A. A. Hyde Collection of William S. Soule Photographs

Collection Summary

Title: A. A. Hyde Collection of William S. Soule Photographs
Call Number: MS 95-11
Size: 0.25 linear feet
Acquisition: Donated by Dr. John Hyde
Processed by: JEO, 1-17-1995; JEF, 12-3-1998; MN, 11-2012
Restrictions: None
Notes: None

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Content Note

Twenty-one photographs of southern Plains Indians and associated camps constitute this collection. Subjects include members of the Wichita, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Pawnee, Arapaho, and Comanche tribes. Frontier photographer William S. Soule likely posed his subjects between 1869 and 1874 in Indian Territory, now part of Oklahoma. This collection of photographs was owned by A. A. Hyde of Wichita, a Wichita businessman, philanthropist and inventor of the world-renowned ointment, Mentholatum.

Biography

William S. "Will" Soule made his way west in 1867. At age 29, he was a wounded Civil War veteran looking for a way to improve his health. Upon his arrival at Fort Dodge in Kansas, he clerked in trader John E. Tappin's post store.

When Soule left for the west, he brought along equipment for landscape and portrait photography. He was acquainted with photography through several means: his employment, after his injury, with a
photographic gallery in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; and his brother, John P. Soule, who established the Soule Photographic Company in Boston before the Civil War.

Soule's photograph of a scalping victim taken near Fort Dodge became his first published work. An engraving was made from his photograph, and it appeared in the January 16, 1869 issue of Harper's Weekly. To view this photograph (not part of WSU Special Collections' holdings), click here.

Soule left Fort Dodge for Camp Supply, Indian Territory, in the spring of 1869, and arrived in Fort Sill, Indian Territory, in late 1869 or early 1870. Fort Sill was a military headquarters and an agency for several tribes, including the Kiowa, Wichita, and Comanche. Belous and Weinstein, in their book, Will Soule: Indian Photographer at Fort Sill, Oklahoma 1869-1874 (1969), purport that most of Soule's Indian portraits were taken at or near Fort Sill, and they date them between 1870 and 1874.

Soule returned to Boston in late 1874 or early 1875, and partnered with W. D. Everett in the photographic business. His brother John P. Soule secured copyrights for many of the Indian portraits through the Library of Congress. Soule died in 1908.

According to Belous and Weinstein in their book, Will Soule: Indian Photographer at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, 1869-1874, 166 paper prints and 69 glass plate negatives have survived. Other repositories with various collections of Will Soule's work include the Huntington Library, the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, the Denver Public Library, and the Bureau of American Ethnology through the Fort Sill Artillery and Missile Center Museum.

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**Box and Folder Listing**

| Box 1 | Photo 1 | Wichita Camp, Sha-wa-sers Home. Grass-thatched lodges of Wichita Indians. |
| Box 1 | Photo 2 | Mon-no-na. Cheyenne. Indian women reclining on a couch. |
| Box 1 | Photo 3 | Apache Camp. Tepee and Indian family -- possibly Santana's drought. |
| Box 1 | Photo 4 | Tom-e-ath-to and Squaw. Kiowas. Tom-e-ath-to was also known as Trailing the Enemy and Eonah-pah. Writing below photograph caption: Lone Wolf's daughter. |
| Box 1 | Photo 5 | Nokoney. Horseback's Son. Writing below photograph caption: Killed, while on a raid in Texas. |
| Box 1 | Photo 6 | Pawnee “Head-Men.” Five older Indians standing in a row. |
| Box 1 | Photo 7 | Pawnee Indians indentified as "Head-Men," posing on building steps. Subjects are numbered but no further identification accompanies image. |
| Box 1 | Photo 8 | Nokoney Camp. Tepee encampment. |
| Box 1 | Photo 9 | Kiowa Camp. Tepee encampment. |
| Box 1 | Photo 10 | Ba-e-tha and Hack-e-a. Arapahoes. The sisters were also known by names Zah-e-cha and Har-ke-i. |
Box 1 Photo 11 Comanches. Woman at left seated on buffalo robe identified as Cha-wa-ke (Looking For Something Good).


Box 1 Photo 13 Sa-tank. Kiowa Chief. Killed at Fort Sill. Ind. Tery. June 1871. Also known as Sitting Bear and Set-angya, he was a signer of the Medicine Lodge Treaty and was killed on his way to Texas to stand trial for the Warren Wagon Train Massacre.

Box 1 Photo 14 To-u-wa. Comanche Chief. He was also known by the names Tosh-a-wah, Tosawi and Silver Brooch. Writing below photo caption: Tosh-a-wa.

Box 1 Photo 15 Shib-o-nes-ta. Crooked Left Arm. Arapahoe. Also known by name Shib-o-nester.

Box 1 Photo 16 Pawnee "Head Man." Photograph of older Pawnee man holding feathers.

Box 1 Photo 17 To-an-key. Lone Wolf's Son. Kiowa. Also known by names Sitting-in-the-Saddle, Tau-ankia and Tibone. Writing below photograph caption: Killed in Mexico 1874.

Box 1 Photo 18 Quirl-par-ko. Lone Wolf. Kiowa Chief. Written below photo caption: Prisoner in Fla. 3 yrs. Died after release.

Box 1 Photo 19 Tonneonco’s Lodge

Box 1 Photo 20 Comanche Camp

Box 1 Photo 21 Sit-tim-gear. Stumbling Bear. Kiowa Chief.