

Lower Brule Agency

(see also Crow Creek Agency and Upper Missouri Agency)

First called White River Agency, this agency was established in 1876 for the Sicangu and Oohenunpa bands of Lakota living under the control of Crow Creek Agency. It was first located on the western side of the Missouri River ten miles below Crow Creek. In 1876, it was moved to the mouth of American Crow Creek, twelve miles below the old site. Lower Brule and Crow Creek Agencies were consolidated in 1882, then divided again in 1896.

Early records document nine bands located at Lower Brule. The following headmen, who signed the 1868 Fort Laramie treaty, were leaders of those early bands: Iron Nation, Medicine Bull, One Who Kills the White Buffalo Cow, Little Pheasant, White Buffalo Cow That Walks, Brave Heart, Wounded Man, Gourd Ear Rings, and Iron White.

Today the agency is located on the west bank of the Missouri river in south central South Dakota in Stanley and Lyman counties with a land base of 132,601 acres. Lake Sharpe and Big Bend Dam are popular tourist attractions.

Agency Records, 1873-1909.

Collections

CONTENTS	ACCESSION #	LOCATION
Lower Brule Agency, Issue Records, 1884-1909	H88-014	Box 3750
Lower Brule Agency, Property Vouchers and Statement of Indebtedness, 1883-1909	89-121	Box 3275

Microfilm

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.

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
Lower Brule Agency, Letters Received, 1873-1883	1	1617
Lower Brule Agency, Letterpress Book, 1875-1877	2	1618
Lower Brule Agency, Record of Rations Issued, 1884-1891	3	1619

Indian Census Rolls, 1886-1942 (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.

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
Crow Creek - Lower Yanktonai Sioux and Lower Brule Sioux, 1886-1905	87, 88	9649
Crow Creek - Lower Yanktonai Sioux and Lower Brule Sioux, 1921-1929	90	9651
Crow Creek - Lower Yanktonai Sioux and Lower Brule Sioux, 1930-1939, 1942	91, 92	9652

Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1875-1876 (M234).

The records in this microfilm publication consist of communications received by the Office of Indian Affairs from the Lower Brule 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.

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
Lower Brule Agency, 1875-1876	401	1461

Publications

TITLE	LOCATION
<i>Constitution and Bylaws for the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation.</i> Approved Nov. 27, 1935. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1935.	KF8221.B8 C5 1935

TITLE	LOCATION
<i>Corporate Charter of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, South Dakota.</i> Ratified July 11, 1936. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1936.	KF8221.B8 C6 1936

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Special Case Files, 1903-1986.

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 Lower Brule 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
Approved Appraisals of Lower Brule Lands, 1907.	5037
Report of Irregular Employees, Pine Ridge Agency, 1905. Investigation of Cheyenne River Agency, 1901-1905. Investigation of Complaints at Lower Brule Agency, 1907. Report of Irregular Employees, Rosebud Agency, 1905. Special Series A - Indian Allotment Applications for Lands within the Great Sioux Reservation, 1891-1898 (unarranged).	5038
Case #203 - Petitions for Sale of Inherited Lands, 1903-1907 (Lower Brule, Rosebud)	5071
Docket 116 - The Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation vs. the United States, 1951-1986.	5097

Lower Brule Agency: Superintendent's Annual Narrative and Statistical Reports from Field Jurisdictions of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1910-1925 (M1011).

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
Liquor Traffic, Suppression of, 1910-1920 Lovelocks School, 1910-1912 Lower Brule, 1910-1923	80	4453
Lower Brule, 1923-1925 Mackinac, 1910-1927 Malki, 1910-1919 Martinez School, 1910-1912 Mekuskey Academy, 1912-1921	81	4454

Reports of Inspections of the Field Jurisdictions of the Office of Indian Affairs, 1897-1900 (M1070).

This microfilm publication from the National Archives contains reports prepared by inspectors for the Indian Service and submitted to the Office of Indian Affairs. Inspectors for the Indian Service were first appointed July 1, 1873, under the provision of an act of February 14, 1873 (17 Stat. 463). The 1873 act required each agency to be visited by an inspector at least once a year, preferably twice a year by alternate inspectors. The inspectors investigated all matters pertaining to the conditions of the Indians and the extent to which they adopted white civilization, reservation boundaries, the use of reservation lands, the state of industry, the character and abilities of the agent and other employees, school conditions, the state of agency fiscal records, and enforcement or violation of the law.

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
La Pointe Agency, 1896-1900 Leech Lake Agency, 1899 Lemhi Agency, 1883-1900 Lincoln Institution, 1898 Lower Brule Agency, 1897-1900 Mackinac Agency, 1873-1888 Mdewakanton Sioux, 1899	24	6093