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# GUIDE TO RECORDS RELATING TO NATIVE AMERICANS

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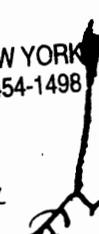
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The University of the State of New York  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
Office of Cultural Education  
State Archives and Records Administration  
Albany, New York 12230  
1988

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## INTRODUCTION

Among the innovations introduced to Native Americans by Europeans coming to New York were horses, iron, firearms,--and governmental recordation. The interaction of Native American culture with colonial and state government has been documented from the arrival of Europeans to the present time. The nature, quality, and extent of that recordation varies considerably, but the colonial and State government records of New York provide important information on Native American populations.

This finding aid describes selected State Archives records which are most likely to contain information useful for the study of Native American issues and history. Some of the records were created as a result of State government programs relating exclusively to Native Americans. Most notable among these are records of the Thomas Indian School, 1855-1961; Indian Census and Annuity Rolls, 1881-1950; and an 1845 Population Census of Indian Reservations. Most of the records described, however, are more general in subject scope, containing only sections or files on Native Americans or on programs important to Native Americans.

The finding aid is organized into five sections as follows: 1) Colonial and Early Statehood Records; 2) Thomas Indian School Records; 3) Population Census Records; 4) State Laws; and 5) Recent Public Policy Records. Each section has a brief introduction explaining the general scope of the records and their relevance to Native American history. Records are then described at the record "series" level. A "series" is an archival term that refers to records filed together by a creating agency to control information about a particular function or activity. Each series entry provides the identification number, title, inclusive dates, quantity in terms of cubic feet, arrangement, availability of indexes, and a summary description of the information contained in the records. Some records have been microfilmed; researchers are required to use microfilm unless special permission is given by the Archives to use fragile original records. Some of the records contain personally identifying information that is confidential by statute; research access is restricted to protect personal privacy rights. Information on conditions for use of these confidential records is available from the State Archives.

The New York State Archives identifies, preserves, and makes available State government records with enduring value for historical or other research. The Archives holds over 40,000 cubic feet of records ranging from the Dutch colonial period to the current gubernatorial administration. Its holdings document the origin and development of government policies, show the administration and impact of government programs, and contain information on New York communities, institutions, groups, and individuals.

To further assist researchers, the Archives distributes an informational brochure summarizing the programs, services, and procedures for use of records in the State Archives; has published a summary Guide to Records in the New York State Archives; issues a periodic newsletter, For the Record; loans copies of a videotape, A Usable Past, which provides an introduction to the Archives; and provides tours for groups that make arrangements in advance. A complete list of Archives publications and instructions on how to order copies is available from the Archives. For further information on these items, or on the records listed in this finding aid, contact:

Research Services Unit  
New York State Archives and Records Administration  
Cultural Education Center  
Albany, New York 12230  
(518) 474-8955

## COLONIAL AND EARLY STATEHOOD RECORDS

### Colonial Records

The records described below contain important information about British colonial policies toward the Native Americans and their response to the British. The records were maintained by the Colonial Secretary and transferred to the new Secretary of State in 1783. In the nineteenth century, the records were deposited in the State Library, which was then housed in the State Capitol building. Most of the records were damaged in the 1911 State Capitol fire and, in fact, many related records were lost in that fire. The extant records, now housed in the Archives, have received preservation treatment and have been microfilmed. Researchers must use the microfilm copies, unless special permission is given by the Archives to use the fragile original records.

No entries are included for Dutch colonial records, even though these contain much information about the early settlers' contact with the Native Americans. Staff of the New York State Library's New Netherland Project are translating and publishing the Dutch colonial records in the Archives. Interested researchers should contact the State Archives for up-to-date information about the availability of published translations.

A1895. Council Minutes, 1668-1783.  
19 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological.

These are bound minutes of the executive and legislative sessions of the Council of the Colony of New York. The Council shared executive and legislative powers with the Governor. The minutes include laws, orders, and resolutions concerning land settlement, trade, and other relations with Native Americans.

Some of the minutes, excluding legislative sessions from 1686-1691 and 1775-1783 and executive sessions from 1674-1783, have been published. Minutes of legislative sessions are published in Journal of the Legislative Council of the Colony of New York. Began the 9th Day of April, 1691, and ended the 3rd Day of April, 1775 (Albany, 1861), 2 volumes. Executive Council minutes from 1668-1673 are published in Minutes of the Executive Council of the Province of New York, (Albany, 1910). The executive minutes are abstracted (but not fully reproduced) in "Calendar of Council Minutes, 1668-1783", New York State Library Bulletin 58, (April 1901).

Available on microfilm.

A1894. Council Papers, 1664-1781.  
39 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological, but with separate groups of standard-size and oversize records.

This series consists of reports, correspondence, petitions, and other documents received and considered by the Council as the basis for decisions recorded in the Council Minutes. There are also copies of orders and warrants issued by the Council and by the Governor. Of particular interest for Native American studies are many documents relating to land settlement, defense against the French and their Native American allies, and trade. Included in this series are minutes and reports of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs concerning discussions with the Native Americans allied with the British.

In the early nineteenth century, the Council Papers were arranged in chronological order by the Secretary of State and bound with some other colonial records as part of a set titled "N.Y. Colonial Manuscripts." All of the documents in this set were abstracted in E.B. O'Callaghan's Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State (Albany, 1866). Because approximately one-fourth of the Council Papers were destroyed in the 1911 Capitol fire, this Calendar is the only surviving record of some of the documents. Seventeen of the surviving volumes are so seriously damaged that they cannot be used without special permission.

Available on microfilm.

A3169. Council General Entries, 1665-1682 (with gaps).  
1.3 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological.

General entries were official recorded copies of outgoing correspondence and other written documentation of the decisions of the Governor and Council. Included are copies of letters granting permission for the purchase of Native American lands and copies of regulations regarding such topics as purchase of Native American lands and the sale of liquor to Native Americans.

Indexing: alphabetical name and subject indexes.

A1890. Bills Placed Before The Provincial Legislature Which Failed to Become Law, 1691-1770.  
.3 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological.

These bills were passed by the elected General Assembly, but not approved by the appointed Council. Included are bills concerning such topics as negotiations with Native Americans and authorization for individuals to purchase land from Native Americans.

Available on microfilm.

A1885. Governor's Warrants of Survey and Other Miscellaneous Records, 1721-1776.  
1 cubic foot.

Arrangement: chronological

This series consists of documents that were bound into five volumes and titled "Miscellaneous Records" by the Secretary of State's Office in 1819. Most of the documents are warrants, or orders, from the Governor to the Surveyor General to carry out land surveys. The first volume, dating from 1721 to 1732, also contains several deeds to land sold by Native Americans to European settlers.

A1889. Minutes of Court of Commissioners Appointed to Examine the Controversy Between Connecticut and the Mohegan Indians, 1743.  
.5 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological

The King appointed members of the Councils of New York and New Jersey to investigate and settle a land dispute between Connecticut and the Mohegans. Records of the Court of Commissioners, which sat from May 4 to October 26, 1743 at Greenwich, Connecticut, include:

- summaries of each party's arguments and of the history of the dispute
- copies of relevant records such as deeds, acts of the Connecticut General Assembly, and testimony from previous inquiries

- summary lists of documents produced as evidence and read by the Court
- opinions of individual commissioners

The court concluded by ruling in favor of Connecticut and ordered that the book of proceedings be placed with the Secretary of New York.

Available on microfilm.

### Early State Legislative Records

In the 1830s, the State Assembly directed the Secretary of State to select from among all the older records of the Assembly those of special importance and to have them bound into volumes for preservation and future use. Among the selected records were forty-five volumes which became known as the "Assembly Papers." The "Assembly Papers" were stored in the State Library and many were damaged or destroyed in the 1911 State Capitol fire. The surviving records were disbound after the fire and are now preserved in the State Archives. Among the extant "Assembly Papers" are three record series containing information relating to Native Americans.

A1818. **Correspondence and Legislative Action Files, 1794-1827.**  
1.3 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological.

This series contains copies of proposed legislation and legislative resolutions; reports, petitions, and other documents forwarded to the Legislature from the Governor; and incoming and outgoing correspondence of legislators with state officials, officials of other states, federal officials, and prominent individuals. Among the many subjects of these files are Native American relations, especially treaties between the State and the Indian nations, appointments of Indian agents, and reports of negotiations.

Indexing: alphabetical name and subject indexes.

Available on microfilm.

A1827. Correspondence, Petitions, and Reports on Defense of the Frontier, the Onondaga Salt Springs, and Other Subjects, 1791-1830.

.6 cubic feet.

Arrangement: by subject, then roughly chronological.

This series consists of correspondence, petitions, and reports relating to five major subjects, one of which is defense of the state's northern and western frontiers in 1794. Among the frontier defense records are correspondence from frontier settlers requesting arms for protection against the British and the Six Nation Indians, correspondence from British military officers protesting American settlement on Native American lands, and related documents concerning the distribution of arms and the construction of fortifications.

Indexing: alphabetical name and subject index.

Available on microfilm.

A1823. Petitions, Correspondence, and Reports Relating to Indians, 1783-1831.

.6 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological

This series consists of petitions, reports and correspondence relating to land transactions and other agreements with Native Americans. The petitions were addressed to the Legislature and referred to the Assembly, which in turn referred them to various committees, to the Surveyor General or to the Comptroller. Included in the series are the following:

- petitions from Native Americans requesting permission to convey land or requesting confirmation of title to land
- petitions or correspondence from claimants to land purchased from Native Americans
- petitions to ban the sale of liquor to Native Americans or to repeal bans
- reports on legal issues involved in claims to Native American lands
- reports on discussions and negotiations between Native Americans and state or federal officials

- reports by the Surveyor General and Comptroller concerning land petitions

Indexing: alphabetical by name of Indian nation or name of petitioner.

Available on microfilm.

### Early Gubernatorial Records

The State Archives holds records of two of New York's first four governors: George Clinton (1777-1795 and 1801-1804), and Daniel D. Tompkins (1807-1817). These records include many documents concerning Native American affairs, such as land sales, treaties, and alliances during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

A0142. Gubernatorial and Personal Records of George Clinton, 1725-1854,  
21.3 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological.

Clinton was New York's first governor and later Vice-President under Jefferson. The series includes official gubernatorial records and personal papers of Clinton. Originally bound into 48 volumes, the records suffered extensive damage, including some loss, in the 1911 Capitol fire and were disbound. The Archives has a detailed unpublished finding aid describing the surviving records. Prior to the fire, selected portions of the records were published in the ten-volume Public Papers of George Clinton (Albany: 1899-1914). Researchers using the Clinton Papers should first consult the published papers, which includes an index, and then review the finding aid to use the original records.

Indexing: alphabetical name and subject indexes to The Public Papers of George Clinton.

A3189. Letterbook of Official Correspondence and Proclamations, 1787-1795 and 1802-1804.  
1 volume.

Arrangement: chronological by year, month and day.

This letterbook contains 132 pages of Clinton's official correspondence and proclamations. The correspondence consists of

final transcripts of the official documents fully signed. Most are in the handwriting of, and signed by, Governor Clinton; a few are in the handwriting of DeWitt Clinton, his nephew and secretary from 1790 to 1795. Several broadsides are also included. There are a number of documents that concern Indian affairs, such as treaty negotiations, land sales, and the proceedings of administrative bodies such as the Commissioners of Indian Affairs and the Board of Commissioners on Indian Treaties. An unpublished finding aid is available.

Restrictions: Due to special storage conditions one-week advance notification is required for use of this volume.

A0084. Gubernatorial and Personal Records of Daniel D. Tompkins, 1792-1823.  
15.6 cubic feet.

Arrangement: unarranged.

Tompkins served as Governor of New York from 1807-1817. During the War of 1812, Tompkins was commander-in-chief of the New York militia as well as governor. From 1817 to 1825, he served as Vice-President of the United States and, in 1821, he presided over the State Constitutional Convention.

These records included incoming and outgoing correspondence, speeches, military orders and accounts. About one-half of the fifteen bound volumes were published by the Office of the State Historian as The Public Papers of Daniel D. Tompkins, 1807-1817 (Albany, 1898-1902, 3 vols.) An index to these papers is included in volume 3. The fifteen volumes and approximately three-fourths of the 4,000 loose papers were destroyed in the 1911 Capitol fire. The remaining documents are disorganized and often extremely fragile due to damage from the fire. Researchers should contact the Archives in advance to determine the research availability of the Tompkins papers. Based on the contents of the published papers, it is likely that many of the extant original Tompkins documents relate to Native American lands, treaties, trade, and military matters.

Indexing: alphabetical index to The Published Papers of Daniel Tompkins.

### Land Records

The State Archives holds many series of land records which often include documents relating to the conveyance of Native American lands. Described below are selected series of land records most likely to contain information useful for Native American studies.

A0272. Applications For Land Grants, 1643-1803.  
63 volumes.

Arrangement: roughly chronological by date of document, but with many exceptions.

This series consists of applications for grants of land by letters patent from New York Colony and State. Along with the applications are related reports, surveys, maps, warrants for surveying lands and drafting of letters patent, objections to title (caveats), and letters.

Volumes 1 through 36 contain colonial-era applications; volumes 37 through 63 are from the early statehood era. Most of the direct references to Native American land conveyances are found in the colonial records. The latter records include a few petitions by Native Americans for land grants for Revolutionary War service.

Most colonial documents concern original grants of unappropriated lands made by the Governor with approval of his Council. Several different types of documents relate to a land grant, as follows:

- 1) The "petition for a license" to purchase land from Native Americans, required by the Duke's Laws of 1665, specifies the acreage and general location of the tract and usually bears a note of approval by the Council committee to which the petition was referred.
- 2) The "license" to purchase land from the Native Americans, signed by the Governor and the Secretary. This document is found infrequently in this series.
- 3) "Indian deeds" take the form of a "bargain and sale" conveyance. These deeds are sometimes marked with the totems of the Native Americans conveying the land. There are few such original deeds in the present series; most are recorded in series A0453, Deeds (see page 10).

- 4) The "warrant of survey" is the Governor's order to the Surveyor General to survey a stated quantity of land in a given location for a petitioner. It is signed by the Governor.
- 5) The "return of survey" gives the metes and bounds and acreage of the tract surveyed, the date of the warrant of survey, and the date of the return. It is signed by the Surveyor General. Occasionally it is accompanied by a map. Surveys are often lacking, especially before 1700.
- 6) The "petition to the Governor for a land grant by letters patent" states the location and acreage of the tract. It is usually signed by the petitioner. Following or accompanying the petition is the report of a Council committee approving the grant. On the back of the petition are found the name of the petitioner, the acreage to be granted, and the date of referral to committee.
- 7) The "warrant to prepare letters patent" is an order from the Governor to the Attorney General or the Solicitor General to prepare a draft of a patent.

The colonial records also contain other types of documents including caveats, or formal objections to granting of letters patent because of a conflicting title (usually because of an overlapping survey under a prior grant); petitions for grants of land under water (often including the right to erect a wharf or pier); descriptions of town boundaries; petitions for licenses to operate ferries; and assorted notices, affidavits, and letters related to petitions for land grants.

The series as presently constituted was created under the direction of the Secretary of State in 1819. It is an amalgam of documents taken from two large and several small series that existed in the Secretary's Office at that time.

Indexing: a published Calendar of N.Y. Colonial Manuscripts Indorsed Land Papers...1643-1803 (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1864) includes an index to personal names and to land tract or geographical location names.

A0448. Indian Deeds and Treaties, 1748-1847.  
3 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological.

This series consists of official copies of deeds conveying Native American lands to the State or to private individuals, and treaties and agreements extinguishing Native American land titles and reserving certain lands for the Indian nations. Only fragments of documents remain for the period 1766-1811, due to damage caused by the 1911 State Capitol fire. One volume contains the published legislative document, Proceedings of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, Appointed by Law for the Extinguishment of Indian Titles. (Albany: 1859.)

These records were originally filed with the Secretary of State.

Indexing: by name of tribal group.

A0453. Deeds, 1640-1884.  
45 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological

This series is the official file of deeds recorded by the Colonial Secretary and the Secretary of State. Many deeds of Native American lands are included, particularly among the colonial era records. The deed usually contains the names of grantor and grantee, a description of the property, the date, and any conditions of conveyance.

Indexing: by name of grantee and grantor.

A0451. Original Releases to the State, 1782-1929.  
15 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological.

This is an official file, recorded by the Secretary of State, of transfers of land title from private owners to the State. Included are many deeds of land to the State for property that was formerly part of Indian reservations. Each release contains the name of the grantor, a description of the property, the date, and sometimes a map of the property.

Indexing: most volumes contain an alphabetical name index.

### THOMAS INDIAN SCHOOL RECORDS

The Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children was incorporated in 1855 as a private institution receiving State aid. The asylum was located within the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation in Erie County and was charged to receive destitute and orphaned children from all Indian reservations in the State. It was named for Philip E. Thomas, a benefactor of New York's Native Americans and early financial backer of the asylum.

In 1875 ownership of the asylum was transferred to the State and it was made subject to the supervision and control of the State Board of Charities. As a State institution, its purpose was to furnish resident Native American children with "care, moral training and education, and instruction in husbandry and the arts of civilization." To reflect its emphasis on education the asylum's name was changed in 1905 to Thomas Indian School. The school first offered Regents Examinations through grade 6 in 1898, and by 1905 eight grades were available. In 1930, with the addition of one more grade, the school was classified a junior high school. The school was placed under the supervision of Department of Charities in 1927. The Department of Charities was renamed Department of Social Welfare in 1929. Orphaned, destitute, or neglected Native American children were usually referred to the school from one of these sources: a parent or guardian unable to care for the child; a county welfare agency seeking to place a child under foster care; or the Children's Court. Final determinations on admissions were made by the superintendent. In 1942, a social worker was assigned to the school to counsel the residents and to advise the superintendent. The State closed the Thomas Indian School in 1957.

**B0645. Department of Social Welfare. Minutes of Boards of Visitors and Monthly Reports of Institutions, 1936-1961.**  
13 cubic feet.

Arrangement: by institution, then chronological by year and month.

This series contains copies of meeting minutes of boards of visitors and monthly reports of the superintendents of State institutions administered by the Department of Social Welfare (predecessor to the Department of Social Services.) About one-tenth of the material in this series are meeting minutes and reports for the Thomas Indian School.

The minutes of meetings of boards of visitors (usually monthly) record mostly routine activities of the boards (e.g. acceptance of reports of institutions) and report summary

statistics of institutional population or farm production. Occasionally they contain information on other topics discussed by a board, such as legislative revision, general practices or programs at an institution, or formal approval or disapproval of admission applications.

Monthly reports of a superintendent to a board of visitors cover a variety of topics. A general report by a superintendent usually summarizes program activities and progress, lists official visitors to the institution, describes changes in physical facilities, and provides statistical information on population changes.

These copies of minutes and reports were sent by the boards of visitors to the Department of Social Welfare.

**B0540. Correspondence and Subject Files Relating to the Founding of the School, 1855-1951.**

.5 cubic feet.

Arrangement: by major subject.

Correspondence, deeds, court records, and other miscellaneous items document the founding and acquisition of land for the asylum. Correspondence includes several letters from Philip E. Thomas, primary financial backer for whom the Asylum was named, to E.M. Pettit, the asylum's treasurer. Other correspondence concerns land acquisition. Several deeds and leases document the expansion of the asylum during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The court records relate to the settlement in 1893 of the Robert Kennedy estate by the Peacemakers Court on the Cattaraugus Reservation. Among the miscellaneous items are:

- list of items placed in the cornerstone of the first building (1855)
- early account of the founding of the asylum
- list of financial contributors through September 1855
- description of the first children at the asylum
- portrait of Philip E. Thomas

**B0640. School Administrative Correspondence and Subject Files, 1899-1958.**

2 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by subject or name of institution.

Correspondence, reports, meeting minutes, memoranda, a few news clippings and photographs concern the general administration

of the school. Correspondence is generally with officials at other schools having Indian education programs (e.g., U.S. Indian School, Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Hampton Institute, Virginia; Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas), with officials at or residents of New York Indian reservations, and with county welfare agency officials. Most of the correspondence concerns the enrollment of children at the school and the transfer of Thomas Indian School graduates to institutions for continuing education.

Other subjects or types of records include the following:

- Governor's Committee on the Utilization of the Thomas Indian School (1956-1958)
- school history
- list of all children at the school, 1855-1955
- financial aid for school graduates
- reports of Regents Examinations, listing student examination scores (1906-1942)
- logs of visitors to the school (1943-1957)

Restrictions: Access to selected files less than 75 years old is restricted to protect personal privacy.

B0599. Superintendent's Daily Diaries, 1908-1944.  
1 cubic foot (35 volumes).

Arrangement: chronological by year.

These diaries provide a summary record of activities of the school staff and students. Brief daily entries mention the following:

- weather conditions
- farm work in progress
- maintenance and repair work in progress
- entertainment provided to children (e.g. movies, visits to fairs)
- team sporting events
- incidents with specific children, such as death, illness, injury, failure to return from vacation
- religious activities
- correspondence sent by superintendent
- trips by superintendent and staff

B0595. Student Case Files, ca. 1892-1957.  
28 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by name of student.

A case file for each student contains information on admission, discharge, medical and family history, educational progress, and occasionally on post-release activities of former students. Case files vary considerably in their contents and may contain any or all of the following:

- summary admission form giving child's name, reservation, tribe, parents' or guardians' names, age or birthdate, and dates entered and discharged from school
- application for enrollment, including brief family and medical history
- admission form and case summary (for child enrolled on recommendation of a local welfare agency)
- medical records (only for selected cases dating from the 1930's and later), including treatments, vaccinations, and occasionally psychiatric evaluations.
- educational records such as report cards, record of Regents examinations passed, and other test results
- correspondence between the superintendent or a social worker and the following: parent or guardian concerning enrollment, vacations, and discharge; officials of welfare agencies concerning enrollment, discharge, or verification of child's age; State Probation Department officials concerning past history of former students; Children's Court officials concerning placement of children in the school; and former students. Some files contain correspondence with former students for many years after their discharge.

Restrictions: access to records less than 75 years old is restricted to protect personal privacy.

A1910. Student Commitment Contracts, 1881-1896.  
1 volume.

Arrangement: chronological by date of contract.

Volume contains signed contracts ("agreements") between a student's parent or guardian and the asylum superintendent providing that the child be placed in the asylum. Each agreement contains:

- student's name, sex, Indian nation, age, and destitute or orphan status
- date of the agreement
- name and address of parent or guardian

Many agreements are annotated with the date of discharge or death of the student.

Indexing: alphabetical name index by first letter of student's last name.

B0644. Statistical and Financial Reports, 1881-1893.  
1 volume.

Arrangement: chronological by report date.

This volume contains manuscript copies of annual reports to the Board of Charities, 1881-1893; quarterly reports to the state comptroller, 1883-1893; a report to the State Assembly, 1890; and a "Report to Government", 1891. The reports to the Board of Charities summarize receipts, expenditures, and student ("inmate") population changes. The reports to the comptroller list receipts and expenditures by major category. The report to the Assembly contains narrative statements or statistics on many aspects of the asylum's operation and population, including:

- number of students
- length of residence
- disposition of students
- deaths among students
- age, nativity, and education of teachers
- textbooks used
- receipts and expenditures

The report to government gives general statistical information on teachers, employees, students, crops and livestock produced, and a list of subjects taught.

B0596. **Treasurer's Monthly Reports, 1901-1944.**  
6 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological by year and month.

Monthly reports to the state comptroller detail the receipts and expenses of the school. Although the format of reports changed slightly over time, each generally contains the following statements and schedules:

- general fund receipts and disbursements summary
- bank statement and certificate of indebtedness
- statement of products (fruit, vegetables, meat) produced at the school
- abstract of vouchers
- itemized lists of expenses

B0642. **Journal Accounts, 1879-1914.**  
14 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological by date of transaction.

These volumes contain a detailed record of financial transactions at the school. Entries generally describe the transaction (items purchased, quantity, unit cost, cash receipts), name of the merchant or disburser of funds, total amount of transaction, and date.

Indexing: separate typed name index to accounts for Volume 11 only.

B0643. **Ledger Accounts, 1881-1944.**  
9 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological by varying span of years; accounts within volumes are in no particular order.

These volumes contain a final record of financial transactions of the school by controlling accounts (e.g. clothing, fuel, freight and express, medicine, provisions, wages) and individual accounts (e.g. individual merchants and suppliers). Entries generally give the date, amount of transaction, and nature (e.g. "services", "goods," "labor," "cash," or name of merchandise) of the transaction. Most entries include a page reference to the corresponding entry in the journal accounts (series B0642). All volumes contain

controlling accounts; individual accounts exist only for the periods 1894-1896 and 1898-1920.

Indexing: volumes 1-6 have individual alphabetical indexes to account names; no indexes for volumes 7-9.

B0597. **Monthly Farm Production Reports, 1918-1949.**  
1 cubic foot.

Arrangement: chronological by year and month.

These are statistical reports for each farm or garden product raised at the school. Separate monthly reports for each product give a daily account of quantity produced. Reports also indicate the market value of produce. Examples of products for which reports were compiled are milk, chicken, pork, peas, tomatoes, onions, apples, grapes, oats, and corn silage.

Indexing: none.

B0641. **Farm Expenditure and Production Journals, 1918-1947.**  
4 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological by year and month.

These volumes contain a detailed record of expenditures and production of the school's farm.

B0598. **Student Daily Diet Logs, 1889-1944.**  
1 cubic foot.

Arrangement: chronological by week.

These records list the menus of meals served to children at the school each day. Usually the name of the person completing the report is also given, and occasionally the total number of meals served during the week.

A1913. Photographs of Activities and Facilities, ca. 1895-1950.  
1 cubic foot. (174 items)

Arrangement: by general subject.

The subjects of these photographs include:

- individual and group portraits of students and staff
- students' class exercises and work activities
- Indian Boy and Girl Scouts
- interior views of buildings
- exterior views of administration, residence, school, hospital, and farm buildings and grounds
- buildings under construction
- aerial view of grounds

Most photographs are undated and unlabelled. Sizes range from 3" x 4" to 8" x 10"; some are mounted.

A1909. Register of Trustees, Indian Students, and Visitors, 1855-1881.

1 volume.

Arrangement: by subject.

This volume contains four types of records:

- list of names and addresses of the asylum trustees, 1855
- list of students admitted to the asylum, 1856-1881, giving student's name, Indian nation, reservation, age, whether parents are living, and remarks concerning date of discharge, death, removal, or return
- register of visitors, giving name, address, and date of visit, 1857-1865
- average number of children in the asylum per year, 1856-1862

A1911. Register of Visitors, 1881-1906.

1 volume.

Arrangement: chronological by date of visit.

Each entry contains the visitor's name, address, and date of visit.

## POPULATION CENSUS RECORDS

The State Archives holds population censuses taken by the state which contain information on Native Americans. In addition, there are two record series consisting specifically of Indian censuses.

A0275. State Population Census, 1915, 1925.  
971 volumes.

Arrangement: geographical by county and ward.

The census returns provide the following demographic information for nearly all of the State's residents: name; age; sex; color; place of birth; marital status; nationality; and profession, trade, or occupation. Earlier extant State census records for each county are maintained by the respective county clerks; the State copies were destroyed in the 1911 State Capitol fire. Microfilm copies of many county census records are available on microfilm at the New York State Library. A complete listing of available State Census records, both originals and microfilm copies, is available in: New York State Library, New York State Census Records, 1790-1925, (Bibliography Bulletin #88, Albany, 1981.)

Are available on microfilm.

A1832. Population Census of Indian Reservations, 1845.  
1 volume.

Arrangement: by reservation.

This series consists of population census schedules for all reservations in the State except those on Long Island. The census lists the names of heads of families and statistics on family structure and economic status for each individual and family unit. The data is largely the same as that for the state-wide census taken the same year, except that entries concerning voting, citizenship, and militia service are omitted, and additional entries are added. The new additional entries are as follows: number of acres of meadow cut; number of ploughs owned and employed; value of garden and horticultural products; lands cultivated by others--number of acres rented to white men, value received per acre for annual use, and "total avails (sic) of land rented out annually per verbal contract"; number of fruit bearing trees; value of "avails (sic) derived from the chace" (hunting); number of persons aged 80 or over; number of persons who possess no lands; number of persons from other tribes (Oneida, Cayuga, St. Regis, Tuscarora, etc.); occupation and level of education,

including number of farmers who are heads of families, number of mechanics, number of "semi-literates," number of persons who have received a college or academical education, number of physicians, number of "teachers, catechists, or persons in some branch of ministerial labour," number of "interpreters & translators of the Iroquois or its dialects," number of "persons who have chosen the legal profession," number who "have studied the law"; "statistics of morality," giving number "who still adhere to their native religion," number of church members, and number of members "enrolled or pledged to temperance"; "aggregate population" (total number in family); and annuities received from U.S. and N.Y.

There are returns in this volume for the Oneida, Onondaga, Tuscarora, Buffalo, Seneca of Cattaraugus, Cayugas of Cattaraugus, Seneca of Allegheny, Tonowanda and St. Regis Reservations. At the end of the entries for each reservation is a statistical summary. Native American names and their meanings are given for the Oneida, Onondaga, and Tuscarora Reservations. The Marshall for all the reservations except the St. Regis was Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, and he includes occasional notes explaining the data.

The compilation of the census was administered by the Secretary of State's Office.

Available on microfilm.

00742. Indian Census and Annuity Rolls, 1881-1950 (with gaps.)  
4 cubic feet.

Arrangement: by tribe, then chronological by year.

These records were created to verify eligibility for annuity payments from the State. They provide basic vital statistics on Native Americans, both reservation residents and non-residents. An entry for each person gives home, sex, tribal group or reservation, age or date of birth, and relationship to the head of the household. Place of birth and date of death are sometimes given.

These records were compiled by the Department of Social Welfare, Office of Indian Services, or predecessor agencies.

Restrictions: Access to records less than 75 years old is restricted to protect personal privacy.

## STATE LAWS

These records series relate to bills passed by the State Legislature and forwarded to the Governor (or before 1823, to the Council of Revision) for approval or veto.

A1808. Enrolled Acts of the State of New York, 1778-1977.  
ca. 550 cubic feet (1,197 volumes.)

Arrangement: chronological by year and then by chapter number.

This series consists of the original copies of all laws passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor. Laws relating to Native Americans can be located by using the indexes.

Indexing: the acts are published annually as "session laws" with indexes. There is also a General Index to the Laws of the State of New York, 1777-1901, (Albany: J.B. Lyon, 1902.)

A0027. Minutes of the Council of Revision, 1778-1824.  
5 volumes.

Arrangement: chronological by meeting date.

The Council was established under the First (1777) State Constitution and consisted of the Governor, the Chancellor, and the Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature. It had the power to review all bills passed by the Legislature and to veto those which it did not approve. The Council was abolished by the Second Constitution adopted in 1822, which vested veto powers with the Governor.

The series consists of minutes of each Council meeting, giving date and place, members present, and action taken on each bill. When the Council disapproved a bill, its objections are recorded in detail. The last volume includes a record of bills transmitted to the Governor from 1822 to 1824 and his action on each bill.

Indexing: volumes 3-5 (1798-1824) are indexed. The texts of veto messages are published in Alfred B. Street, The Council of Revision of the State of New York, (Albany: 1859), which is indexed.

12590. Legislative Bill and Veto Jackets, 1905, 1921-1982.  
1,316 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological by year and thereunder numerical by chapter or veto number.

For each bill forwarded by the Legislature to the Governor for approval or veto, the Governor's counsel compiled a file, or "jacket," containing supporting or opposing memoranda and correspondence from Executive Chamber staff, legislators and legislative committees, State agencies, local governments, associations, lobbying groups and individuals. The memoranda contain analyses of the purpose and possible impact of proposed legislation and recommendations for action by the Governor. Also in the jackets are the record of the legislature's vote on the bill, the Assembly and/or Senate sponsor's supporting memoranda and the Governor's message of approval or veto, if one was issued. These records can be used to trace the history and intent of legislative proposals on important issues relating to American Indians. (except for veto jackets dating from 1959 to 1974)

Available on microfilm.

Indexing: the New York Legislative Record and Index, published annually, can be used to identify bills by Senate or Assembly introduction number and by subject.

#### RECENT PUBLIC POLICY RECORDS

The State Archives holds several record series containing information relating to recent public policy toward Native Americans. Included among these records are subject and correspondence files of the Executive Chamber (Governor's Office) and of the offices of the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of the Education, Environmental Conservation, and Health Departments. The subject and correspondence files are voluminous series, arranged by subject, which contain correspondence, memoranda, reports, and related material created by or received by high-level policy administrators. By reviewing lists of file folder headings, researchers can identify portions of the series related to Native American affairs.

In addition to subject and correspondence files, there are three other record series--two from the Education Department and one from the Department of State's Division of Legal Affairs--relating exclusively to agency offices that administered programs involving Indians.

The general series of subject and correspondence files are listed below, followed by descriptions of the three series relating exclusively to Native Americans.

13682. **Executive Chamber Subject and Correspondence Files, 1919-1982.**  
ca. 1,230 cubic feet and 1,677 microfilm reels.

Arrangement: chronological by administration and thereunder alphabetical by subject.

Holdings by administration (with administration dates in parenthesis) are as follows:

Nathan L. Miller	(1921-1922)	18 cubic feet.
Alfred E. Smith	(1919-1920, 1923-1928)	148 cubic feet and 169 microfilm reels.
Franklin D. Roosevelt	(1929-1932)	147 cubic feet and 219 microfilm reels.
Herbert H. Lehman	(1933-1942)	134 cubic feet and 106 microfilm reels.
Thomas E. Dewey	(1943-1954)	280 microfilm reels.
Nelson A. Rockefeller	(1959-1973)	520 microfilm reels.
Malcolm Wilson	(1973-1974)	57 microfilm reels.
Hugh L. Carey	(1975-1982)	939 cubic feet and 326 microfilm reels.

Indexing: files after 1958 are indexed by name for most correspondents; subject lists are available for most records.

13063. **Department of Environmental Conservation. Commissioner's Subject and Correspondence Files, 1958-1978.**  
235 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by subject.

This series contains files of former Commissioners Mauhs, Wilm, Kilbourne, Diamond, Biggane, and Berle. Records from Deputy Commissioners are sometimes included.

Indexing: general subject lists are available.

13307. Department of Health. Commissioner and Deputy  
Commissioner's Subject and Correspondence Files, 1952-  
1984.

129 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by subject.

This series contains files of former commissioners. There are Deputy Commissioner's files for the period 1974-1984.

Indexing: general subject lists are available.

08989. Education Department. Commissioner's Subject and  
Correspondence Files, 1942-1978.

240 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by subject.

This series consists of files of former commissioners Stoddard, Spaulding, Wilson, Allen, and Nyquist. Also included are files from their prior tenures as assistant or deputy commissioners.

Indexing: general subject lists are available.

13143. Education Department. Native American Unit. Subject and  
Correspondence Files, 1965-1983.

8 cubic feet.

Arrangement: by three subseries described below.

This series consist of three subseries, as follows:

1. Subject and Correspondence Files. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, and newsletters concern the function of the Native American Education Unit to enhance educational opportunities for Native Americans. Major topics of these records include:
  - Proposals for changes in the curriculum and facilities at the Onondaga Reservation Indian School
  - Availability of financial aid for Native American education
  - Proposals for Native American education programs at various reservations
  - Conferences on Native American education
  - Legislation affecting Native American education

2. Johnson-O'Malley Act Project Files. Correspondence, memoranda, project reports, and drafts of state plan concern the education of New York State Native American children as mandated by the federal Johnson-O'Malley Act of 1934. From 1971 to 1977 the New York State Native American Education Unit administered the program for tribes within New York State. The program involved contracting with off-reservation school systems for the education of Native American children. After 1977 the unit was no longer involved with the program because the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs now deals directly with the tribes.
3. Background Files for Regents Paper on Native American Education. Records document the development of a Regents Policy paper on Native American Education. The records include correspondence, memoranda, press releases, reports, position paper drafts, transcripts of hearings, data on the history of Native American education in New York State, statements and transcripts from the Conference on Indian Education and survey forms completed by Native American parents exploring their views and attitudes toward education.

The Native American Education Unit is part of the Education Department's Office of Elementary, Secondary, and Continuing Education.

11748. Education Department. Indian Education Tuition and Transportation Files, 1952-1979.  
12 cubic feet.

Arrangement: chronological by year then by reservation or school district, then by type of payment (tuition or transportation).

These files document the administration of three kinds of special aid to school districts for the education of Native American children living on reservations:

- operational and maintenance costs of reservations schools administered by a school district
- tuition payments to school districts for Native American children who attend schools off reservations
- transportation costs for Native American children attending school on or off reservations

These payments are made because reservation residents are not subject to local school taxes. Since 1954 the Commissioner of Education has been authorized to contract with school districts for the education of Native American children living on reservations. These files contain the following kinds of documents:

- correspondence with school districts concerning the calculation and payment of tuition fees, bidding for transportation contracts, and repairs to reservation school buildings
- memoranda concerning the apportionment of tuition and transportation aid
- tuition aid calculation worksheets
- copies of contracts with school districts for the education and transportation of Native American children
- copies of annual budgets from reservation schools
- censuses of Native American students at school district and reservation schools (name, birthdate, sex, age, one parent's name and address, school attending)
- transportation route schedules
- occasional long range budget planning documents
- occasional IQ test results from reservation schools

Restrictions: IQ test results are confidential; use is restricted to protect personal privacy.

13025. Department of State: Moss Lake Indian Negotiation Files, 1974-1979.  
3 cubic feet.

Arrangement: alphabetical by subject.

The series consists of memoranda, correspondence, maps, copies of deeds, newspaper clippings, publications, reports, and audio tapes generated as a consequence of the occupation of state-owned land at Moss Lake (Herkimer County) by a dissident group of Mohawks. The Native Americans claimed as invalid the 1797 treaty by which the State acquired title to this land. Subsequent negotiations, supervised by the Secretary of State, led to the withdrawal of the Native Americans from Moss Lake in return for title to a parcel of land in Clinton County.

These files were generated by the Division of Legal Affairs in the Secretary of State's Office.

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