

November 2015

## November is Native American Heritage Month

The National Archives at Chicago's holdings for Record Group 75, Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, include several hundred cubic feet of records that document the day-to-day way of life of numerous Native American (Indian) tribes who resided on reservations in the Great Lakes Region. While textual records make up the vast majority of our RG 75 holdings, a limited number of photographs are present. You can find a complete list of the RG 75 records series on our home page at <http://www.archives.gov/chicago/finding-aids/>.

Besides the Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, several other record groups at Chicago document Native Americans. For instance, Federal court records (Record Group 21) document Native American rights and treaties. Record Group 95, Records of the Forest Service, includes images of Native Americans. Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service, includes materials on the administration and site interpretation of ancient Native American sites in the Great Lakes region such as the Hopewell Culture National Historic Park in Ohio.

Recently, archivists and education specialists from around NARA devoted their considerable expertise and revised the National Archives homepage related to American Indians. You can begin your search for this unique history at <http://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/>, or contact us here at the National Archives at Chicago.

In recognition of their rich heritage we have included some of our unique records that document American Indians.



Chippewa women at the Grand Portage Reservation, ca. 1937

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**The National Archives at Chicago is located at:**  
7358 S. Pulaski Road  
Chicago, IL 60629-5898  
773-948-9001  
[chicago.archives@nara.gov](mailto:chicago.archives@nara.gov)

**The National Archives at Chicago research rooms are open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:15 PM.**

**Upcoming Holidays:**  
Wednesday Nov 25: Close 3pm  
Thursday Nov 26: Closed  
Thursday Dec 24: Close 3PM  
Friday Dec 25: Closed  
Friday Jan 1: Closed  
Monday Jan 18: Closed



In September 1918 Private Frank Mackey, a Pottawatomie tribal member, who as a child attended the Mount Pleasant Indian School and Agency in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, and later became an Indian Assistant at the school, was reported killed in action in France. Mackey, who had been severely wounded in combat while serving with the 32<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, wrote administrators at Mount Pleasant to allay any fears that he had been killed.

F. Mackey

Base Hospital No. 28  
A.P. O. 753, France.  
October 6, 1918.

Dear Friend:

Will write a few lines to let you know that I am still among the living. But I have been in the hospital for the last couple of months. Am getting along fine and hope to be out soon.

I have been in the hospital ever since August 3. Certainly had it soft all this time. If the bullets did n't hurt so much I'd get wounded all the time. But I was hit once and that's enough for this Injun. I almost saw the Happy Hunting Ground.

But we certainly had the Boches a-going at the time I got wounded. Tiger Bill and I were hit at the same time. I guess you know Tiger Bill - Willie Tyosh.

I suppose you remember Sam Mitchell and Mitchell Moby? They were here a few days ago and they said they were in this hospital for quite a while. I think they were sent back to their Companies.

The weather is getting pretty cold over here, and I imagine it's going to be a pretty cold winter. The Frenchmen don't seem to mind the weather very much. They work rain or shine, and every day.

I received a letter from Mr. Brazie a few days ago, and he says he is getting along pretty well with his new job in the ship-yards. He told me to tell all the Injun boys to kill all the Boches they could, and he said he prays and hopes that all of us will return safe and sound.

Well, I suppose the engineers are busy repairing pipes and boilers at the heating plant?

Well, my friend, the news is scarce around the hospital, and I hope to hear from you again.

My present address is: Private Frank Mackey, Base Hospital No. 28, A.P.O. 753, France.

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F. Pupil

November 1, 1918.

Pvt. Frank Mackey,  
Base Hospital No. 28,  
A.P.O. 753, France.

Dear Frank:

After believing that you were dead for the past few months we were all very much surprised today when your letter written on October 6 was received here by Miss Fish. We are certainly all feeling very much relieved and happy to know that you were not killed and that you are recovering from your wounds and hope you will be out of the hospital and that this war will be over in a short time.

I wish you would write me and give me all the information you can regarding the boys who went over. I need this information for the files of this office and to send to the Indian Office at Washington. We heard sometime ago that Owasso Gesick was missing in action. Do you know anything about him or have you heard that he was taken prisoner? I suppose now, since everyone attended the services at the Methodist Church and listened to a funeral preached by the pastor there upon your death, we will have to hold a celebration rejoicing that we prematured in burying you.

Everything at the school is going along about as usual although we have a great many new pupils since you left here. About twenty came here from Carlisle when that school was closed and also a number of their employees. Both employees and pupils have changed considerably since you left. Nevertheless, all the old employees and pupils would be glad to see you back when you return to the Good Old U.S.A.

Response to Private Mackey from the Mount Pleasant Indian School



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### **NARA Archivist Katie Dishman Returns to Corporate Archives**



Archivist Katie Dishman has accepted a position as Corporate Archivist at the Marriott International Headquarters in Maryland and will be leaving the National Archives after the Thanksgiving holidays. Katie joined the National Archives in 2010 as an archives technician and was promoted to archivist in 2013. She received a M.A. in Public History from Loyola University of Chicago, a Master of Library and Information Science from Dominican University, and a specialist certificate with an emphasis on archives and libraries from Wayne State University. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists and has been active in the Midwest Archives Conference and the Society of American Archivists.

Her previous experience includes working as the archivist and reference librarian for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the corporate archivist for General Mills in Minneapolis, and the research archivist at Anheuser-Busch in St. Louis. She had a strong interest in the wartime homefront and the history of radio broadcasting but always tried her hardest to help researchers find the information they needed no matter the topic. We appreciate all of the assistance she has provided to numerous researchers over the years wish her luck as she returns to the world of corporate archives!

The Gales of November: the Edmund Fitzgerald 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tragedy

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION U. S. COAST GUARD CG-4380A (Rev. 3-67)		LOG - REMARKS SHEET			
VESSEL/STATION USCG CUTTER NAUGATUCK (WYTM-92)		ZONE DESCRIPTION +5	DAY OF WEEK TUESDAY	DATE (Day, mo., yr.) 11 Nov 75	
AT/PASSAGE FROM SAULT STE. MARIE MICHIGAN		PASSAGE TO LK SUPERIOR			
POSITION	METHOD	POSITION	METHOD	POSITION	METHOD
0800		1200		2000	
L _____	MEASUR	L 46°46.5' N	3	L 46°53'45"	3
λ _____		λ 84°36.4' W		λ 84°40'50"	
METHOD CODE: 1 - CELESTIAL 2 - ELECTRONIC 3 - VISUAL 4 - D. R.					
REMARKS					
0000 - 0400					
MOVED STRD SIDE CG DOCK 500 MICH - SHIP STANDING BY TO GET UNDERWAY TO LOOK FOR STRR. E. FITZGERALD WHICH IS MISSING UNDER CP CON COMCRU 500 MICH - 0200 MARKS RETURNED FROM LV - ALL CREW ABOARD - HAVING EGY TROUBLE PORT M/E. P. S. Ketchum QMCR-2					
0400 - 0500					
MOVED AS BEFORE - PORT M/E STILL OUT - Ø759 TRYING TO REPAIR M/E STILL - 0800 211 HANDS PRESENT OR ACCOUNTED FOR - P. S. Ketchum QMCR-2					
0500 - 1200					
MOVED AS BEFORE - 0900 NAUGATUCK UP ON YC/S TO CONTINUE WITH ST MARY'S RIVER ENVOY TO LOOK FOR STRR. E. FITZGERALD *1 0909 STANDING INTO DAVIS LOCKS - 0914 MOVED PORT SIDE TO DAVIS LOCKS - 0928 Y/W TO STAND OUT OF DAVIS LOCKS - 0930 STANDING OUT OF DAVIS LOCKS - 0932 PASSED UNDER INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE - STANDING INTO UPPER RIVER - 1005 ME'S ON THE BANK. - 1040 AHEAD TO STRD GWS COP LT STANDING OUT OF ST MARY'S RIVER INTO WHITEFISH BAY - 1050 C/LC TO 004° T 015 PSL TO COMMENCE SEARCH ALONG CANADIAN SHORE. 1110 C/LC 006° T 015 PSL - 1126 C/LC TO 013 TO AHEAD SHIP IF SEARCH - 1130 C/LC TO 007° T P. S. Ketchum QMCR-2					
EXAMINED		APPROVED			
USCG		NAVIGATOR/XO		USCG COMMANDING	
PREVIOUS EDITIONS ARE USABLE *1 port M/E repaired etc					

November 11, 1975 deck log entry from the U.S. Coast Guard cutter, *Naugatuck*, and its search and rescue mission for the *Edmund Fitzgerald*.

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## Chicago Open House, Saturday, October 10, 2015



Director Doug Bicknese speaks with visitors on Saturday, October 10, 2015, during the National Archives open house, part of the Chicago Open Archives event. The initiative was sponsored by the Chicago Area Archivists (CAA) in recognition of Archives Month. During the program archival repositories around the Chicagoland area hosted additional tours, open houses, and found other ways to highlight their one-of-a-kind holdings.

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## Naturalization Petitions from the U.S. District Court for the Chicago Division of the Northern District of Illinois Now Online!

Through a partnership with FamilySearch, a nonprofit family history organization, all of the Petitions for Naturalization from the U.S. District Court in Chicago have been digitized. The petitions cover the years 1906 through 1991 and are freely available at all National Archives facilities, many public libraries, as well as <http://familysearch.org/collection/2212212>. You can see a nice example here for Chicago hockey great, Stan Mikita, here <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-909-51026-33847-69?cc=2212212&wc=Q42D-SPD:1010138201,1583830901>.

Currently, however, the collection cannot be searched by name – you will need to know the petition number. Don't have the number? No worries. There are two indexes also available on the FamilySearch website: one covering petitions filed through 1950 (<http://familysearch.org/collection/1838804>) and one covering the years 1926-1979 (<http://familysearch.org/collection/2040533>).

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## **New Intern at the National Archives Chicago**



This fall the National Archives at Chicago welcomed intern Ms. Jenna Paige Hill to the archives. Jenna, from Marengo, Illinois, recently graduated from Baylor University in Waco, Texas with a BA in History and a double minor in Chinese and Anthropology. She enjoys reading, going to the movies, scrapbooking, and collecting comics. In the future Jenna plans to pursue a MA in archives and preservation or Historical Archaeology. Right now, however, Jenna says she is very excited to be a part of the National Archives at Chicago team.

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## **Saturday Hours End at NARA Field Facilities**

Beginning November 1, 2015, the research rooms at the National Archives at Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Fort Worth, Kansas City, New York, Philadelphia, Riverside, San Bruno and Seattle will cease intermittent Saturday hours in the research rooms. All will continue to be open to the public Monday-Friday. The decision to cancel intermittent Saturday openings was made at the agency level following a close examination of usage trends. The result will be that all National Archives field locations are open on the same days. This will increase the consistency and efficiency of our public services. No change is being made to research room schedules at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC or at the National Archives at College Park.

For more information on this change in hours, please contact the National Archives Public Affairs Office at [public.affairs@nara.gov](mailto:public.affairs@nara.gov) or [202-357-5300](tel:202-357-5300)

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## **Bankruptcy Case Files No Longer held at Chicago**

The first week of September saw the last shipment of accessioned bankruptcy case files leave our facility. All accessioned bankruptcy case files held by the National Archives and Records Administration are now centralized at the National Archives at Kansas City. The National Archives at Chicago still has the indexes, dockets, journals and other records that can provide researchers with an overview of individual and company

bankruptcies that took place in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The Federal Records Center in Chicago will also continue to hold more recent bankruptcy case files that are still owned by the U.S. Courts in our region. However, if you are searching for an older accessioned case file and have the case number, please contact the National Archives at Kansas City at [kansascity.archives@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.archives@nara.gov) or 816-268-8000. Bankruptcy case files can no longer be shipped back to the National Archives at Chicago.

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If the answer is “no,” then drop us an e-mail with your contact information to [chicago.archives@nara.gov](mailto:chicago.archives@nara.gov).

Per the Privacy Act of 1974 we will not share your personal information with third parties.