums Association, 1980. (FHL book 970.1 B736d; computer number 269341.)

The following libraries also have exceptional Native American collections.

University of Oklahoma Library (Norman, Oklahoma). Some of the items included in the collection are "Ridge-Watie-Boudinot Families," "Duke Indian Oral History Collection," and "Cherokee Nation Papers." The materials include personal papers such as correspondence, diaries, journals, scrapbooks, legal and financial records concerning the affairs of businesses and organizations, tribal records that include Indian laws, governments, relations with the U.S. Government, newspaper articles, brochures, and pamphlets. These are described in:

American Indian Resource Materials in the Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1990. (FHL Book no. 970.1 Am35d; computer number 603213.)

Gibson, Arrell M., ed. *A Guide to Regional Manuscript Collections in the Division of Manuscripts: University of Oklahoma Library*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1960. (FHL book 976.6 H2g; computer number 237199.)

Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art Library (Tulsa, Oklahoma). Includes records of Cyrus Byinton a Presbyterian minister and missionary

to the Choctaws, papers of Brinton Darlington an agent for the Cheyenne-Arapaho from 1871 to 1972. These are described in:

Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art. *A Guidebook to Manuscripts in the Library of the Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art*. Tulsa: TGIAHA, 1969. (FHL book 976.6 A3k; computer number 187343.) This guide includes a name and tribe index.

University of Tulsa Library (Tulsa, Oklahoma). Contains several records such as The Worcester-Robertson Family Papers (also known as the Alice Robertson Collection), which contains letters, newspapers, books, photographs, etc. The John W. Shleppy Collection contains mission and missionary histories, captivity narratives, etc. The library also contains muster rolls from Fort Gibson, and handwritten settler's roll from the Cherokee Nation. These are described in:

"*Indian Studies Resources at the University of Tulsa.*"
The Chronicles of Oklahoma 55 (Spring 1977).
(FHL book 976.6 B2c; computer number 153926.)

Guides to Other Native American Collections include:

Chepesiuk, Ron. *American Indian Archival Material: A Guide to Holdings in the Southeast*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982. (FHL Book no. 970.1 C421a; computer number 532837.) This guide contains an index and bibliography of holdings in repositories in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Connecticut State Library (Hartford, Connecticut). *Connecticut Archives, Indians, 1647-1789*. Hartford, Conn.: [N.p.], 1922. (FHL Film 376987 item 2.; computer number 383876.) This contains an index to the names of persons found in documents of the Connecticut Archives involving Indian affairs and legislation.

Tennessee. State Library and Archives. Manuscript Division (Nashville). *Cherokee Collection*. Nashville, Tenn.: The Library, 1966. (FHL film 1425611 item 4; computer number 146670.) This collection contains documents from 1755 to 1878, including the papers of John Ross, 1790-1866, who was a Chief of the Cherokees. It contains a name index and a chronology of events.

Mississippi. Department of Archives and History. *Mississippi Provincial Archives [1757-1820] Spanish Dominion*. Jackson, Miss.: Photoduplication Div., 1969. (FHL Film 899972-80; computer number 78774.) These records were copied from documents in the General Archive of the Indies in Seville, Spain. They are written in Spanish, French, and English and are unindexed. They contain records of the Spanish government and military regulations of early Louisiana and other Gulf coast states.

An Essay Toward an Indian Bibliography: Being a Catalogue of Books Relating to the History, Antiquities, Languages, Customs, Religion, Wars, Literature and Origin of the American Indians in the Library of Thomas W. Field, with Bibliographical and Historical Notes and Synopses of the Contents of Some of the Works Least Known., 1873 reprint. Columbus, Ohio: Long's College Book Co., 1951. (FHL Book 970.1 F458e; computer number 263097.) The sources in this bibliography are listed by the name of the author and include a description of the books.

California Indian Library Collections. *Finding Guide to the California Indian Library Collections: California State Library*. Berkeley: California Indian Library Collections, 1993. This set contains tribal collections deposited in twenty California public libraries, photographs, an index to three collections of sound recordings, 36 tribal bibliographies, and more.

Bibliography of Native Americans on Disc. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 1992. This contains the most comprehensive general bibliography of articles and books about Native Americans.

NATIVE AMERICAN RECORDS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Some records are in the archives of other governments. To use these records, it will help to know the language of the country.

For instance, in the French Archives there are many records of the Jesuits, some dealing with the Hurons. There are other records dealing with Colonial America before the British took over. These records are written in French.

Records kept by the Russians for Alaska and parts of Canada are either housed in St. Petersburg (Church

records) or Moscow (government records). These records are in Russian or Finnish. Some of the church records are available at the Family History Library.

A guide book to help search British records is:

Reid, Judith Prowse. *Genealogical Research in England's Public Record Office: A Guide for North Americans*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1996. (FHL book 973 D27rjp; computer number 780719.) This lists some of the record categories in the Public Record Office pertaining to North America, and how to find them and use them in genealogical research.

For further information, try the following Internet sites:

Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts__
www.hmc.gov.uk
Public Record Office www.pro.gov.uk or
www.genuki.org.uk/big/#archives

For further information see:

Anderson, William L. *A Guide to Cherokee Documents in Foreign Archives*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1983. (FHL book 970.3 C424aw; computer number 508005.) This lists material in archives in Canada, France, Great Britain, Mexico, and Spain dealing with Cherokee Indians.

Forbes, Jack D. *Apache, Navaho [sic] and Spaniard*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1960. (FHL book 970.1 F744a; computer number 213221.) This lists records of the Apache and Navajo tribes in archives in Spain and Mexico.

Freeman, John F. *A Guide to Manuscripts Relating to the American Indian in the Library of the American Philosophical Society*. Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 1966. (FHL book 970.1 F877g; computer number 213459.) This lists some records that are in Archives in Mexico, Great Britain, and France.

Shankman, Arnold M. *American Indian Archival Material: A Guide to Holdings in the Southeast*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982. (FHL book 970.1 C421a; computer number 532837.) Some libraries list other Archives, such as the Archives Nationale in Paris and the British Public Records Office, as additional places to look for records.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has a large collection of Native American records. The address is:

Family History Library
35 North West Temple St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84120
Telephone: 801-240-2331

The key to finding a record in the Family History Library's collection is the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog describes each of the library's records and provides the call numbers. The catalog is available on compact disc as part of FamilySearch and on microfiche. It is at the Family History Library and at each family history center.

The Family History Library Catalog on compact disc has five types of searches:

- Locality Search.
- Locality Browse.
- Surname Search.
- Film Number Search.
- Computer Number Search.

The Family History Library Catalog on microfiche is divided into four major searches:

- Locality.
- Subject.
- Surname.
- Author/Title.

Locality Search

The Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog lists records according to the area they cover. Records relating to the entire nation, such as Indian handbooks, are listed under Canada or the United States. Some records are for *province* or *state*. Most records are listed under a specific *county*, *town*, or *parish*.

For example, in the Locality Search look for:

- The *place* where an ancestor lived, such as:

NORTH AMERICA (continent)
CANADA (nation)
QUEBEC (province or state)
QUEBEC, LAPRAIRIE (state or province, county)
QUEBEC, LAPRAIRIE, CAUGHNAWAGA
(state or province, county, town)

- Then the *record type* you want, such as:

NORTH AMERICA - ***NATIVE RACES***
 UNITED STATES - ***MINORITIES***
 OKLAHOMA - ***CENSUS***
 OKLAHOMA, OTTAWA - ***VITAL RECORDS***
 OKLAHOMA, OTTAWA, WYANDOTTE -
SCHOOLS

Almost any Locality Search record type could include Indians, but two types are more closely associated with Indians than most. The “Native Races” record type is always about Indians if used with a locality in the United States or Canada. The “Minorities” record type is usually about other ethnic or religious groups, but occasionally it includes mixed ancestry groups which are partially Indian.

Subject Search

You can also find many Indian records in the Subject Search of the Family History Library Catalog on microfiche. First look under the name of the tribe or ethnic group, such as:

CHEROKEE INDIANS
 CREE INDIANS
 NAVAJO INDIANS

Some ethnic groups listed in the Subject Search have mixed ancestry which is partially Indian, such as:

CREOLES
 MELUNGEONS
 MÉTIS

The subject INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA includes the largest group of records about Indians. There are many subdivisions. A few examples are:

INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA -
 BIOGRAPHY
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - BRITISH
 COLUMBIA
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - CENSUS
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - CLAIMS
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA -
 GENEALOGY
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - HISTORY
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - MIXED
 BLOODS
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA -
 RESERVATIONS - DIRECTORIES
 INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - TEXAS

Surname Search

Look for Indian biographies in the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the name of the individual, such as:

BLACK HAWK, Sauk chief, 1767-1838.
 POCAHONTAS, d. 1617.
 ROSS, JOHN, Cherokee chief, 1790-1866.
 TECUMSEH, Shawnee chief, 1768-1813.

Many Canadian and American families have some Indian ancestors. You can look for family histories listing Indian ancestors in the Surname Search under the family name, such as:

HOUSTON
 RIDDLE
 ROLFE
 SMITH

PART 6. WHAT TOOLS CAN HELP MY SEARCH?

These reference tools can help identify residences, localities, background and historical information, and can help you read the records.

DIRECTORIES

Directories are alphabetical lists of names and addresses. These often list all the adult residents or tradesmen of a city or area. In the twentieth century there are telephone books.

The most helpful directories for genealogical research are city directories of local residents and businesses. City and county directories are similar to present-day telephone books and are useful for locating people. They were often published annually, listing heads of households and employed household members, their occupations, and addresses. These directories could help locate Indians who were integrated into the white culture during the years the directories were published. However, there are few if any directories of this type for the reservations.

In recent years Indian directories have begun to be published. They do not contain lists of individuals. Instead they list places, agencies, tribes, and businesses. Helpful directories include:

Native American Directory: Alaska, Canada, United States. San Carlos, Ariz: National Native American Co-operative, 1982. (FHL book 970.1 N213; fiche 6048680; computer number 328270.) This is a comprehensive directory of Native American events and organizations, reserves, businesses, media, and museums.

Native Americans Information Directory: A Guide to Organizations, Agencies, Institutions, Programs, Publications, Services and other Resources Concerning the Indigenous Peoples of the United States and Canada. Detroit: Gale Research, 1993. (FHL book 970.1 N213nai; computer number 663422.) This directory contains addresses of libraries, museums, tribal communities, national organizations, and agencies dealing with American, Canadian, and Alaskan Indians.

Directories similar to those listed above can be found on Internet sites for Native Americans. The Internet also has directories to businesses that are operated by Indians or that sell Indian products.

The Family History Library has compact discs that incorporate telephone directories for most of the United States and Canada. These directories are not available at family history centers but may be used at the Family History Library. Current telephone directories can also be found on the Internet and may assist in finding living relatives.

GAZETTEERS

A gazetteer is a list and description of places. It can be used to locate the places where your family lived. There are few guides of Indian place names which have been published on the national level. Most gazetteers are compiled on the state or county level and may include Indian place names. One representative gazetteer of the Indian Territory is:

Gannett, Henry. *A Gazetteer of Indian Territory.* Tulsa, Okla: Oklahoma Yesterday Pub., 1980. (FHL book 970.1 E2g; computer number 594419.) This book is arranged alphabetically and includes the names and locations of counties, towns, villages, creeks, rivers, mountains, and valleys.

MAPS

Several types of maps are useful for genealogists. Some give the historical background of the area or show migration routes. Topographical maps show

physical and man-made features such as creeks, hills, trails, and roads. Some maps show additional details such as cemeteries and churches. Plat and land ownership maps and other types of maps are described in the "Maps" section of the *United States (30972)* and *Canada Research Outlines (34545)*.

Some useful map sources include:

Canada. National Geographical Mapping Division. *Canada Indian and Inuit Communities and Languages.* Ottawa [Ontario]: Surveys and Mapping Branch, Dept. of Energy, Mines and Resources Energy, Mines and Resources, Canada, 1980. (FHL map 970.1 E7c; computer number 771906.)

Prucha, Francis Paul. *Atlas of American Indian Affairs.* Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1990. (FHL book 970.1 P95aa; computer number 571493.) This atlas contains maps of the Indian population, land cessions, agencies, wars, military campaigns, and military troops for various years.

United Indian Federation of America. Principal Indian Tribes of North America. Canada: [N.p.], 1962. (FHL map 970.1 Un3p; computer number 331666.)

Yonteff, Abraham P. *Indian Reservation Areas: And Principal Highways Leading Thereto.* Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Indian Affairs. Branch of Industrial Development, 1961. (FHL map 970.1 E7ya; computer number 800831.) This also gives a brief description of each area.

Waldman, Carl. *Atlas of the North American Indian.* New York: Facts on File Publications, 1985. (FHL book 970.1 W146a; computer number 451994.) The history contains a bibliography of sources and includes regional maps showing Indian agencies, tribes and migration routes. An index is included.

The National Archives and the Public Archives of Canada have good collections of maps dealing with Native Races. These maps are not available at the Family History Library, but there are sources detailing the maps available in these collections:

Cartographic Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Special List. National Archives and Records Service, 13. Washington, D.C.: NARS, 1977. (FHL book 970.1 Un3cr 1977; computer number 21661.) This book is alphabetical by the division of the BIA,

then by the name of the state, and within each state by the name of the reservation or agency.

Public Archives of Canada. National Map Collection. *Maps of Indian Reserves and Settlements in the National Map Collection*. Ottawa: National Map Collection, 1980. (FHL book 971 F3c; computer number 206725.) Volume 1 includes maps available for British Columbia. Volume 2 includes the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon Territory, and Northwest Territories. Each volume contains a bibliography and is alphabetical within each province by the name of the Indian agency, reserve, or settlement.

Giese, Paula. "Maps: GIS Windows on Native Lands, Current Places and History." in Native American Indian Resources [Internet site]. N.p.: Paula Giese, 27 May 1997 [cited 15 September 1999]. Available at <http://indy4.fdl.cc.mn.us/~isk/maps/mapmenu.html>. This contains various historical and state maps dealing with Indians.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

There are a number of encyclopedias of Native American races concerning Indian cultures and tribes. They often give background information, where the tribe lived, their culture, history, origins, and religion. These are often catalogued under the topics "Dictionaries" or "Encyclopedias and dictionaries":

Dictionary of Indian Tribes of the Americas. 4 vols. Newport Beach, CA: American Indian Publishers, Inc., 1980. (FHL book 970.1 D561; computer number 503254.) This dictionary lists the tribes and includes information on their location, history, economy, warfare, politics, and ceremonies.

Encyclopedia of Indians of the Americas. 7 vols. St. Clair Shores, Mich.: Scholarly Press., 1974. (FHL book 970.1 En19e; computer number 139609.) Volume 1 is indexed, and the other volumes are arranged alphabetically by subject or tribe.

Hirschfelder, Arlene. *The Encyclopedia of Native American Religions*. New York: Facts on File Pub., 1992. (FHL book 970.1 H616e; computer number 657300.) This encyclopedia is arranged alphabetically by the name of the tribe or the religious ceremony term. It is indexed and includes a bibliography.

Hodge, Frederick Webb. *Handbook of American Indians North of Mexico*. 2 vols. New York: Pageant Books, Inc., 1959. (FHL book 970.1 H662h; film 934828 items 3-4; computer number 29619.) These volumes contain information on Indian tribes, villages, terms, and subjects and are arranged alphabetically.

Johnson, Michael. *The Native Tribes of North America: A Concise Encyclopedia*. New York: MacMillan Publishing, 1992. (FHL book 970.1 J635n; computer number 722286.) This book is arranged by cultural area and then alphabetically by the name of the tribe. It is indexed and includes a bibliography of sources.

Klein, Barry T. *Reference Encyclopedia of the American Indian*. 7th ed. West Nyack, N.Y.: Todd Pub., 1995. (FHL book 970.1 R259e 1995; computer number 735583.) This encyclopedia contains information on tribes and Indian groups, addresses of reservations, tribal councils, government agencies, schools, health services, associations, museums, libraries, colleges, and periodicals dealing with Indians in the United States and Canada. It contains biographies and includes an index and bibliography.

Swanton, John Reed. *The Indian Tribes of North America*. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1974. (FHL book 970.1 S24i 1974; computer number 664959.) This book is arranged alphabetically by tribe or band and details the history, location, population, and names of villages of each tribe.

Waldman, Carl. *Encyclopedia of Native American Tribes*. New York: Facts on File Pub., 1988. (FHL book 970.1 W146e; computer numbers 0662360, 0139609.) This book has a good bibliography for further reading.

Records of the Indians of North America can be found in many languages. Christian church records of baptism, marriage, and burials may be written in English, French, Latin, Portuguese, or Spanish. Canadian and United States government records will usually be written in English or French.

Sources for languages include:

Pilling, James Constantine. *Bibliographies of the Languages of the North American Indians*. 3 vols. Smithsonian Institution. Bureau of American

Ethnology. Bulletin no. 1, 1887-1894. Reprint, New York: AMS Press, 1973. (FHL book 970.1 P645b; computer number 148153.) This bibliography includes the languages of Eskimos, Siouan, Iroquoian, Muskogean, Algonquian, Athapascan, Chinookan, Salishan, and Wakashan.

See also the “*Guide to Manuscripts Relating to the American Indian in the Library of the American Philosophical Society*” mentioned in the “Societies and Periodicals” section of this outline.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

More information about Native American research and records can be found in:

Byers, Paula K.. *Native American Genealogical Sourcebook*. New York, Gale Research, 1995. (FHL book 970.1 B991n; computer number 743430.) This is a comprehensive overview of the records for Native Americans. It is arranged by subject matter and enumerates the sources available for any record search. Each category is written by authors who are specialists in the field of Native American research.

Dennis, Henry C. *The American Indian, 1492-1976: A Chronology and Fact Book* Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana Publications, 1977. (FHL book 973 F25e no. 1 1977; computer number 264357.) This book contains an index to tribes and prominent leaders. It includes lists of Indian wars, museums, and publications.

Kirkham, E. Kay, *Our Native Americans and Their Records of Genealogical Value*. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1980. (FHL book 970.1 K635o; computer number 66583.) This is an extensive list of records available at the Fort Worth, Texas National Archives. It contains a listing of the records at the Archives, which include Dawes Enrollment Records, Land Allotment Records, Tribal Rolls, Census Rolls, and information on the Five Civilized Tribes Agency in Oklahoma.

Parker, Jimmy B. “Sources of American Indian Genealogy.” *Genealogical Journal* 6 (September 1977): 120-25. (FHL book 973 D25gj v.6; computer number 21185.) Describes how to find tribes and a brief summary of available record types.

Spicer, Edward H. *Cycles of Conquest: The Impact of Spain, Mexico, and the United States on the Indians*

of the Southwest, 1533-1960. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1962. (FHL book 970.1 Sp41c; computer number 215169.) This history details the influence of the governments of Spain, Mexico, and the United States on the Indians of the southwest. It is unindexed.

Witcher, Curt B. and George J. Nixon. “Tracking Native American Family History.” Chap. 14 in *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997. (FHL book 973 D27ts; computer number 786944.) One of the best guidebooks about histories, individuals, Indian removals, Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, Indian census rolls, and government offices. Includes a list of tribes, their agencies, and related National Archives microfilm numbers.

The Native North American Almanac: A Reference Work on Native North Americans in the United States and Canada. Detroit: Gale Research, 1994. (FHL book 970.1 N213c; computer number 729637.) This almanac contains information on the history, cultures, languages, laws, religion, education, arts, and health services of Native Americans in North America.

GLOSSARY

Alienated Lands: condemned and sold lands.

Annuity: (1851-1954) Payments made by government to fulfill provisions of treaties and agreements made between the Indians and the Government. Sum of goods or money payable annually (yearly) or at other intervals. A right to receive fixed, periodic payment, either for life or a term of years--payments represent a partial return of capital and return (interest) as the capital investment.

During the early years, payments were made to the chiefs or headmen of the tribes, who distributed the payment as they saw fit. Later, payments were made to individual family heads. Censuses were taken as a basis for identifying families entitled to the annuity payments.

Annuity Payrolls (1841-1949): As a result of some of the treaties, the United States government guaranteed certain amounts of money or goods to be paid in regular payments annually or quarterly, usually to the heads of each family.

Beef Issues: An annuity of beef.

Black Dutch: was a term used by many Native-Americans, especially Melungeons in the Southern U.S. This term was used to cover native heritage during times of prejudice.

Blood Quantum: degree of Indian blood.

Bread Money: On 3 December 1879, the Cherokee National Council authorized a payment of \$16.65 for the purchase of “bread stuffs” based on a census authorized on the same day.

CDIB Card: Certified Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB). The Federal Government and its officers can issue certificates of Indian blood.

Court of Claims: When an Indian sued the Government in the U.S. Court of Claims; payment was given to the descendants who had to prove their relationship to the person.

Depredations or Spoliation Claims: (1838-1839) BIA records containing affidavits of claimants and witnesses in support of losses suffered by the Indians.

Final Roll: list the individual who received approval for allotment . Finding an ancestor on these rolls is generally considered by the BIA to be proof of Indian ancestry. These records are kept by the agency office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Five Civilized Tribes: Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, and Seminole. These tribes were removed to the Indian Territory (Eastern Oklahoma) starting in 1820.

Grass Money: a per capita payment to Cherokees (\$15.50) made in 1883 arising from leased lands in the Cherokee Outlet (in the Indian Territory). In 1883 a census was required for the payment. In 1886 another “grass” payment was made with a census roll.

Indian: a Native American. Any person of Indian blood who is on the tribal rolls of an Indian agency, a member of the tribe, usually 1/4 blood. (Definition from the Census Bureau) “A person having Indian blood to such a degree as to be recognized in his community as an Indian.”

Indian Claims: Indians received money if they had proved that they were descendants of Indians living at the time a tribe was wronged.

Indian Trust and Accounting Division (ITAD): an agency of the federal government that may request the transfer of records from one Federal Archive Record Center to another.

Individual History Card: to assist in determining relationships for allotments and Heirship for estates.

Individual Money Ledgers (IIM): allotment ledger sheets.

Nonpaper Indians: are those who did not conform to the government ruling of being listed on all the forms that they had for keeping track of the Indians and their movements. To find those who are not listed on such forms you will need to look in the following types of records: church records, agency records, and census records. If they are not listed on those types of records then you will need to look on the following types: allotment records, heirship records, family registers, enrollment records. These records will contain listings of all the members of the family, such as brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, and various other relatives to prove that the person receiving the allotment or enrolling has Indian blood lines.

Nonreservation Indian: an Indian living off a federal reservation.

Office of Indian Trade: Established in 1806 with capital to provide goods to Indians for manufacturing and resale of goods. This agency continued until the year 1822.

Paper Indians: Indians affiliated with a tribe and who stayed on the reservation. Those who lived under government supervision for whom records were created and kept. Those who accepted reservation, treaty, or annuities coming from the federal government.

Payrolls: A list of those entitled to pay and amounts due to each.

Pony Payments: BIA entry 559-560--Indians received money for ponies seized by the military in 1876.

Records of Employees (1833-1930): Contain names, age, sex, marital status, birthplace, and tribal affiliation. Many agencies hired Native American policeman, farmers, and those who could repair equipment to serve at the agency. Employment records can be found at the National Archives field branches and the Indian agencies.

Scout Records: Record Group 94 for Indian Scouts who served in the regular army, 1866-1914.

Six Nations: A confederacy of Eastern North Native American Tribes. League of Iroquois: Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Seneca, Onondaga, and Tuscarora.

Spoilation Claims: (1838-1839) a BIA record of affidavits of claimants and witnesses in support of losses by spoilation or damages suffered by Indians arranged by claim number in chronological order.

Unrecognized Tribes: Tribes not recognized by the United States Federal Government.

Winter Count: A record kept by the medicine man or tribal leader designated to keep a history of the happenings of the tribe during that year. Some of the winter counts go back to the 1780s.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

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Printed in the USA
English approval: 5/02.

[NOTES]

THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

