

FRAZER, E. D. (MRS.) COLLECTIONS. 8200

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HISTORICAL COLLECTION FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field worker's name Augusta H. Custer.

This report made on (date) August 10, 1937

1. Name of person owning collection Mrs. E. D. Frazee.
Address 109 North Cheyenne, Geary, Oklahoma.
2. Name (if any) of collection Indian Collection and Antiques.
3. This collection contains the following types of material Indian
bead work, baskets, pictures, pottery, plaques, and blankets.
Old cooking utensils, dishes, candle sticks, moulds, canes, quilts,
hair wreaths, peacock brush, almanac, 106 years old, etc.
4. Amount of material Eight rugs, 12 baskets, 50 pieces of pottery.
5. Material deals with Pottery, rugs, baskets; antiques of all kinds.
6. Approximate period (dates) material is for One piece of pottery
over 900 years old, others over 100. Antiques 150 to 200 years old.
7. Locations of the collection (where it is kept) 109 North Cheyenne
at the home, displayed on the walls and in cabinets.
8. Condition of storage place Poor, collects dust.
Condition of collection Good.
9. What does the owner intend to do with this collection Leave to
daughters.
- Would he be willing to part with it? Perhaps if given a good price.
10. Any other information about the collection, including its history
Mrs. Frazee has been collecting while she was in the Indian Service
in Arizona and New Mexico, for 15 years.
11. Does this owner know other people who have or might have collections.
Give names & addresses: Walter Allen, (nephew), St. Louis, Missouri.

NOTE: In the event that any of the above questions cannot be answered fully in the space allowed, attach blank sheets firmly, and give all available information. Referring to question by number.

Number of sheets attached _____

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Augusta H. Custer,
Interviewer,
August 10, 1937.

Indian Collection of Mrs. E. D. Frazee,
109 North Cheyenne,
Geary, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Frazee worked for fifteen years in the Indian Service in Keams Canyon, Arizona and in Crown Point, New Mexico. Her daughter taught four years in Gallup, New Mexico, and they collected these things while there. This collection is displayed on the walls of two rooms of the home and, in fact, there are antiques scattered all over the house. Mrs. Frazee has had many interesting experiences. She will be eighty-three in September and she has a very active mind.

Navajo Rugs.

One of the rugs was made by an old Navajo named To-He-Clene, who was a cripple. He was a very old Indian when he completed this rug in 1917. This rug which is 64 x 94 inches is made of Germantown yarn and the predominating color is red. The design is intricate and beautiful, the colors used being gray, green, black, white and two tones of red. This rug has two borders on the sides which

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is very unusual. This rug took the prize at the Gallup Ceremonial in 1917 and is prized very highly by the family.

There are five other Navajo rugs on the floors. They also have two Mexican rugs, one is about seventy-five years old and the other about thirty years old. They are woven in two strips and sewed together in the center, the stripes matching.

There are six small rugs ranging in size from 40 x 20 inches to 13 x 20.

Baskets and Plaques.

The plaques represent the handiwork of the Hopi, Mes-calero and Papago Indians. The first mesa of the Hopi village do pottery; the second mesa of the Hopis, called Forevi, make baskets and plaques of grass, wrapped with long smooth grass; the third mesa make plaques and baskets of split yucca and dyed red, black and green; this village is called Hotévilla.

One basket was made by the Paiutes and another by the Pima Indians. There are some heavy rough baskets made by

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the San Felippi Indians, from yucca, to carry vegetables and fruits.

Pottery

There are pottery vases made by the Zuni, La Guna, Isleta, Hopi, Tesuque, San Juan, San Ildefonso, Acoma, San Felippi, and Pima Indians. One piece of prehistoric pottery was dug out of a grave in Arizona and this is undecorated except by the rough lines which run around the surface showing that the bowl was made in rings laid one upon another.

The San Ildefonso pottery is black and has a high gloss. The San Juan pottery is red; some being decorated and other pieces having no decoration.

Painting

There is one painting size 31 x 37 by Hyoukti, a Hopi boy, which portrays the place where the Indian Snake Dance is held. There are two of the same village, size 14 x 16 and 12 x 14, done by the same artist.

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Miscellaneous.

There is a collection of biological specimens, which consists of at least two hundred fifty specimens-- snakes, bats, lizzards, toads, fish, worms, and one Gila Monster. There is pottery from Old Mexico; a feather fan, made by an Arapaho Indian; bow and arrows; porcupine tail; tom tom; saddle blanket; armadillo basket. There are pictures made with the following mediums: water color, oil on canvas, glass and birch bark, charcoal, crayola, rags, tintypes, pencil, pen drawings with ink, water color on glass, and pastel. There is also an old carpet bag brought from England.

Antiques

In the antiques are the following articles: a Paisley shawl, daguerreotypes, petrified wood from the Petrified Forest, old coins, a stamp collection, at least twelve scrap books containing choice poems and pictures of statesmen, and two picture scrap books. One was made in 1905 and some of the others were made in

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1885 and 1889. There are some quilts made in 1884 and a hand-made blanket. An old plate, a teapot and dishes from seventy to one hundred years old are among the collection. A caster (silver) which came from England is at least one hundred years old. There are many documents that are over fifty years old, an almanac dated 1831 and a little book for children printed in England in 1831.

Indian Bead Work

There are four pairs of moccasins made by the Cheyennes, a baby carrier and some hat bands. One piece of bead work made by the Sioux Tribe. Mrs. Richardson was working in the Indian Service and was trying to establish her birthright and receive a pension. They proved that she was a baby survivor of the Custer Massacre, and after much investigation and letter writing by Mrs. Frazee for this Indian woman, she gave her this small beaded purse, or tobacco pouch, ornamented with small bits of copper bell-like shapes around the flap that covers the opening.

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Library

There are many old volumes in the library, one, a History of Bureau County, Illinois. There are four very old Bibles.

Charm String

One of the most unusual things in this museum is a charm string, started in 1838. There are all kinds of buttons, coins from many countries, an eagle claw, a mountain lion claw, a vertebra from a Mexican man, a shell from San Juan Hill, all kinds of campaign buttons, etc.

There is a deer foot letter opener which came from Denmark, an Indian bead from the ceremonial collar of the Chief of the Sac and Fox Indians, which is trimmed in bear claws, the old key to the Trinidad, Colorado, jail, a German cross from "No Man's Land", and parts of twenty-three small dolls. This string is about seventy-seven feet long and has about twenty-five hundred articles strung on it.