

# AMERICAN INDIANS

A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications



This catalog is one in a series that describes National Archives microfilm publications related to specific subjects of high research interest. Each catalog is compiled through an extensive review of microfilmed records to locate relevant publications. The catalogs contain descriptions of the records and roll-by-roll listings for each publication. The seven catalogs in the series of **Select Catalogs of National Archives Microfilm Publications** are:

**American Indians**  
**Black Studies**  
**Genealogical and Biographical Research**  
**Immigrant and Passenger Arrivals**  
**Military Service Records**  
**Diplomatic Records**  
**Federal Court Records**

*Other available microfilm catalogs are:*

**Comprehensive Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications**  
**1790-1890 Federal Population Censuses**  
**1900 Federal Population Census**  
**1910 Federal Population Census**  
**1920 Federal Population Census**

For further information about these and other National Archives Trust Fund publications, contact Publications Distribution (NECD), National Archives, Washington, DC 20408.

Many of these publications are available electronically. Periodically, new publications are added, and existing ones are updated. To access the National Archives gopher via the Internet, point your gopher client at <gopher.nara.gov>, port 70 (the default):  
<gopher://gopher.nara.gov/>. For further information about publications available to Internet users, send an e-mail message to [inquire@nara.gov](mailto:inquire@nara.gov).

This publication was not printed at taxpayer expense.

*The cover illustration is from Record Group 111, Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer. The photograph is of a Chiricahua Apache girl, granddaughter of Cochise, taken by Ben Wittick around 1886. 111-SC-85759.*

# American Indians

A Select Catalog  
of  
National Archives  
Microfilm Publications

National Archives Trust Fund Board  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Washington, DC  
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## Foreword

The National Archives and Records Administration is responsible for administering the permanently valuable noncurrent records of the federal government. The holdings of the National Archives now amount to more than 1.7 million cubic feet. They date from the First Continental Congress and consist of the basic records of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government. The Presidential libraries of Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson,

Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan, as well as the Nixon and Bush Presidential projects, contain the papers of those Presidents and many of their associates in office. These research resources document significant events in our nation's history, but most of them are preserved for continuing practical use in the ordinary processes of government; for the protection of individual rights; and for the research use of scholars, students, and other individual researchers.



## The National Archives Microfilm Publication Program

Since 1941, the National Archives has been microfilming selected groups of federal records that have high research value. Under this program, negative microfilm is retained by the National Archives, and positive prints are made from these master negatives and sold at moderate prices. The chief purposes of the program are to make archival sources more easily accessible to libraries, research centers, and individuals and to ensure against loss of valuable information should the original records be destroyed. In this way, microfilm publications are a partial answer to the researcher's need for more extensive publication of archival materials because they provide a relatively inexpensive method by which he or she can obtain facsimile reproductions of entire series of documents.

Although the microfilm publication program is one of the oldest continuing programs of the National Archives, it was not firmly established financially until 1948, when a grant of \$20,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation provided for accelerated production of microfilm and ensured the continuation of the program through the establishment of a revolving fund. By 1991, nearly 200,000 rolls of master negative microfilm had been produced.

National Archives microfilm publications now provide basic documentation for research in the fields of American, European, Far Eastern, African, and Latin American history as well as in local history and genealogy. They are also valuable for work in other fields, such as economics, public administration, political science, law, and ethnology. As the program has developed, more emphasis has been placed on microfilming groups of records that are directly related to one another, as in the case of records relating to the same general subject or to a specific geographic area. In this way researchers can obtain reasonably complete documentation in many fields of interest. For example, a number of microfilm publications document diplomatic, consular, and naval relations between the United States and the Far Eastern countries of China, Japan, and Korea from the late 18th century. Similarly, almost complete coverage of relations between the United States and other countries

throughout the world is provided. Microfilm publications have also been produced concerning the administration of affairs in individual territories of the United States.

### Types of Microfilm Publications

National Archives microfilm publications are divided into two series, identified by "M" numbers and "T" numbers. In general, records selected for filming as "M" publications have high research value for a variety of studies, and the ratio of research value to volume is high. Usually each publication reproduces an entire series of records. Most "M" publications include explanatory material prepared by archivists to help researchers glean information from the filmed records more easily. "M" publications usually have an introduction that describes the origin, content, and arrangement of the filmed records and lists related records. Some introductions also include special aids, such as indexes and registers.

Descriptive pamphlets (DPs) are available for many "M" publications. Each pamphlet contains the publication's introduction (including special lists or indexes prepared to simplify the use of the microfilm publication) and a table of contents that identifies the material contained on each roll. "M" publications that have descriptive pamphlets are indicated in this catalog by the symbol DP at the end of a publication title. The pamphlets are made available on request to prospective purchasers so they can evaluate more thoroughly the value of the publication's contents for their research.

"T" publications, unlike "M" publications, do not usually reproduce a complete series of records; that is, they may contain only segments, by date or subject, of a larger series. In many cases, "T" publications were produced in response to specific reference requests. Also, over the years the National Archives has accessioned as record material microfilm produced by other federal agencies. Some of this film, when it is not defense classified and is deemed of sufficient research value, is reproduced and made available for sale as "T" publications. These publications are reproduced and sold exactly as they were filmed; they contain no introductions, nor are descriptive pamphlets available for them.

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**American Indians**, published 1984

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**Comprehensive Catalog of National Archives Microfilm**

**Publications**, expected publication date, 1984

**1910 Federal Population Census on Microfilm**

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*This cover illustration is from Record Group 111, Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer. The photograph is of Chiricahua, Cochise's granddaughter, taken by Ben Wittick around 1886.*

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of

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