Sol Tax was trained and has taught at the University of Chicago. His dissertation on Fox social organization was based on fieldwork at the Mesquakie settlement at Tama, Iowa, in 1932-1934.

Sol Tax began the Fox Project to provide field experience to anthropology students at the University of Chicago (1948-1953). During the first season, the students conducted inquiries into Fox social organization and leadership. This led them to suspect that the Tama settlement was threatened with internal dissension brought on by outside pressures of the white community. When they decided to interfere in the ongoing process, the students and Tax were confronted with the fact that they were only students and had no real authority to enforce changes. In response to this situation, Tax and the students developed a theoretical framework for action that has come to be known as action anthropology. The students also began discussing approaches to the problems they perceived while they were studying the Fox. In consultation with the Fox, the group devised a plan of action and obtained money from a private foundation in 1953. At this time, students and faculty from the University of Iowa joined the University of Chicago group. The Fox Project was largely educational in its conception but over time it came to include economic and social aspects. Several educational efforts were made including the Fox Indian Professional Education Program. They helped to establish a community center; sought a clinic; and launched a crafts industry (Tama Indian Crafts).

Students who participated in the project included Herbert Becker, Ariane Brunel, Charles Callendar, Marie Furey Callendar, Carl Couch, Paul Diesing, Lloyd Fallers, Eugene Fugel, Frederick O. Gearing, Irving Gerick, Grace Gredys, Jerry Jayne, Richard Kluckhorn, Charles Leslie, Joseph R. Marlin, William McCormack, Walter Miller, Fred Okita, Lisa Redfield Peattie, Steven Polgar, Robert Rietz, Sarah Robinson, Lucinda Sangre, Walter H. Sangre, Florence Simon, Claude Tardita, Caroline Wiesender, and Davida Wolffson. Also involved were Alton Fischer, Otis Imboden, Carol Ruppe, and Reynold Ruppe.


An additional 3.5 inches of materials (see box 22) were added to the collection in 2011. These files, most likely to have belonged to Reynold Ruppe, were transferred to the NAA from the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa.
Miller  
Peattie  
Polgar  

**Box 1 (continued)**  
Journals  
Fugel ‘56:  
Becker 1955  
Gearing, M. 1955  
Jayne, 1955  
Okita, 1955  
M.L. Furey, 1954  
Ledbetter, 1954  
Joe Marlin, summer 54  
Robinson, 1954  
Brunel  

**Box 2**  
Journals  
Polgar 1953  
Sangree, Walter & Cindy, 1953  
McCormack, 1952  
Polgar, 1952  
Simon, 1951  
Gerick 1950  
Leslie, 1949  
Wiesender, 1949  
Fallers, 1948  
Gredys, 1948  
Miller, 1948  
Peattie, 1948  
Wolfson, 1948  
Newspaper Clippings  
Newspaper Clippings November-December 1955  

**Box 3**  
Newspaper Clippings  
August 1955  
July 1955  
June 1955  
April-May 1955  
January-March 1955  
February-December 1954  

**Box 4**  
Newspaper Clippings
January-November 1953
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January-December 1951

**Box 4 (continued)**
Newspaper Clippings
   January-December 1952 [2f]
   May-December 1948
   No Exact Date
   August-November 1938
Mesquakie *Booster* Excerpts, 1913-1916
Maps:
   Iowa & Tama
   Settlement [2 oversize maps separated 10/25/10]
Population Data
   Msc Population Data
   Individual Schedules, 1948
   Household Schedules
   Individual Schedules, 1948 [empty]
   Census

**Box 5**
Psychological Tests
   Values Questionnaire
   Gewirtz
   Indian Tat
   Thematic Apperception Tests
   Kluckholn Values Questionnaire
   Tama Indian Reservation Study
   Naughty Boy Stories
Mesquakie Language
   Polgar, Steven
   Gearing, Fred
Proposals, Reports, Memos
   Memorandum 1948
   1949
   1952
   1953
   1954, May 15
   1954, Fall
   1955, May 5
   Prof. Ed. Program Statements
   1956, March
   Schwartzhaupt Foundation Report

**Box 6**
Proposals, Reports, Memos:
  Foote
  Gearing
  Jayne
  Kluckhohn
  Leslie
  Marlin
  Miller
  Peatle
  Polpar
  Sangree, L.
  Tax
  Wolfson
  Summary of relations between project & tribal council

Individual Interviews
  Bear, Jim
  Bear, John
  Benson, Ellis
  Benson, Gladys
  Blackcloud, George
  Blackcloud, Truman
  Buffalo, George
  Buffalo, John
  Buffalo, Margie & Betty
  Bullard, Lottie
  Caesar, Pearl
  Davenport, Agnes
  Davenport, Albert
  Davenport, Charles
  Davenport, Chloe, Ann, Geraldine
  Davenport, Curtis
  Davenport, Ed
  Davenport, Elsie (Mrs. Albert)
  Davenport, Jennie
  Davenport, William
  Eagle, David
  Eagle, Frank
  Jefferson, Carl
  Jefferson, Vernon
  Johnson, John
  Kapayou, George
  Kapayou, Kenneth
  Kapayou, Loman
  Keahna, Columbus

Box 6 (continued)
Individual Interviews
 Keahna, Dixon
 Keahna, Esther Youngbear
 Keahna, May
 Leaf, Frank
 Lasley, Harvey
 Lincoln, Harry
 Old Bear, Ada
 Lincoln, Oliver
 Mauskemo, Harry
 Mitchell, Louis Jones
 Morgan, Conklin
 Morgan, Gailey
 Morgan, Jimmy
 Morgan, Peter
 Papake, Grace
 Papake, Richard
 Peters, Joe
 Peters, Samuel L., Jr.
 Poweshiek, Jim
 Poweshiek, Jonas

Box 7
Individual Interviews
 Pushentonequa, Carol
 Push, Charles
 Push, Frank Sr.
 Roberts, Dewey
 Roberts, Elizabeth F
 Roberts, Lena
 Roberts, Wilson
 Scott, Eva
 Scott, Thomas
 Seymour, Robert
 Slick, Moses
 Slick, Raymond
 Snow, Harold
 Snow, Sophie
 Walker, Henry
 Walker, Irene
 Wanatee, Frank
 Wanatee, Adeline
 Wesekuk, Billy
 Wesekuk, Bertha

Box 7 (continued)
Individual Interviews
   Wesekuk, Pansy
   Wesekuk, Robert
   Youngbear, Mary
   Wayne (Wabaunasee), John
   Wayne, Mike
   Whitebreast
   Youngbear, Dan
   Youngbear, George
   Youngbear, John
   Youngbear, Kenneth
   Youngbear, Rose

Education
   Childraising Data
   Misc.
   “What I want to be” papers
   Day school data
   Day school affairs
   Fox: Data: Att. Quest. Datasheets
   High school club
   Teen boy interviews
   High school students

Box 8
Education
   8th Grade Iowa Exam
   Attitude Quest. Coded Results

Historical Data
   Overall: All periods
   Historical Period 1800-1900

Economics
   Claus
   Couch: Labor Force
   Gearing, M.
   Rietz
   Gearing

Social Organizations
   Fox Field data: Pow Wow
   American Legion
   Economic, misc.
   Religions & ceremonies
   Peyote
   Fox Council 1944, plus Analysis
   Band Organization

Box 8 (continued)
Social Organizations
  Recreation Groups
  Tribal Council
  Mesquake Women’s Club
  Factions
  Pow Wow

Box 9
Tama Whites 45: Census (sic) reports on Tarpa; Marlin’s reconnaissance on Tama
Non-Tama Whites 46
  Indian Services Personnel at Tama
  3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade Children – Chelsea Public School - Subject = The Mesquakie Indians
  Non-Tama Whites
  Stolpe et al
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  Legal Affairs
Miscellaneous 50
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Action Files (old materials) [2f]
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Box 11
Brunel
Fox Scholarship Program
Fallers
Tamacraft and Schwarzhaupt Accts

Box 11 (continued)
The Schwartzhaupt Foundation Tama Indian Program Report of Activities 1955-1956
(February 1957)
The Tama Project (Indians)[Tamacraft Cards]
Beattie 1956
Tama Report 10-62
Seminar Spring 55
The Fox Indian Professional Education Program; Report on the operation of the Scholarship
Fund; Financial Statement
Steve Polgar Letter
Values in Action Symposium Dec. 1957 Copy I
Action Anthropology Reader [2f]

Box 12
Fox Form Letters
Fox Indian Professional Education [2f]
Adding Machine Totals for Fox Indian Education
[Reports & Correspondence]
Reviews
Callender – Changes in Mesquakie Culture
CSAA, 1956, Fox Project
CSAS: 4/56, Tax, Gearing, Rietz
Diesing – 1958; Comments on Values in Action
Gearing – Culture, Contact, Free Choice & Progress
Manas Article
Miller
Peattie: Interventionism & Applied Science in Anthropology
Symposium: The Fox Indian Project, A Program of Action Anthropology
Tax:
  Termination, Cong. Record July 1957
  Culture Makes a Difference, 1958
  NBC Broadcast: American Indian In City notes
  Quality of Peasant Living, 1956
Tax, Gearing, Rietz – Fox Symposium, CSAS, 1956
Tax File: Gazette-Telegraph… educational
Values in Action Symposium, Redfield

Box 13
Miller
Barnett
Tumin
Holmsberg

Box 13 (continued)
Documents on Fox History:
  1806-March 1813
  April 1913-1916
Iowa City Symposium Paper (Original Mss)
Values in Action, Conference & Paper
Pow-Wow Program, 1957
All writings
Director:
  “The Tama Project”
  Memo to Fox Field parties
  Scholarship Program
T.V., Radio
Gearing:
  “First, They Listen”
  “…Mesquakie Nation”
Gearing et al: Newspaper clippings
Peattie
Rietz:
  [Correspondence]
  Tama Indian Crafts Project
Steward et al: Indian Claims Litigation
Tax:
  Anthropology and Administration
  Federal Indian Policy & NCAI, 1957
  Integration of Anthropology, 1955
Early Money Requests

**Box 14**
Bertha Waseskuk: “We the Mesquakie Nation”
Fox Reservation Project:
  Interviews/ Field Notes (duplicates)
  T.A.T. Tests (duplicates)
School
Farm
Tribal Constitution
Indian Service
Extension (duplicates)
Legion
MSC Recreation
Fox Correspondence copies
Action Anthropology Reader
Faller (duplicates)
Faller and Peattie

**Box 14 (continued)**
Fox Field Party:
   Miller diary, 1948 (duplicates)
   Peattie diary, 1948 (duplicate)
Gredys & Fallers, Journals (duplicates)
Peattie – Interviews (duplicates)
Peattie, Gredys, Wolffson
Rietz (duplicates)

Box 15
Rietz (duplicates)
Messinger
Fox Reservation Project (3): Field Notes – Rietz, Gredys, Miller, Tax (duplicates)
Miller Duplicate Interviews (duplicates)
Interviews – Fred Gearing & M.G. (duplicates)
M. L. Furey
Fox Field Party – Wolffson Diary, 1948 (duplicates)
Fox Field Trip – Field Notes, 1949 season [2f]
Fox – Rietz (duplicates)
Miscellaneous (duplicates)
S. Robinson

Box 16
Tama – Craft: Posters and Signs
J. Marlin
C. Callender
S. U. I., 49a
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Schwarzhaupt Tama Indian, 1 5630 49 2780 [2f]
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Box 17
Finances, 1954-1955
Msc. Accounts, 1948-54 [2f]
Documents on Fox History:
   1817-August 1820
   May 1828-March 1829
   July 1829-May 1830
   June 1830-May 8931

Box 18
Documents on Fox History:
   May 1831-October 1831
   October 1831-May 1832
   June 1832-August 1832
   August 1832-November 1832
November 1832-November 1834
January 27, 1835-November 1837

Box 19
Documents on Fox History: December 9, 1837 to the Present
Fox Documents:
   Miscellaneous I
   Miscellaneous II
Rebok – Last of the Mesquakies (Mesquakie Return to Iowa)
Ward – Back to Iowa, The First Purchase
Other Sources
Marlin – Triplicates of Documentary Record
Meskwakia by Duren J. H. Ward, 1905
Tax Files (51)
   Index
   Census
   Census (Sol’s)
   Census (Tax)
   Fox Census [2f]
Child Training:
   Childbirth
   Twins
   Adoption – Real
   Children – Disposition of
   Discipline
   Naming
Marriage
   General
   Sororate, Levirate (Kevurate)

Box 20
Tax Files (51)
   Incest
   Sex Life – Adultery
   Menstruation
   Kinship Terminology:
      Female Speaking
      Male Speaking
   Kinship System Chart

Box 20 (continued)
Tax Files (51)
   Kinship Terminology
      Kinship Terms
   Marriages
   Households
Kinship Behavior – Siblings

Genealogies:
  General
  Ward article
Index to Genealogies
Index to Marriages
Maternal Culture
Property
Women’s Position
Witchcraft
Fasting for Power
Death

History:
  General
  Fox Reading Notes
  Bibliography
  Gifts and Obligations
Fox: Ethnology
Blank Forms: Census Record, Kinship Data

Box 21
Tax Files (51)
  Telser
  Waseskuk – “Mesquakie History, As we Know It”
  Radin – History
  Peattie
  Financial
  Marlin – Statements by the Presidents on Indian Affairs, 1795-1905

Box 22 Acretion #2011-24
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Annuity Payroll
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Births, January 1944-July 1956
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Births, 1926-1943
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Divorce
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Marriages
Unknown Author – Vital Statistics – Deaths
Proposal for financing

Updated: March 12, 2012
Lorain Wang