American Indian Histories and Cultures

Sources from the Edward E. Ayer Collection at the Newberry Library, Chicago

“Few, if any, archives of indigenous history and culture have the breadth, the depth, and the diversity that this collection offers.”

David Willis, University of Wisconsin

With several complementary themes, American Indian Histories and Cultures is the ideal companion to The American West.

Thematic Areas:
- Native American
- Business, Industry and Exploration
- Slavery and the Confederacy
- Migration and the Gold Rush
- The Mormon Exodus
- Homesteaders, Overland Travel and Early Settlement
- Cattle Ranchers
- The Railroads, Transportation and Urban History
- Outlaws, Vigilantes and the Law
- Agricultural Development and the Environment
- The Imagined West: Wild West Shows and Fiction

Key Features:
- Extensive chronology dating from the early 16th- to the mid-20th centuries
- Specially-commissioned data maps presenting information on: Economic, Physical Environment, Political, Urban/Tourism, Native American
- Individual gallery pages exhibiting full-size digital images
- Over 130 specially created full-color historical maps
- Links to a selection of websites relating to American Indian History and Cultures
- All documents are in digital format

Material Includes:
- Bismarck Tribune containing the first complete account of the Battle of the Little Big Horn
- Original manuscript journal of John Audubon
- Manuscript correspondence from both General Custer and William (Buffalo Bill) Cody
- Original photographic portrait of Kit Carson
- Memorial letter in which the writer proposes a future series of states west of the Mississippi for Indian tribes
- History of the expedition under the command of captains Lewis and Clark

“The American West remains the most imagined region of the United States. Its history, for many, embodies the nation.”

Ned Blackhawk, Professor of History & American Studies, Yale University

Cross-searching!
Use advanced searching or choose from lists of popular searches within each collection and then easily cross-search them all using our integrated search tool.

“Few, if any, archives of indigenous history and culture have the breadth, the depth, and the diversity that this collection offers.”

David Willis, University of Wisconsin

American Indian Histories and Cultures
Sources from the Edward E. Ayer Collection at the Newberry Library, Chicago