

Flandreau Agency

(see also Santee Agency)

Founded in 1873, the agency became home for a group of Santee who left the Santee Agency in Nebraska. Following the 1862 uprising in Minnesota (an attack on white settlers caused by forced reservation life and broken treaty promises) the Santee were moved first to Crow Creek Agency in Dakota, then to Santee Agency in northern Nebraska. In 1879 Flandreau Agency was consolidated with the Santee Sioux Agency in Nebraska even though the people remained in Dakota.

Those Santee who established the colony at Flandreau were Christian Indians who homesteaded their lands pursuant to article VI of the Fort Laramie treaty of 1868. Article VI provided that Indians could take homesteads and become citizens and still retain the benefits provided to them by the treaty. Among the early settlers were Jacob Eastman (father of Charles Eastman) and Thomas Wakeman (the son of Little Crow, a leader of the Minnesota Uprising).

Today the open land base of the Flandreau Agency is 2,356 acres in Moody County in southeastern South Dakota near the Minnesota border. Flandreau Indian boarding school is still maintained by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Indian Census Rolls, 1892-1924 (M595).

Because Indians on reservations were not citizens until 1924, nineteenth and early twentieth century census takers did not count Indians for congressional representation. Instead, the U.S. government took special censuses in connection with Indian treaties, the last of which was in 1871. The result of many treaties was to extinguish Indian ties to land. Typically, the Indians agreed to reduce their landholdings or to move to an area less desired for white settlement. Some treaties provided for the dissolution of the tribes and the allotment of land to individual Indians. The censuses determined who was eligible for the allotments.

These census rolls were usually submitted each year by agents or superintendents in charge of Indian reservations, as required by an act of July 4, 1884. The data on the rolls vary to some extent, but usually given are the English and/or Indian name of the person, roll number, age or date of birth, sex, and relationship to head of family. Beginning in 1930, the rolls also show the degree of Indian blood, marital status, ward status, place of residence, and sometimes other information. For certain years – including 1935, 1936, 1938, and 1939 – only supplemental rolls of additions and deletions were compiled. Most of the 1940 rolls have been retained by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and are not included in this publication.

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Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1873-1876 (M234).

The records in this microfilm publication consist of communications received by the Office of Indian Affairs from the Flandreau Agency concerning the general situation of the Indians, their population, education, health, and medical care, and their agriculture and subsistence. The letters cover such matters of administrative concern as emigration, land allotments, annuity payments, depredations, claims, complaints, traders, buildings, supplies, employees, and accounts. Correspondence is grouped by year and thereunder arranged alphabetically by initial letter of surname or official position of the writer. Within each alphabetical section, correspondence is arranged by file number, which was assigned to each letter as they were registered.

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Publications

TITLE	LOCATION
<i>Constitution and Bylaws for the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, South Dakota.</i> Approved April 24, 1936. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1936.	KF8221.S22 C5 1936
<i>Corporate Charter of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, South Dakota.</i> Ratified October 31, 1936. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1937.	KF8221.S22 C6 1936

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Special Case Files, 1876-1901.

These files were selected from the Bureau of Indian Affairs's Special Case files for their pertinence to the Indian nations of South Dakota. They were microfilmed at the request of the SD State Archives. The originals are available in Washington, D.C. at the National Archives. The files listed here pertain to the Flandreau Agency. For a complete list of Special Case files at the State Archives, see the "Special Topics" section of this guide.

The Special Case files bring related documents together from different places in the general incoming correspondence. Subjects mostly deal with land and property matters.

DESCRIPTION	MF LOCATION
Case #11 - Pipestone Quarry near Flandreau, 1859-1899. Case #20 - Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Right of Ways, 1879-1891.	5040
Case #180 - Sale of lands in Redwood Co, Minnesota "for the relief of the Medawakanton band of Sioux Indians" (H.R. 10869), 1889-1906. Case #63 - Sioux Reservation, Wagon Road Route No. 3,	5041

1882-1884 Case #83 – Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Right of Ways, Sisseton Agency, 1880-1890 Case #88 – Standing Rock Agency, Restoration of Lands East of the Missouri River (“Executive Addition to Sioux Reserve”) to Public Domain, 1881-1882. Case #92 – Cheyenne River Agency relative to Ponca Agreement, 1882 Case #91 – Crow Dog Case - Murder of Spotted Tail, 1881-1883	
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Flandreau Indian School

Superintendent’s Annual Narrative and Statistical Reports from Field Jurisdictions of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1910-1935 (M1011).

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Flandreau School, 1928-1935	42	4451

Records, 1894-1955.

These records are housed at the National Archives regional records center in Kansas City, Missouri. As part of the Indian Archives Project, the South Dakota State Archives paid to have these records microfilmed to make them more accessible to tribal members in South Dakota.

These records include the principal’s subject correspondence files, general correspondence, superintendent’s correspondence, employee records, attendance registers and reports, monthly reports, heirship testimony and reports, enrollment registers, school census records, reports of arrivals and departures of students, records of pupils in school, roster of parents and guardians, and church affiliation of pupils.

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