

Willard Rhodes papers

AFC 1980/041

Guides to the Collections in the Archive of Folk Culture



**American Folklife Center, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
March 2019**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017655250>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/eadafc.af018012>

Prepared by Kelly Revak

Finding aid encoded by Kelly Revak, March 2019

Collection Summary

Title: Willard Rhodes papers

Inclusive Dates: 1938-1979

Call No.: AFC 1980/041

Creator: United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs

Creator: Rhodes, Willard, 1901-1992

Extent: 140 items ; 2 containers ; .6 linear feet.

Extent (graphic images): 11 photographs : film negatives, black and white.

Extent (graphic images): 39 photographic prints : black and white ; various sizes.

Extent (graphic images): 1 photographic print : color ; 3 x 4 in.

Extent (manuscripts): 16 field notebooks.

Extent (manuscripts): 16 folders.

Language: In English and numerous Native American languages.

Location: Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017655250>

Summary: Field notebooks, correspondence, publications, and photographs, related to Willard Rhodes' field expeditions to Native American communities between 1938 and 1952 on behalf of the Library of Congress and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The notebooks contain Rhodes' field notes, transcriptions, translations, and some musical notation, relating to audio recordings of Native American songs. Correspondence (1948-1979) relates primarily to the ten albums of Native American music recorded and edited by Rhodes in the *Music of the American Indian* series. Tribes recorded by Rhodes include Apache, Bannock, Caddo, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Chinook, Choctaw, Comanche, Creek, Delaware, Hopi, Kiowa, Klallam, Lummi, Navajo, Omaha, Paiute, Pawnee, Potawatomi, Pueblo, Quinault, San Ildefonso, Seminole, Shaker, Shoshone, Sioux, Skagit, Taos, Tewa, Tlingit, Tsaiyak, Ute, Washo, Wichita, and Zuni songs. The collections also includes eight government and mission publications from Sioux communities.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Lange, Juel E.

Rhodes, Willard, 1901-1992

Rhodes, Willard, 1901-1992--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subjects

Apache Indians--Music.

Bannock Indians--Music.

Caddo Indians--Music.

Cherokee Indians--Music.

Cheyenne Indians--Music.

Chinook Indians--Music.

Choctaw Indians--Music.

Clallam Indians--Music.

Comanche Indians--Music.

Creek Indians--Music.

Dakota Indians--Music.

Delaware Indians--Music.

Field recordings.

Hopi Indians--Music.

Indians of North America--Great Basin.

Indians of North America--Great Lakes Region (North America)
Indians of North America--Great Plains.
Indians of North America--Middle Atlantic States.
Indians of North America--Music.
Indians of North America--Southern States.
Indians of North America--Southwest, New.
Kiowa Apache Indians--Music.
Lummi Indians--Music.
Navajo Indians--Music.
Omaha Indians--Music.
Paiute Indians--Music.
Pawnee Indians--Music.
Potawatomi Indians--Music.
Pueblo Indians--Music.
Quinault Indians--Music.
Seminole Indians--Music.
Shoshoni Indians--Music.
Skagit Indians--Music.
Songs, Hopi.
Songs, Lummi.
Songs, Navajo.
Songs, Seminole.
Songs, Tewa.
Songs--Texts.
Taos Indians--Music.
Tewa Indians--Music.
Ute Indians--Music.
Washoe Indians--Music.
Wichita Indians--Music.
Zuni Indians--Music.

Titles

Music of the American Indian.

Form/Genre

Correspondence.
Field notes.
Manuscripts.
Photographs.
Song texts.
Translations.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged in two series: Manuscripts and Visual Materials.

Additional Guides

Inventory is available in the Folklife Reading Room.

Acquisition

Willard Rhodes; 1980.

Related Material

For associated sound recordings see Willard Rhodes field recordings collections, housed at the Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.:

- [Willard Rhodes 1940 field recordings collection \(AFC 1940/019\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1941 field recordings collection \(AFC 1941/039\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1942-1943 field recordings collection \(AFC 1942/024\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1943 field recordings collection \(AFC 1943/020\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1947 field recordings collection \(AFC 1947/012\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1949 field recordings collection \(AFC 1949/001\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1950 field recordings collection \(AFC 1950/027\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1951 field recordings collection \(AFC 1951/001\)](#)
- [Willard Rhodes 1952 field recordings collection \(AFC 1952/005\)](#)

Some associated original sound recordings reside at UCLA Ethnomusicology Archive.

Copyright Status

Duplication of collection materials may be governed by copyright and other restrictions.

Access and Restrictions

Collection is open for research. To request materials, please contact the Folklife Reading Room at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact>

Electronic Format

Additional formats include 3396 master digital files, scanned from the originals, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Willard Rhodes papers, 1938-1979 (AFC 1980/041), Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

While working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs with equipment supplied in part by the Library of Congress, Willard Rhodes, professor of music at Columbia University recorded the music of fifty Native American tribes living primarily in the western United States. He documented, in addition to traditional genres, Christian hymns in native languages, songs with English words, and other music of recent composition. He undertook nine field surveys of Native American music between 1940 and 1952. The recordings included 260 audio discs (1940-1949) and 50 7-inch audio tape reels (1950-1952). The field projects, intended to document new music in Native American communities as well as the traditional music that was being performed, were sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Library of Congress issued ten LP recordings based on the collection through the cooperation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Arts and Crafts Board. Rhodes also edited two albums on Smithsonian Folkways Records. A selection of Native American music, recorded by Rhodes, was released on the Voyager Golden Record (1977).

Scope and Content

Field notebooks, correspondence, publications, and photographs, related to Willard Rhodes' field expeditions to Native American communities between 1938 and 1952 on behalf of the Library of Congress and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The notebooks contain Rhodes' field notes, transcriptions, translations, and some musical notation, relating to audio recordings of Native American songs. Correspondence (1948-1979) relates primarily to the ten albums of Native American music recorded and edited by Rhodes in the *Music of the American Indian* series. Tribes recorded by Rhodes include Apache, Bannock, Caddo, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Chinook, Choctaw, Comanche, Creek, Delaware, Hopi, Kiowa, Klallam, Lummi, Navajo, Omaha, Paiute, Pawnee, Potawatomi, Pueblo, Quinault, San Ildefonso, Seminole, Shaker, Shoshone, Sioux, Skagit, Taos, Tewa, Tlingit, Tsaiyak, Ute, Washo, Wichita, and Zuni songs. The collections also includes 8 government and mission publications from Sioux communities.

Photographs of native peoples of Washington State were taken by Juel E. Lange in conjunction Willard Rhodes' fieldwork. Selected photos were published in the booklet accompanying the original edition of *Music of the American Indian: Northwest (Puget Sound)* AFS L34. Photographs of Sioux and Pueblo children appear to have been taken by Willard Rhodes. Included in the collection are three 8 x 10 in. black-and-white photographic prints from the Bureau of Indian Affairs of BIA schools.

Description of Series

Container

Series

[Series 1: Manuscripts](#)

[Series 2: Graphic Materials](#)

Container List

Container	Contents
Series 1: Manuscripts	
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Notebook with musical notation, transcriptions, and translations, of Kiowa, Navajo and Sioux songs., June 1938 1 notebook
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	5 notebooks, music pages, 1939 “Indian Music I”- Omaha, South Dakota, July 7-14, 1939 1 notebook Field notes, musical notation, transcriptions, and translations which accompany recordings I-A-1 through XV-B-2. “Indian Music II” Omaha, South Dakota, July 7 and July 17-19, 1939 1 notebook Vocabulary (July 7, 1939); July 17-19, 1939, field notes, transcriptions, translations which accompany recordings VI-B-1 through XVIII-A-3. “Indian Music III” Omaha, South Dakota, July 19-26, 1939 1 notebook Field notes, transcriptions, translations which accompany recordings XVIII-B-2 through XXXI-A-2. “Indian Music IV” Omaha, South Dakota, July 27-28, 1939 1 notebook Field notes, transcriptions, translations which accompany recordings XXXI-B-1 through XXXXIII-A-5. “Indian Music V” Omaha, South Dakota, July 31 - August 5, 1939 1 notebook Field notes, transcriptions, translations which accompany recordings XXXVI-A-1, XXXVII-A-2, XXXXIV-A-1 through L-B-2. Loose music pages, with musical notation and words relating to Omaha songs.
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	"Indian Music XI" Omaha, Navajo, Seminole; South Dakota, New Mexico, California (?), June 6, 1940 1 notebook Field notes, transcriptions, translations which accompany recordings I-A-1 through XI. May relate to recordings in AFC 1940/019 . One page with notes from 1942/1943.
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Field notebook: Paiute; Santa Clara, Utah, 1941 1 notebook Related recordings: AFC 1941/039
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	Field notebook: Primarily Navajo; Pine Springs, Arizona (1942) and Intermountain Indian School, Brigham City, Utah (1952), August 5-10, 1942 ; June 14 - July 2, 1952 1 notebook Related recordings: AFC 1942/024 and AFC 1952/005
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	3 notebooks : Alaskan Eskimo, Arikara, Blackfeet, Crow, Flathead, Omaha, Navajo, Nez Perce, Pueblo, Sioux, Wasco, and Winnebago; northern Great Plains and Pacific Northwest, 1947 3 notebooks Field notes related to recordings made in the summer of 1947 at Pine Ridge, South Dakota; Chemawa, Simnasho, and Pendleton, Oregon; Toppenish, Washington; Browning and

Series 1: Manuscripts

Container	Contents
	Poplar, Montana; and Elbowoods and Fort Yates, North Dakota. Sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Related recordings: AFC 1947/012
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	3 notebooks: Various tribes and locations, 1950 3 notebooks Field notes related to Native American music recorded in the summer of 1950 by Willard Rhodes. Songs are labeled as Puyallup, Canadian/Vancouver Island, Nisqually, Lummi, Snahomish, Skokomish, Snoqualmi, Samyama, Fraser River, Nooksack, Skagit, Samish, Nitinat, Makah, Clayoquot, Quinault, Kwakiutl, Quileute, Chinook, Twana, Chehallis, Bannock, Shoshone, and Arapaho. Included are Native American Shaker songs. Recordings were made at Auburn, Shelton, Marietta, Everson, La Conner, Marblemount, Neah Bay, La Push, Union, Washington; and at Fort Hall, Idaho. Sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Education Division. Related recordings: AFC 1950/027 .
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	Field notebook: Apache, Cherokee, Comanche, Creek, Hopi, Kiowa, Navajo, Pawnee, Shoshone, and Tlingit, as well as indigenous Ecuadorian and Eskimo music; Arizona, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming, 1951 1 notebook Field notes related to recordings of Apache, Cherokee, Comanche, Creek, Hopi, Kiowa, Navajo, Pawnee, Shoshone, and Tlingit, as well as indigenous Ecuadorian and Eskimo music. Recorded in Arizona, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming by Willard Rhodes, June 1951, for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Related recordings: AFC 1951/001
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Trip report, 1952 6 pages Discusses fieldwork in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah by Willard Rhodes, summer 1952, to collect and record texts of Native American songs to be used in the series of albums of Music of the American Indian by Library of Congress. Related recordings: AFC 1952/005
BOX-FOLDER 2/10	1948-1954 correspondence (trips and record production)
BOX-FOLDER 2/11	1958-1979 correspondence
BOX-FOLDER 2/12	Publications by Rhodes “The Use of the Computer in the Classification of Folk Tunes,” <i>Studia Musicologica Tomus VII</i> (1965) “Toward a Definition of Ethnomusicology,” <i>American Anthropologist</i> 58, No. 3 (June 1956) “Society of Ethnomusicology,” <i>African Music</i> 1, No. 3 (1956) “A Study of Musical Diffusion Based on the Wandering of the Opening Peyote Song,” <i>Journal of the International Folk Music Council</i> X (1958) “Acculturation in North American Indian Music,” TAX: Acculturation in the Americas, Vol. II, <i>Proceedings of the 29th International Congress of Americanists</i> (1952)
BOX-FOLDER 2/13	8 Government and mission publications from Sioux communities, including 1936 Constitution and By-laws of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota, 1936
BOX-FOLDER 2/14	Miscellany Lists, text transcriptions, concordance of tracks for <i>Music of the American Indian</i> albums with Rhodes recording numbers, draft of introduction to albums.

Series 2: Graphic Materials

BOX-FOLDER 2/15	Photographs of native peoples of Washington State, taken in conjunction with the fieldwork of Willard Rhodes. By Juel E. Lange (NW Coast) 17 black-and-white photographic prints, 8 x 10 in.
-----------------	---

Series 2: Graphic Materials

Container

Contents

	Selected photos were used in the published booklet accompanying the original edition of <i>Music of the American Indian: Northwest (Puget Sound)</i> AFS L34, recorded and edited by Willard Rhodes.
BOX-FOLDER 2/16	Photos – Sioux, schoolchildren, Pueblos, Navajo and BIA school photos from Bureau of Indian Affairs. 1 color, 22 black-and-white photographic prints (various sizes); 11 negatives