SPECIAL COLLECTIONS #: 2004-5

ACQUISITION: The collection was donated by Virginia Chase Bloetscher in 2004.

ACCESS: Restricted access: materials fragile; access by request at Main Library archives only; material does not circulate.

VOLUME: 8 storage boxes and books, 10 LF.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Virginia Chase Bloetscher was a local author, storyteller, and historian who lived in Cuyahoga Falls and specialized in local Native American history. Her book, *Indians of the Cuyahoga Valley and Vicinity* was published in 1980 by the North American Indian Culture Center, Inc. The second revised edition was published by Cuyahoga Valley Archaeological Society in 1997.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The collection consists of a wide variety of documents from Ms. Bloetscher’s manuscripts, presentation notes, slides and photographs, research notes, clippings, posters, artifacts, copies of treaties and maps, and fiction and non-fiction books pertaining to Native Americans. The collection also includes correspondence, manuscripts, articles and clippings from various people she networked with from the 1970s through the 1990s.

ARRANGEMENT: Arranged by format and types of materials.

NOTE: All measurements are approximate. Box measurements include lid.

ABBREVIATIONS:  
(bw) = black and white  
(col) = color

INVENTORY:

SERIES I: SLIDES
Slides used for presentations by Ms. Bloetscher.

BOX 1 (4 ½ x 6 x 5 ¼”) includes:

SLIDE CONTAINERS 1-3: Scenes of miscellaneous Native American locations showing mounds, ceremonial and treaty sites, trails, etc.

SLIDE CONTAINERS 4 & 5: Miscellaneous slides of charts, drawings, and Native American artifacts.
SERIES II: PHOTOGRAPHS

ENVELOPES 1-6: (bw; 2 ½ x 3 ¼”) scenes of Native American locations. Each photo is marked 1 through 6 on the back with a blue marker.

ENVELOPE 7: (col; 4 ¼ x 3 ½”) portrait of John Inns, aka Inawakai, a Mescalero Apache. On verso: “To My White Sister Virginia” “Inawakai”.

ENVELOPE 8: (col.; 4 ¼ x 3 ½”) portrait of John Inns, aka Inawakai, a Mescalero Apache. On verso: “Your Indian Brother” “Inawakai”.

SERIES III: CASSETTE TAPES

Cassette 1: “Lenápe Adventure #1” – Adventure story with sound effects
Cassette 2: “Swift Eagle” – Native American sings and tells stories
Cassette 3: “Indian Songs” – a) Cuyahoga Indian corn song; b) Seneca Indian prayer; c) 2 Hopi Indian songs

SERIES IV: PRESENTATION NOTE CARDS

BOX 2: (4 ½ x 6 ¾ x 5”) includes:

Handwritten notes on index cards and small pieces of paper. Labeled tabs are “Talks” and “Best talk cards”.

SERIES V: POSTCARDS

Six postcards from Mound City Group National Monument; and various individual postcards.

SERIES VI: INDEX CARDS

BOX 3 (4 ¼ x 6 ½ x 12 ¼”) includes:

Index cards in original order from 3 metal file boxes. Cards are labeled for different Native American tribes, individual Native Americans, Native American culture and historical events pertaining to Native Americans. Labeled tabs in the following order:

- Interviews
- Paleo
- Archaic
- Glacial Kame
- Adena
- Hopewell
- Late Woodland intrusive mound
- Eries
- Archaeology
- Valley-River description
- French-Indian War
- Pontiac’s war
- Lord Dunmore’s war
- Indian trails
- Portage Path
- Revolution
- Indian wars
- Tecumseh
- 1812
- Cuyahoga villages
- History-Delaware
- History-Iroquois
- General appearance
- Language – wampum
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Subtopics</th>
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<tr>
<td>Homes – villages</td>
<td>History and type</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
<td>Chippewas</td>
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<td>Life cycle</td>
<td>Miamis</td>
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<td>Spare time</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Iroquois</td>
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<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Delaware</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political social</td>
<td>Shawnees</td>
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<tr>
<td>War</td>
<td>Wyandottes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>Treatment of Indians by Whites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous – unused</td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
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<tr>
<td>General historic</td>
<td>Indian character</td>
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<td>Hurons – early</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mesopelea, neutral Honniasont</td>
<td>Bibliography</td>
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**SERIES VII: VIRGINIA CHASE BLOETSCHER PERSONAL PAPERS**

**BOX 4 (10 ½ x 16 ¼”) includes:**

- Folder 1: Presentation notes
- Folder 2: Correspondence
- Folder 3: Manuscript: *Indian Life in the Cuyahoga Valley Region*
- Folder 4: Manuscript: *Lifestyle of the Historic Indians of Northeastern Ohio*
- Folder 5: Book: *Indians of the Cuyahoga Valley and Vicinity*
- Folder 6: Research information
- Folder 7: Research notes for book
- Folder 8: Research notes and maps for book
- Folder 9: Articles written by Virginia Chase Bloetscher

**SERIES VIII: NORTHAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

- Folder 10: *The Story of Northampton Township* by Ione Hoffman
- Folder 11: *George Croghan, Cuyahoga Valley Indian Trader* by William I. Barnholth
- Folder 12: *George Croghan, Cuyahoga Valley Indian Trader* by William I. Barnholth (1985 Reprint)
- Folder 13: *George Croghan, Cuyahoga Valley Indian Trader and Other Writings* by William I. Barnholth
- Folder 14: *The Historical Background of the Cuyahoga Valley* by William I. Barnholth, 1974
- Folder 15: *La Salle and the Cuyahoga. The Ancient Northern Outlet of Summit Lake. Comments on the One-Mile Portage* by William I. Barnholth
- Folder 16: *David Hudson’s Trail* by Waldo L. Semon
- Folder 17: *Northampton Township Sesquicentennial, 1820-1970* Souvenir History Book
SERIES IX: BIG WHITE OWL
Big White Owl, aka, Jasper Hill, lived in Lindsay, Ontario. He was a Delaware Indian raised on the Moraviantown Reserve, the Delaware Indian Reserve land in the township of Orford, Kent County, Ontario. He corresponded with Ms. Bloetscher and contributed to the Northampton Historical Society the publication, “Big White Owl” Relates Traditions of the Delaware Indians.

Folder 22: Correspondence
Folder 23: Articles
Folder 24: Manuscript: Big White Owl and His Delaware Legends: The Big House
Folder 24: Manuscript: My People, the Delaware Indians
Folder 26: Manuscript: “Big White Owl” Relates Traditions of the Delaware Indians

SERIES X: LEW CRISPWELL
Lew Crispwell was a Munsee Delaware Indian who corresponded with Ms. Bloetscher and sent her various documents.

Folder 27: Correspondence and miscellaneous
Folder 28: The Lenâpe Dog: Story from the United Lenâpe Band in Port Ewen, New York
Folder 29: Touching Leaves Indian Crafts by Nora Thompson Dean; Catalog #6, 1974
Folder 30: Touching Leaves Indian Crafts by Nora Thompson Dean; Catalog # 19

SERIES XI: RAY FADDEN
Ray Fadden was a Delaware Indian from Onchiota, New York who corresponded with Ms. Bloetscher and sent her many charts, articles regarding the Lenâpe people. Ray Fadden was also known as Tehanetorens, and used Aren Akweks as a pen name.

Folder 31: Correspondence
Folder 32: Mohawk Nation News, No. 3, June 8, 1979; No. 5, c. 1980
Folder 34: Monuments to Six Nation Indians by Aren Akweks
SERIES XII: IONE HOFFMAN
Ione Hoffman was a local historian. She gave Ms. Bloetscher her research notes and clippings prior to her death. She is the author of *The Story of Northampton Township* for the Northampton Historical Society.

Folder 37: Manuscript: *Mounds*
Folder 38: Prehistoric Indians talk by Virginia Bloetscher
Folder 39: Newspaper clippings from 1945 - 1991
Folder 40: Publications: “Indians” articles from Ohio Archaeological and Historical publications
Folder 41: Publications: “Ohio History” articles from Ohio Archaeological and Historical publications
Folder 42: Publications: “Ohio Indians” articles from Ohio Archaeological and Historical publications
Folder 43: Publications: Unlabeled, miscellaneous articles from the Ohio Archaeological and Historical publications.
Folder 44: Miscellaneous

SERIES XIII: JOSEPH D JESENSKY
Joseph D. Jesensky was a local historian and author who corresponded with Ms. Bloetscher and sent her a wide variety of materials.

Folder 47: Copy of Brose’s 1975 survey of lower Cuyahoga Valley
Folder 49: Copy of “Old Portage” by C. R. Quine, 1953
Folder 50: Maps
Folder 51: Miscellaneous

SERIES XIV: PUBLICATIONS
BOX 5 (10 ½ x 16 ¼”) includes:
Folder 1: Three copies each of prints by Edith Steinkraus for Ms. Bloetscher’s book, *Indians of the Cuyahoga Valley and Vicinity*
Folder 2: *The Stirring Days of Yesteryear in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio* by Ross Compton Durst, 1968
Folder 3: *From Fairfield to Schönbrum, 1798* edited by Leslie R. Gray, 1957
Folder 5: Massacre at Gnadenhutten from Gnadenhutten Historical Society, 1963
Folder 6: Ten Little Indians by Harriet G. Reiter, School Classic Series, No. 11, c. 1909
Folder 7: Copy 1, Indian Myths by Harriet G. Reiter, School Classic Series, No. 16, c. 1909
Folder 8: Copy 2, Indian Myths by Harriet G. Reiter, School Classic Series, No. 16, c. 1909
Folder 9: Tales of Great Spirit: Minnesota Indian Legends
Folder 10: Ancient Earth Forts of the Cuyahoga Valley, Ohio by Col. Charles Whittlesey, 1871
Folder 11: The Civil War Diary of Amos Wills, 1863 from Taylor Memorial Public Library
Folder 12: Gen. George A. Custer: A Lost Trail and the Gall Saga by Charles Kuhlman, 1940
Folder 13: Excerpt from The Delaware Indians – pp. 120-152
Folder 14: Excerpt from History of the Delaware Indians - pp. 24-67
Folder 15: The Oneida Indians of Wisconsin by Robert E. Ritzenthaler, c. 1950
Folder 16: Excerpt from This Land is Our Land from The American Indian in American Society, 1970
Folder 18: Miscellaneous clippings
Folder 19: Miscellaneous clippings with notes
Folder 20: Magazine articles

SERIES XV: MANUSCRIPTS

Folder 22: The Riddle of the Disappearance of the Mound Builders by Gerald J. Martin
Folder 23: Sacajawea: Myth and Truth by Albert R. Page
Folder 24: Old Portage by C. R. Quine, 1953

SERIES XVI: NEWSLETTERS

Folder 26: Lenâpe Walum Newsletter: March-April 1976, No. 3; July-August 1976, No. 5; September-October 1976, No. 6; November-December 1976, No. 7; January-February 1977, No. 8; March-April 1977, No. 9; May-June 1977, No. 10
SERIES XVII: NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

Folder 27: Clippings from 1968-1979; majority from the Akron Beacon Journal
Folder 28: Clippings from 1980-1988; majority from the Akron Beacon Journal
Folder 29: Clippings from 1990-2003, includes undated; majority from the Akron Beacon Journal

SERIES XVIII: MAPS AND TREATIES

Folder 30: Various maps
Folder 31: Fort McIntosh treaty, 1725
Folder 32: Treaty with the Indians of Six Nations, 1744
Folder 33: Fort Stanwix treaty, 1768
Folder 34: Delaware Indians treaty, 1779 (written in French)
Folder 35: Treaty of Greenville and Indian boundary line from Ohio
Archaeological and Historical publications

SERIES XIX: MAGAZINES

Folder 36: Arizona Highways, August 1953
Folder 37: Yankee, December 1965
Folder 38: American History Illustrated, July 1968
Folder 39: True Frontier Indian Drums; Special Issue, No. 6, c. 1970s
Folder 40: Arizona Highways, c.1970s
Folder 41: Saga of the American Indian, Winter 1970-1971
Folder 42: National Geographic; Vol. 142, No. 6, December 1972
Folder 43: Beading Naturally with Beads and Seeds, 1972
Folder 44: How to Make Cornhusk Dolls, 1973
Folder 45: More Cornhusk Dolls from Hazel, 1973
Folder 46: The Conservationist, January-February 1976
Folder 47: National Geographic; Vol. 156, No. 3, September 1979
Folder 48: Real West, October 1982

SERIES XX: BOOKLETS

Folder 50: The Trail to Frijoles Ruins, c. 1960s
Folder 51: Papers in Archaeology of the Ohio Historical Society. Three issues: a) February 1962,
No. 2; b) January 1966, No. 3; c) September 1967, No. 4
Folder 52: Ideas and Instructions on How to Make Indiancraft Projects, 1963
Folder 53: Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, New York City, 1964
Folder 54: Indian History of New York State Park III – The Algonkian Tribes, c. 1970s
Folder 56: The Historical Indian in Ohio: The Ohio American Revolution Bicentennial Conference Series No. 3, 1976
Folder 57: Delaware Nation Grand Council, August 27, 1992
Folder 58: Explorer, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Spring 1995

SERIES XXI: MISCELLANEOUS

Folder 59: Cuyahoga Riverboat trip monologue
Folder 60: Two copies of Indian Chiefs of Ohio from The Ohio Historical Society (portraits)
Folder 61: Brochures

SERIES XXII: OVERSIZED DOCUMENTS

Box 6 (20 x 24 ½ x 3”)
Sticker Book: “American Indians, Their Life Styles and Customs”

Newspapers: Akwesasne Notes – the official publication of the Mohawk Nation at Akwesasne (People of the Longhouse);
a) Akwesasne Notes. Vol. 9, No. 5, December 1977
b) Akwesasne Notes. Late Winter/1982

Posters:
a) “A Native American Experience” (14 x 14’)
b) “Treasures from the National Museum of American Art” (Cleveland Museum of Art, 1986)
c) “1992: The Year of Cultural Encounters” (Calendar of events from The Collier County Museum, Tampa, Florida)

Maps – includes:
a) Map of Ohio showing Indian trails and towns, circa 1776 (16 ¼ x 20”)
b) Two maps from National Geographic magazine
c) Trail maps of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreational area
d) Two chronology maps of Indians in Ohio from The Ohio Historical Society
e) Map of Fort Island
f) Map of Summit County from Akron Beacon Journal

Charts:
a) Historic Indian Villages (used in presentations by Ms. Bloetscher)
b) Twelve charts and posters from the Akwesasme Mohawk Counsellor Organization sent to Ms. Bloetscher by Ray Fadden
Box 7: Poster Boards (24 x 30’’)[oversized series continues]

Posters:
a) Dawn Little Sky/Vera Sorensen, c. 1976 (28 x 22 ½’’);
b) “Oyo – An Indian word meaning beautiful river. The Ohio frontier 1750-1813” (21 x 33’’)

Poster boards used in presentations by Ms. Bloetscher:
a) Yellow board: Side 1; hand-drawn side-portrait of male Native American. Side 2; hand-drawn full head portrait of male Native American with “Prehistoric Indians” written around portrait (ink and color pencil; 22 x 28’’)
b) Orange board: Side 1; “Indian Woman’s Clothing” with hand drawn moccasin, deerskin cape, slate hair ornament, legging, and deerskin lap-around skirt. Side 2; “Indian Man’s Clothing” with hand drawn deer-hide legging and moccasin (ink; 22 x 28’’)

Map: “Indians of the U.S.A.” Friendship Press, Inc., 1944 (22 ½ x 34 ½’’
1. Talking stick  
   Dimensions: 16”

2. Birchbark canoes  
   Dimensions:  
   a. 4 ¼”  
   b. 4 ¼”

3. Corn husk doll  
   Dimensions: 6 x 1 1/3”

4. Wooden canoe  
   Dimensions: 1 ½ x 8”
1. Hopewell platform pipe
   Replica
   Dimensions: 2 ½ x 3 ½ x 1 ½”

2. Hammer-stone
   Szalay field (Hampton Hills)
   Dimensions: 3” wide

3. Stone face mask
   ”George Henry” etched on bottom
   Dimensions: 2 x 2 x 1”

4. Arrowheads
   Dimensions:
   a. 1 ¼”
   b. 1 ¾”
   c. 1 ¼”
   d. 1 ¼”
   e. 1 1/8”

5. Hide-scraper
   Arizona
   Dimensions: 1 ½ x 7 x 1 ¼”

6. Flint stone
   ”South Park archaeological dig 7/25/78"
   Dimensions: 1 1/8”

7. Flint stone
   ”Ohio’s gemstone”
   Dimensions: 2 ¾”

8. Flint stone
   ”Ohio’s gemstone”
   Dimensions: 2 ¾”
Box 10: Artifacts (11 ½ x 15 ¼”)

1. Fire-stones
   Szalay Field
   (Note reddish-color due to fire)

2. Pottery pieces from Coshocton
   County
   Waldhoning River
   White Woman’s Rock site, 1975

3. Flint Ridge flint rock
   "Jewel Flint"

4. Local flint rock
   (Note dull color)

5. Flint rock
   Szalay Field

6. Finger-weaving belt
   Color: black, white and yellow
   Dimensions: 72”

7. Braided belt
   Color: turquoise, yellow and brown
   Dimensions: 71”

8. Finger-weaving belt
   Color: red, green and brown
   Dimensions: 39 ½”
Series note: Mrs. Bloetscher collected many books pertaining to Native Americans including fiction and non-fiction. The titles donated are listed below. All non-fiction titles were retained. Fiction titles marked with an asterisk have been retained for the collection. Others were de-accessioned due to their availability elsewhere at the Akron-Summit County Public Library.

**Fiction Titles**

Schofield, William G. *Ashes in the Wilderness* (1942)
*Banks, Charles Eugene. *A Child of the Sun* (1900)
*Osborne, Chester G. *The First Bow and Arrow* (1951)
*Hill, Ruth Beebe *Hanta Yo: An American Saga* (1979)
*Nasnaga, *Indian's Summer* (1975)
*LaFarge, Oliver. *Laughing Boy* (1957)
Gerson, Noel B. *The Mohawk Ladder* (1951)
*Magoon, Marian W. *Ojibway Drums* (1955)
*Cooper, James Fenimore. *The Pioneers* (1964)
*Eaton, Evelyn. *Quietly My Captain Waits* (1940)
*Jennings, John. *River to the West* (1948)
*Fuller, Iola. *The Shining Trail* (1943)
Brennan, Louis A. *Tree of Arrows* (1964)
Porter, Donald Clayton. *White Indian* (1979)

**Non Fiction Titles**

Wyler, Rose. *The Story of the Ice Age* (1967)
Lindley, Harlow. *Fort Meigs and the War of 1812* (1975)
Kohlmeier, A. L. *The Old Northwest* (1938)
Wildes, Harry Emerson. *The Delaware* (1940)
Pomfret, John E. *Founding the American Colonies 1583-1660* (1970)
Wendigo, *Tales of the Tom-Tom* (1913)
Eastman, Charles A. Indian Scout Craft and Lore (1974)
McGovern, Ann The Defenders (1970)
Hall-Quest, Olga W. Powhaten and Captain Smith (1957)
Searcy, Margaret Z. The Charm of the Bear Claw Necklace (1981)
Terrell, John Upton. The Navajos (1970)
Lowie, Robert H. Indians of the Plains (1954)
Olden, Sarah Emilia. The People of Tipi Sapa (1918)
Starkloff, Carl F. The People of the Center (1974)
Gridley, Marion E. Contemporary American Indian Leaders (1972)
Tantaquidgeon, Gladys. Folk Medicine of the Delaware and Related Algonkian Indians (1972)
Webb, William S. The Adena Peop (No. 2) (1957)
Converse, Robert N. Ohio Flint Types (1973)
Waldorf, D. C. The Art of the Flint Knapping (1979)
Burnette, Robert. The Road to Wounded Knee (1974)
Wilson, Dorothy Clarke Bright Eyes: The Story of Susette La Flesche, an Omaha Indian (1974) 50113
Wallace, Anthony F. C. King of the Delawares: Teedyuscung 1700-1763 (1949)
Lyford, Carrie A. Iroquois Crafts (2 copies) (1945) 300851
Densmore, Frances How Indians Use Wild Plants for Food, Medicine & Crafts (1974)
Hausman, Gerald Turtle Island Alphabet: A Lexicon of Native American Symbols and Culture (1992) 337457
Hothem, Lar Indian Artifacts of the Midwest (1992) 347239
Booth, Russell H. The Tuscarawas Valley in Indian Days 1750-1797 (1994) 371290
Morgan, Richard G. Fort Ancient (3 copies) (1970) 110827
Turner, Alta R. Finger Weaving: Indian Braiding (1976) 276527
Seguin, Marilyn. Song of Courage Song of Freedom: The story of the child, Mary Campbell, held captive in Ohio (1993)
Tebbel, John. The American Indian Wars (1960)
Eckert, Allan W. Twilight of Empire (1988)
Talbot, Francis X. Saint Among the Hurons: The Life of Jean de Brebeuf (1956)
Parkman, Francis The Oregon Trail (1950)
Thorp, Raymond W. Crow Killer (1969)
Eckert, Allan W. The Frontiersmen: A Narrative (1967)
Catlin, George Letters and Notes on the Manners, Customs, and Conditions of North American Indians Vol. I and II (1973)
Eckert, Allan W. That Dark and Bloody River (1995)
McLuhan, T. C. Touch the Earth: A Self-Portrait of Indian Existence (1971)
Boesch, Mark. Beyond the Muskingum (1953)
Deuel, Thorne. American Indian Ways of Life (1968)
Baker, Jim. The Ways of the Warriors: The Indians of Ohio in Peace and at War (1965)
Hassell, Sandford W. Know the Navajo (1949)
Tooker, Elizabeth. An Ethnography of the Huron Indians 1615-1649 (1967)
Ritzenhaler, Robert E. Masks of the North American Indians (1964)
Hughes, Phyllis Pueblo Indian Cookbook (1972)
Akweks, Aren Migration of the Iroquois (?)
Wallace, Paul A. W. Indians in Pennsylvania (1975)
Storm, Hyemeyohsts Seven Arrows (1972)
Converse, Robert N. Ohio Stone Tools (1973)
Roosevelt, Theodore Winning of the West, The: Part III. The War in the North West (1906)
Roosevelt, Theodore Winning of the West, The: Part V. St. Clair and Wayne (1906)
Wissler, Clark Indians of the United States: Four Centuries of Their History and Culture (1951)
Parkman, Francis France and England in North America: Part Third. La Salle and the Discovery of the Great West (1889)
Parkman, Francis Jesuits in North America in the Seventeenth Century, The: France and England in North America (1909)