

Pipestone Agency

The Pipestone Indian Boarding School was established in 1892. It became the Pipestone Agency in 1914 and oversaw the Mdewakanton Sioux in southern Minnesota. The agency and its school closed in 1953.

Indian Census Rolls, 1914-1939 (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
Pipestone (Mdewakanton Sioux Indians), 1914, 1915 Letter, 1918-1919 and 1923 Letters, 1924-1939	385	6050, 9669

Pipestone School: Superintendent's Annual Narrative and Statistical Reports from Field Jurisdictions of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1910-1937 (M1011).

CONTENTS	NARA ROLL #	MF LOCATION
Pine Ridge, 1930-1935 Pipestone School, 1910-1931	107	4457
Pipestone School, 1931-1937 Ponca School, 1910-1919, 1921-1927	108	4458

Reports of Inspections of the Field Jurisdictions of the Office of Indian Affairs, 1894-1900 (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
Pine Ridge Agency, 1897-1900 Pipestone School, 1894-1900 Ponca Agency, 1874-1880	37	6096