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## **Guide to the Lee Moorhouse Photographs, circa 1897-1919**

**Org. Lot 104**

Finding aid prepared by Megan K. Friedel

Finding aid encoded by Megan K. Friedel, 2006

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### **OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

**Title:** Lee Moorhouse photographs

**Dates:** circa 1897-1919 (inclusive)

**Quantity:** 1 cubic foot  
574 photographs and 6 film negatives in 2 boxes

**Languages:** Captions on photographs in the collection are in English.

**Summary:** Photographs taken by Maj. Lee Moorhouse circa 1897- 1919 of Cayuse, Umatilla, and other Indians and their settlements in the Columbia River Basin and Umatilla County; landscapes in Oregon and Montana; and of the Round-Up in Pendleton, Or. and other locations.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Thomas Leeander Moorhouse (1850-1926), known as Major Lee Moorhouse, was an amateur photographer from Pendleton, Or. In 1878, he served as field secretary for Oregon governor Stephen F. Chadwick during the Bannock-Paiute War and the following year was appointed to the Third (Eastern Ore.) Brigade of the Oregon State Militia, where he earned the rank of Major. The owner of a mercantile business in Pendleton, Moorhouse & Livermore (later Lee Moorhouse and Co.), Lee Moorhouse also served one term as mayor of the city in 1885. From 1889 to 1891, he was employed as the agent to the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Lee Moorhouse began taking photographs circa 1897-1898. During a period when many amateur photographers were experimenting with new innovations in film negatives and snapshot photography, Moorhouse used glass plate negatives to capture his subjects. He took over 9,000 images, photographing the activities of his hometown of Pendleton, Or. and, especially, Native American life in the Columbia River basin and Umatilla County.

## CONTENT DESCRIPTION

The Lee Moorhouse photographs consist of photographic prints, photographic postcards, and one cyanotype taken by Maj. Lee Moorhouse circa 1897-1919. Many of the photographs are portraits of Native Americans of the Columbia and Umatilla River basins in Oregon, taken by Moorhouse circa 1900-1912 and including members of the Cayuse, Nez Percé, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes. These photographs also include views of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and other unidentified Native American settlements in Oregon. There are also some photographs of members of the Yakima tribe, and these images may have been taken by photographer Thomas H. Rutter, who photographed the Yakima until his death in 1906; Moorhouse collected many of Rutter's negatives and sold them as his own. Several other photographs in this collection also depict landscape views of the areas in which Lee Moorhouse lived and worked with the Native Americans, such as Columbia River basin, including Celilo Falls; the Umatilla River in Oregon; and the Little Bighorn River valley in Montana. These landscape views were all taken circa 1897-1905.

The collection also contains photographs of the Pendleton Round-Up, a rodeo in Pendleton, Or., taken by Moorhouse circa 1909-1919. Subjects include various rodeo events such as bronc riding, bull riding, steer roping, and photographs of the Cowgirl's Bucking Contest, which was discontinued after 1929, as well as Round-Up parades and participants, including African-American, Native American, and women performers. Additionally, there are two photographs by Moorhouse of other Round-Ups in Crooked River, Or. and Toppenish, Wa.

This collection also contains film negatives not taken by Moorhouse.

## ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in the following series and subseries:

- Series 1: Native Americans, circa 1900-1912

- Subseries A: Portraits, circa 1900-1912
- Subseries B: Settlements, circa 1904-1905
- Series 2: Landscape views, circa 1897-1905
- Series 3: Round-Up photographs, 1901-1919
  - Subseries A: Pendleton Round-Up, 1901-1919
  - Subseries B: Other Round-Ups, undated

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

### Acquisition Information

Accession nos. 00D025 and 00U025.

### Processing Note

This collection was reprocessed in March 2006 to include photographs from this accession that had been cataloged individually in the Wang card files.

## USE OF THE COLLECTION

### Restrictions on Access

The collection is open to the public.

### Restrictions on Use

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### Preferred Citation

Lee Moorhouse Photographs, Org. Lot 104, Oregon Historical Society Research Library

## RELATED INFORMATION

### Bibliography

- Grafe, Steven L. *Peoples of the Plateau: The Indian Photographs of Lee Moorhouse, 1898-1915*. Norman, Ok.: University of Oklahoma Press (2005).

### Related Materials

Photographs taken by Lee Moorhouse can also be found in the Daniel E. Warren photograph collection, Org. Lot 391, and the Self-Indexing Photo Files at the Oregon Historical Society Research Library.

The Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Library holds 7,000 of Lee Moorhouse's original glass plate negatives. 300 additional negatives by Moorhouse are located at the National Anthropological Archives at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institute, and about 1,400 of his photographs were also acquired by the Umatilla County Library in 1958.

## SUBJECTS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the online catalog. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Pendleton Round-Up--Photographs  
 Little Bighorn River (Wyo. and Mont.)--Photographs  
 Lower Columbia River Valley (Or. and Wash.)--Photographs  
 Pendleton (Or.)--Photographs  
 Umatilla Indian Reservation (Or.)--Photographs  
 Umatilla River Watershed (Or.)--Photographs  
 African American rodeo performers--Photographs  
 Cayuse Indians--Photographs  
 Indian reservations--Oregon--Photographs  
 Indians of North America--Oregon--Photographs

Indians of North America--Washington (State)--Photographs  
 Nez Percé Indians--Photographs  
 Rodeo performers--United States--Photographs  
 Rodeos--Oregon--Photographs  
 Rodeos--Washington--Photographs  
 Umatilla Indians--Photographs  
 Walla Walla Indians--Photographs  
 Women in rodeos--Photographs  
 Yakama Indians--Photographs  
 Cyanotypes  
 Photographic postcards  
 Photographic prints  
 Safety film negatives

**Other Creators :**

Rutter, Thomas H. (photographer)

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION**

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

**SERIES 1: NATIVE AMERICANS, CIRCA 1900-1912**

This series contains photographic portraits, including one cyanotype, of various members of the Cayuse, Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes and photographs of their settlements on the Umatilla Reservation and Columbia Rivers in Oregon, among other places, taken by Lee Moorhouse.

The series is arranged into two subseries: (A) Portraits and (B) Settlements.

Container(s)	Description
	Subseries A: Portraits, circa 1900-1912
	Some of the photographs of Yakima men and women in this subseries may have been taken by photographer Thomas H. Rutter before 1906 and sold by Moorhouse as his own. Arranged alphabetically, where identified, into four groups: Children; Men; Women; and Groups (men, women, and/or children depicted together).
Box/folder	
1/1	Children, J - L
1/2	Children, unidentified
1/3	Men, A - T
1/4-5	Men, unidentified
1/6	Women, E - Si
1/7	Women, So - Y
1/8-10	Women, unidentified
1/11	Groups, unidentified
	Subseries B: Settlements, , circa 1904-1905
	This subseries contains photographs taken by Lee Moorhouse of various Native American settlements in the Columbia River basin and Umatilla County, including the Umatilla Indian Reservation, circa 1904-1905.
1/12	Umatilla Reservation, 1904-1905
1/13-14	Umatilla Reservation, undated
1/15	Wishram Indian village near Celilo Falls, undated
1/16	Unidentified settlements, undated

**SERIES 2: LANDSCAPE VIEWS, CIRCA 1897-1905**

This series contains taken by Lee Moorhouse of the Columbia River, including Celilo Falls, and Umatilla River in Oregon; the Little Bighorn River valley in Montana; and other unidentified photographs of landscapes, probably in northeastern Oregon, circa 1897-1905.

Container(s)	Description
Box/folder 1/17	Columbia River, Or., general views, circa 1897-1905
1/18	Columbia River, Or., Celilo Falls, circa 1897-1905
1/19	Umatilla River, Or., circa 1897-1905
1/20	Little Bighorn River valley, Mont., circa 1897-1905
1/21	Unidentified views, circa 1897-1905

**SERIES 3: ROUND-UP PHOTOGRAPHS, 1901-1919**

This series mostly contains photographic postcards taken by Lee Moorhouse of the Pendleton Round-Up in Pendleton, Or., 1901-1919, including views of various rodeo events and African-American, Native American, and women participants. There are also two photographs of Round-Ups in Crooked River, Or. and Toppenish, Wa. Many of the photographs are duplicates or copy images made from original prints in the collection; there are also six film negatives made from photographs in this collection. Arranged into two subseries: (A) Pendleton Round-Up, 1901-1919 and (B) Other Round-Ups.

Container(s)	Description
	Subseries A: Pendleton Round-Up, 1901-1919
Box/folder 2/1	Bronc riding, 1901-1911
2/2	Bronc riding, 1912, 1913, and 1915
2/3	Bronc riding, 1916
2/4-6	Bronc riding, undated
2/7	Bronc saddling, 1913, 1916, and undated
2/8	Buffalo riding, undated
2/9	Bull riding, 1916 and undated
2/10	Horse races, 1912 and undated
2/11	Steer roping, 1911, 1916 and undated
2/12	Steer wrestling (bulldogging), undated
2/13	Trick and fancy roping, undated
2/14	African-American participants, 1912, 1916, and undated
2/15	Native American participants, undated
2/16	Women participants, 1914, 1916, and undated
2/17	Other participants, 1911-1919 and undated
2/18	Parades, 1912 and undated
2/19	Other Round-Up photographs, 1916 and undated

2/20	Duplicate photographic postcards Subseries B: Other Round-Ups
2/21	Crooked River, Or. Round-Up, undated
2/22	Toppenish, Wa. Round-Up, undated

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## History 449/549: Race & Ethnicity in the American West Field Research Trip to University Archives & Special Collections

**Group 1:** Darrin, Krystina, Steve, Michael, Gene

**Manuscript Collection:** Ku Klux Klan Tilamook, Oregon Chapter No. 8 Records, 1922-1929 (UO Special Collections Bx 046)

**URL to On-Line Finding Guide:** [http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUBx\\_046.xml&t=k&q=ku+klux+klan+](http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUBx_046.xml&t=k&q=ku+klux+klan+)

**Materials Pulled:** Boxes 1, 3

**Group 2:** Lisa, Joe, Darren, Ben, Chris

**Manuscript Collection:** Ben Wilson Olcott Papers. (KKK)

**Finding Guide:** PDF File Available in Course Documents Section of Blackboard.

**Materials Pulled:** Volume 8: General Correspondence. Includes letters on 1922 governorship campaign and the Ku Klux Klan. (UO Special Collections Ax 81)

**Group 3:** Bruce Johnny, Crosby, Jennifer, Turtle

**Manuscript Collection:** William C. Smith Papers, 1924-1927 & Survey of Race Relations. [Includes, in part, interviews with and autobiographies of Japanese, Chinese, Mexican, and other immigrants and first-generation Americans.] (UO Special Collections Ax 311)

**URL to On-Line Finding Guide:** [http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUAX\\_311.xml&t=a&k1=william+c.+smith&k2=ax+311&k3=&t1=0&t2=0&t3=0&o1=0&o2=0&s=0&i=21](http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUAX_311.xml&t=a&k1=william+c.+smith&k2=ax+311&k3=&t1=0&t2=0&t3=0&o1=0&o2=0&s=0&i=21)

**Materials Pulled:** Boxes 1, 5

**Group 4:** Matt, Nikos, Kate, Theresa

**Manuscript Collection:** Lee Moorhouse Photographs, circa 1897-1919. (UO Special Collections Lot 104)

**URL to On-Line Finding Guide:** <http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OHYLOT104.xml&t=k&q=moorhouse>

**URL to On-Line Digital Exhibit:** "Picturing the Cayuse, Walla Walla, and Umatilla Tribes" <http://boundless.uoregon.edu/digcol/mh/index.html> (Select "Browse all Items" under "Browse and Search")

**Materials Pulled:** Sampling of photographs of portraits and landscapes. Also, Grafe, Steven L. *Peoples of the Plateau: The Indian Photographs of Lee Moorhouse, 1898-1915*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2005.

**Group 5:** Nikki, Autumn

**Manuscript Collection:** Oscar Hiram Lipps Papers, 1912-1939; (UO Special Collections Ax 151)

**URL to On-Line Finding Guide:** [http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUAX\\_151.xml&t=k&q=lipps+chemawa](http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/nwda-search/fstyle.aspx?doc=OrUAX_151.xml&t=k&q=lipps+chemawa)

**Materials Pulled:** Boxes 1, 2 & *Weekly Chemawa American* (School Newsletter) Sampling of volumes between 1911-1933; *Chemawa Senior Class Annual* (1920).

## **Instructions:**

You have enjoyed the opportunity to examine three primary source collections in class—Indian Treaties & Executive Orders of Land Cession; Lucile Weeks Allotment Case File; Wong Goon and Chan Chow Mow Chinese Exclusion Act Case Files—and this field research extends your apprenticeship to original manuscripts, photographs, and artifacts housed in the University of Oregon Special Collections & Archives.

Each group will spend two full class periods critically analyzing their pre-pulled materials and each member will identify one or two documents, photographs, maps or other materials reflecting a major theme, thesis, interpretation, question, or methodological issue explored during the course. Special collections staff will either photocopy or digitize the selected materials and expedite their delivery to the groups for use at the oral presentations in class on Wednesday, July 16.

**Themes:** colonization; removal; dispossession; settlement/resettlement; genocide; ethnocide; de-tribalization; conquest; exclusion; frontier (process v. place); race (concepts/definitions); assimilation; acculturation; resistance, survival, adaptation, dependency; transnationalism; translocalism; immigration; multiculturalism; multiracialism; community; racialization; ethnicity; slavery; neo-slavery; captivity; clan identity; class; gender; religion, millennialism, nationalism; citizenship; expansionism; regionalism; scientific racism; social Darwinism.

**Thesis/Interpretations:** Turner's "Frontier Thesis;" Taylor's "Racial Frontier;" White's "Kindergarten Thesis;" Almaguer's "Racialization;" "Yeoman Republic;" "Fee Simple Empire;" "Garden of the World;" "Manifest Destiny;" "Northwest Passage;" "New Israel;" "Homestead Ethic;" "Sacred Vocation/Spiritual Calling;" "Protestant Work Ethic;" "Social Safety Valve"

## **Methodological Issues:**

- 1) Source Analysis: bias, perspective, authenticity, completeness, provenance (origins/creation); representativeness; memory; contradictory evidence; ambiguity
- 2) Historical Actors: Agency (group and individual), Voice, Power
- 3) Causation: human (decisions, actions, behaviors, ideas) v. non-human (environment, market capitalism); multi-causal v. mono-causal; change-and-or-continuity over time.
- 4) Reasoning/Arguments: citation of empirical evidence (document-based); oral interviews; inference; analogy; literary non-fiction; inductive and deductive logic; case studies; counterfactual/subjective questions.