Register to the Papers of
Philleo Nash

Laura Lathrop
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National Anthropological Archives
Smithsonian Institution
Biographical Note

Philleo Nash was born on October 25, 1909, in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. He studied at the University of Wisconsin, taking a year off to study music at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia. On his return to the University of Wisconsin, Nash completed his undergraduate degree in anthropology (1932) and went on to the University of Chicago for a Ph.D. in anthropology (1937). His doctoral dissertation explored the concepts of revivalism and social change with a focus on the Klamath Ghost Dance activities of the 1870s.

Nash held positions in teaching as well as in government and his family business. He was a lecturer in anthropology at the University of Toronto (1937-1941). He also lectured at the University of Wisconsin (1941-1942) and American University in Washington, D.C. (1971-1977).

From 1942 to 1953, Nash served in various positions in the federal government, first in the Office of War Information and later as Assistant to President Truman, focusing on minority affairs and as liaison to the Department of the Interior. During this period in Washington, Nash also acted as President of the Georgetown Day School (1945-1952), where he was one of the founders of this racially integrated cooperative school. In 1953, Nash returned to Wisconsin where his interest in politics continued, and he became Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin from 1959 to 1961. In 1961, he returned to Washington, DC as U.S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs, a position he held until 1966.

Following his work as Commissioner, Nash remained in Washington where he acted as a consultant in applied anthropology and held offices in various associations including the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), the American Anthropological Association (AAA), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). During all the years of professional responsibilities, Nash also held positions in the family business, Biron Cranberry Company. He returned to Wisconsin in 1977 to be President and Manager of the Company.

Throughout his life Nash was active in various associations for science and anthropology. He was awarded the AAA's Distinguished Service Award in 1984. In 1986, the SfAA presented him with the Bronislaw Malinowski Award in recognition of outstanding scholarship and long term commitment in applying the social sciences to contemporary issues.

Philleo Nash died in 1987. Some years before his death Nash sent his archaeological research material from the Pound Village Site (1938-1939) to Toronto and his research material from the DuBay Village Site (1940) to the Milwaukee Public Museum. According to the terms of his will, his government and political papers are housed at the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Missouri.

**Scope and Content Note**

The Philleo Nash Papers attest to Nash’s interest in anthropology, not only research and teaching but also in its application to public service. His papers can be separated into four main areas: undergraduate and graduate education, research, teaching, and public service. Files contain class notes from Nash’s undergraduate and graduate studies as well as papers by well-known professors lecturing at the University of Chicago including Ralph Linton, Robert Redfield, and R.A. Radcliffe-Brown. The bulk of his research was conducted in the Pacific Northwest where he studied the Klamath-Modoc culture on the reservation, focusing on revivalism and socio-political organization (1935-1937). Other research included archeology at two sites, a study of the Toronto Jewish community, and a continuing interest in minority issues. Nash taught at the University of Toronto (1937-1941) and at American University in Washington, D.C. (1971-1977). Teaching files contain lecture notes from his work at the University of Toronto. Public service files include correspondence from the period when he was Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin (1959-1961) as well as reports and photos from the years as Commissioner of Indian Affairs (1961-1966). Other public service and business positions are not represented in these files.

**Box and Folder Listing**

**Series 1. Education (1931-1937)**

7 2 boxes (4 linear feet)

Education includes class notes, reading notes, and term papers from both undergraduate and graduate studies. It also includes lectures by various well-known anthropologists including Ralph Linton, Robert Redfield, and A.R. Radcliffe-Brown. Class reading and lecture note topics range widely from Physical Anthropology to theoretical issues to kinship to linguistics. Geographically the range is enormously widespread, from Europe to Africa, Latin America and North America, India, and the Pacific including Australia, Polynesia, and Papua New Guinea. The North American material includes a number of tribes but focuses on southwestern groups, including language. The material on India focuses on the Oraon, their socio-political organization and religion. There is an extensive bibliography and field notes from work in the Ross Region of Wisconsin in the 1930s.

**Box 1**

Class Reading, Lecture Notes

**General Anthropological Topics:**
American Philosophy (Otto)
Method - Dewey
Method - Redfield
Boas on Theory

Written Assignments:
R-B ms. [Radcliffe-Brown]
Malinowski - Thesis
Science of Society
Primitive Law
Political Science
Systematic Social Science (Adler)
Kinship:
  Kinship
  [Kinship, Folk Society]
  [Kinship] Kroeber
  Kinship - Ontong, Java & Tikopia
Race Relations

Box 2
Class Reading, Lecture Notes (continued)
  General Anthropological Topics (continued):
  I-E Philology (Senn)
  Kultur & Gegenwart
Physical Anthropology:
  Misc. Paper: [Trends in German Physical Anthropology]
  Physical Anthropology, Edith [Rosenfels]
  Physical Anthropology
  Anthropology 201
  Paleontology
Economics (Pueblo)
Social Systems:
  Social Integration
  Social Systems
  Social Systems [various]
Geology (Schrock)
  Seminar 1936, NRM - lecture notes
University of Chicago (UC) Divisional Lectures (2 folders)

Box 3
Class Reading, Lecture Notes (continued)
  General Anthropological Topics (continued):
  Pre-History - European
  Africa:
    Africa
    Native Policies in South Africa
  Australia
  Asia:
    Bishop: [Eastern Asia]
    Eastern Asia
Malaysia
Mongols

Latin America:
Andean Cultures
Latin America

Pacific:
Andamans
Melanesia
Thurnwald [notes]
Thurnwald - Banaro [notes]
Polynesia
[Polynesia] Arioi
Samoa
Samoa - S. Brown Ms.

Box 4
North America:
Explorations in N. A. [Archeology]
Antiquity of Man in North America
Ethnology [Linton]
Ethnology - N.A.
American Indians

Linguistics:
Science of Language
Linguistics - Hoijer
Phonetics
Lamda [Bantu]
Mayan
Quilyut
American Indian Language:
American Indian Language
Apache
Apache Chiricahua
Basket-Makers
Oneida Pronouns

Language - Other Areas:
Chinese
Europe & Asia

Box 5
Papua New Guinea - Robert Redfield (R.R.):
In Primitive New Guinea (Holmes)
NG: Maps
History:
Papua: Hist[ory]
Papua: Desc[ription]
Papua: [British Foreign Office] BFO
Papua: Administrative Set-up
[Australian Administration] (Murray)
Papua: Aboriginal Ceremonialism
Papua: Communication
Papua: Industries
Papua: Labour
Papua: Land Tenure
Papua: Missionaries
Papua: Native-White Relations
Taro Cult (Williams)
Religious Movements:
  Religious Movements
  Vailala Doctrine
  Vailala: Changes in Customs
  Vailala: Person[n]el
  Vailala: Spread
  Vailala Madness (Williams)
New Guinea: Ms. & Notes

Box 6
India
Indian Economics: Jathar & Beri
The Oraon (Roy)
Oraon: Adjustive Movements
Oraon Census
Oraon [Risley, Russe] - Ethnography
Oraon: Land Tenure
Oraon: Money Lending
Oraon: Pol[itical] Org[anization]
Oraon Religion: Dehon
Oraon: Soc[ial] Org[anization]
Oraon: Status
PN: Oraon
Oraon [Revivalism] Summary, Conclusion, Appendix
Oraon: Ms. Notes
Master's Thesis - Final Draft, Notes
Master's Thesis - Final Draft, 1937

Box 7
Research Proposed
  Psychoanalytic Training
  Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Application Notes
  Navaho Project
  Navaho Project Correspondence
Cassels - Correspondence
Gower - Correspondence

Bibliography:
  Bibliography (3 folders)
  Kulturkeis
  Petitot
  Bibliography: Race and Culture

Field Notes
  Ross Region [Wisconsin, 1931]

Box 8
Field Notes (continued)
  Notebooks (4) 1934
  Notebooks (2) 1938
  Notebooks (2) 1941 [Du Bay, Portage Co., WI]
  Notebooks (4) (n.d.) [Miscellaneous Notes and Bibliography]
  Notebook (1) (n.d.) [Clearville Site]
  Notebook (1) (n.d.) [Veddah]
  Notebook (1) (n.d.) [Aylmer]

Series 2. Klamath-Modoc Culture (1930s)
5 boxes (2.5 linear feet)

The Klamath-Modoc Culture series includes notes on background reading on the Klamath-Modoc cultures of the Pacific Northwest where Nash did fieldwork for his Ph.D. dissertation (1935-1937). He explored the issues of two or more tribes living on a reservation as well as conducting fieldwork and interviews with various informants. This series also includes information on the Ghost Dance (GD) gathered by Cora DuBois (CD), who shared her work with Nash, who was particularly interested in religion and revival movements.

Box 8 (continued)
Reprints
History - Oregon:
  Oregon Historical Quarterly
  Oregon History - General
  Bancroft: Hist. Ore.
  Eastern Oregon - Settlement
  Southern Oregon - Settlement
  Emigrant Routes
  Klamath Settlers
  Bancroft: Hist. Ore.
  Biographies [Bancroft]
  Treaty of 1864 - signing [Bancroft]
Meacham: Wigwam and Warpath
Meacham: Wigwam and Warpath, Oregon History Society Quarterly,
   Bancroft: Hist. of Oregon
[Inter-Indian]
Federal Indian Policy, Oregon [1849-1852]

History - California:
   Cal. Hist: Hunt and Sanchez
   California - Oregon Rivalry
   Walla Walla in Calif.
   California, Indian-White Relations [Bancroft]

Snake War
Inter-Cultural Community
Informants

Box 9
Correspondence and Reports:
   Klamath Agency (KA) Correspondence 1870-72
   [Klamath Agency Correspondence 1866-77]
   YA: 1867-1877
   Yainax Station: Reports 1869

Letters to Edith
Paviotso:
   Administrator - Indian: General [Meacham]
   Paviotso - Administrator
   Paviotso - Military
   Paviotso - Settlers

Modoc:
   Modoc Administrator
   Acculturation
   Modoc - Chronology
   Modoc Geography
   Reservation Modocs: leadership
   Rebellion Modocs: Leadership and Personnel
   Modoc - Military
   Modoc Place Names & Boundaries
   Modoc - Settlers
   Gatshet
   Billy Moore

   Autobiographies
   Chiefs: rich men: status
   Count Songs
   Fall Food Ceremony
   Girl's Puberty [and boy's]
   Household Groupings
Kinship:
  Genealogies
  Kinship Blank Form

**Box 10**
Klamath Statistics
Loleinas
Phonetics
[Ritual]
Secular Ceremonies
Shamanism
Slaves
Treaty Signers
Tule
War Dance (Preparatory Dance), Scalp Dance
Warfare and Feuds
Modoc Misc.
Klamath Miscellaneous
CD - Summary Hist.
CD - Summary
Cora DuBois' Notes
CD - Origins of Ghost Dance
Collier: Kiowa Pre-Ghost Dance
CD - Chronology and Diffusion
Peyote Religion, O. C. Stewart
First Movement:
  Cora DuBois - First Movement, Mrs. Jackson, Klamath
  CD - First Movement, Modoc, Jennie Clinton
  CD - First Movement, Modoc, Peter Sconchin
  CD - First Movement, Klamath, Harrison Brown
  CD - First Movement, Klamath, Anton Merritt
Second Movement:
  CD - Second Movement, Peter Sconchin, Modoc
  CD - Second Movement, Anton Merritt, Klamath
CD - Ghost Dance in Northern California
CD - Modoc informant [Jennie Clinton, GD]
Rod: Ghost Dance [CD - Peter Sconchin; Brick Jim; Stonewall Jackson; Harrison Brown]

**Box 11**
Dream Dancing:
  Ghost Dance, Dream Songs
  CD - Dream Dancing
  KA - Dream Dance: CD
  CD - Dream Dance, Anton Merritt, Klamath
  CD - Dream Dance, Modoc, Jennie Clinton
KA Prophet Dance
KA - Ghost Dance
CD - GD on Klamath
Dreaming:
   PN - Modoc Dreaming, Mrs. George, Lobert
   CD - Aboriginal Dreaming, Anton Merritt, Klamath
   CD - Aboriginal Dreaming
CD - Paviotso on Klamath res.
CD - Earthlodge Cult - Klamath, Harrison Brown
CD - Judgements
Pom-Pom:
   KA - Pom-Pom
   Anton Merritt, Pom Pom
   Harrison Brown, Klamath Pom Pom [CD]
KA - Ad.egal
Ms. Loleinas
Shakerism:
   KA Shakers
   Shaker-Smohalla Project
   Smohalla
   CD - Shakerism, Stonewall Jackson, Klamath (PR)
   CD - Shakers, Klamath, Harrison Brown
   CD - Shakerism, Anton Merritt, Klamath
CD - Newspapers
GD - Newspapers
Klamath-Modoc Culture
   Nativistic Religion
   Nativistic Religious Movements and the Race Relations Cycle
      (Term Paper, 1934)
      Revivalism - notes, ms
   Religious Revivalism, Mss.
   [Klamath and Modoc] Aboriginal Ritual
   1871-77 Revival [continuation of previous folder]

Box 12
Klamath-Modoc Culture (continued)
   Klamath Revivalism Ms.
   Aboriginal Klamath-Modoc Ritual Ms
   Abstract of Religious Movements - prepared for Committee on Culture
      and Personality, 1935
   Territory: Relations With & Knowledge of Other Tribes
   Maps, Klamath res
   [Correspondence (Leslie Spier, Elna Smith)]
   Ms Notes general
   Klamath Notes, 1936, typed
Klamath Ms. Notes (2 folders)
Dissertation Ms
Dissertation Proof

Box 13
Klamath-Modoc Culture
  Field Notes and Photo Record (12), 1936-1937

2 boxes (1.0 linear feet)

The Teaching Series includes lectures and lecture notes for introductory courses in anthropology and a lecture at the royal Canadian Institute. In addition, there are examinations from 1937-1941. Included as well are notes about numerous American tribes.

Box 13 (continued)
Lectures and Lecture Notes
  Comments - R-Koption 4th year, 1937-38
  Class List
  Examinations 1937-38, 1938-39
  New Haven, 1940
  Exams, 1940
  Exams, 1941
  Films
  Lecture - Royal Canadian Institute
  Introd. to Anthropology
    Introductory Course - Anthropology
    Introductory Course in Anthropology

Box 14
American Tribes
  Agricultural Tribes of the Eastern Woodlands
  Akwa'ala
  Arikara (2 folders)
  Cocopa Migratory
  Crow
  Dakota
  Eskimo
  Kamia
  Migratory Tribes of the Eastern Woodlands
  Ontario Indians
  Shawnee
  A Visiting Indians@ in Canada
  Yuma
Zuni Folklore

Box 15
American Tribes (continued)
   Father Berard's Navaho Texts, Ms.
   Opler: Southern Ath. Kinship
   Social and Economic Change in the Context of Pima-Maricopa History - Weaver
   The Spirit is Alive - John Pelton: Winnebago

5 2 boxes (2.5 linear feet)

The Miscellaneous Series includes papers and publications by other people and three papers Nash wrote or collaborated on.

Box 15 (continued)
Miscellaneous Papers/Publications of Others
   Acculturation
   Comparative Social Movements
   Negroes
   Problem of Race Tension
   Toronto Jewish Community Study
   Field Notes - Pound Village Site, Museum Lecture, 1938
   Pound Village Site - Mrs. Kaphes
   Pound Village Site Report
   Calendar - 1956
   Calendar - 1963
   Calendar - 1964

Box 16
Miscellaneous Papers/Publications of Others (continued)
   Calendar - 1965
   Calendar - 1966
   Broadcast, 1940-1941, Jan.
   Broadcast, CBC, Scripts
   Book Reviews - general
   Miscellaneous
   Jury: Clearville Prehistoric Village Site, Kent County, Ontario, 1941
   American Indian Development, 1952
   Materials for Menominee Study Committee, 1959

Box 17
   Banks: From Mean to Harris: Popular Anthropology in Twentieth Century
Box 18
Miscellaneous Papers - Nash:
- Can We Learn From History, the Klamath Century
- History of Maize - Notes
- Nash & Dent - Update on Maize

Box 19
Notes on Linguistics, Books on Anthropology, Values

Box 20
Bibliography, Addresses, Notes on Middle America, Australian Tribes

2 2 boxes (1.25 linear feet)

Nash held many non-academic positions. The documents from his work with the federal government (1942-1953) are located in the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Missouri. Some papers from his work in the Wisconsin government (1960) and at the Department of the Interior (1961-1966) are listed in this series. Also included are documents from his work at the American Anthropological Association (AAA).

Box 18 (continued)
Non-Academic Positions
- Lieutenant Governor - Wisconsin, Correspondence, Fall, 1960
Department of the Interior:
  Commissioner Nash - Visit to South Dakota
  Report on the Effects of Withdrawal of Federal Supervision - Klamath, 2/6
  Puyallup Tribe vs. Department of Game

**Box 21**
Non-Academic Positions (continued)
Department of the Interior
  AAIA - 1967, Puyallup
  Correspondence: Commissioner to Secretary Udall, November, 1964
  [Cultural Deprivation as an Educational Ideology]
  Miscellaneous] After 1966
  Indian Resource Development Act of 1967
  Correspondence & Manuscript submitted by Ethel Nurge, 1967
  Model ADemonstration Community@ Manpower and Resource Center
  Upward Bound - Ada Deer
  Mental Hospitals - Cumming
  Pacific Northwest Indian Center
  Area Directors' Conference - Phoenix, Trip to Havasupai, etc.
  April 22-26, 1963
  HEW - Indian Activities
  NEH Film Project
  ABC (A Better Chance)
  Father Peter J. Powell
  Tama School Project
  Socialization of Psychiatry, Kast and McDonald
  American Psychiatric Ass'n, San Francisco May 12, 1970, American Indian Suicide
  Eastern Oklahoma Cherokee - Wahrhaftig

Department of the Interior (continued)
American Anthropological Association
  AAA - By-laws

**Box 22**
Non-Academic Positions (continued)
American Anthropological Association
  AAA - MacMillan Contract, 1967
  Treasurer, AAA - Jan. thru Oct., 1968
  Treasurer, AAA - Nov. 1968 to Present
  AAA - Corr. & Board Matters, 1969
  Am. Anth Assn Gen'l, 1970
  AAA Data Processing Project, 1969
0.75 linear feet

Photos include a student archeology project (1931) as well as an archeology project in Ontario, Canada, that Nash worked on in 1938-1939 when he was teaching at the University of Toronto. There are numerous photos of activities and meetings he was involved in as Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (1961-1966).

Box 23
Photos
1938 or 1939 Summer, Pound Village Site, U. of Toronto archeology at Aylmer - Ontario
Negatives, 1938 or 1939 Summer, Pound Village Site, U. of Toronto archeology at Aylmer - Ontario
1961
April-May 1962
October 11, 1962, Mescalero, NM
1962
Hopi Indian Agency-1963
Portland Trip July 1963
Southwest - Oct. 13, 1963, Logina Burnell
1963
East Bay United Indian Council, June 1964, Ute Mountain, May 1964, other 1964
1964
1965
Interior Department 1966
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Developed April 1967
Time/Place Unknown
Miscellaneous

Box 24
Photos (continued)
Summer 1931
1961
Crow Agency, Montana 1964

Oversize Item
Miscellaneous Papers/Publications of Others (continued)
Jules Rosette: The Veil of Objectivity: Prophecy, Divination, and Social Inquiry