

Upper Missouri Agency

(see also Crow Creek Agency)

The Upper Missouri Agency was established in 1819 and was responsible for all the tribes along the Missouri River. Two sub-agencies were organized in 1824: the Sioux Sub-agency (located near the Big Bend of the Missouri River) and the Mandan Sub-agency (located near present-day Bismarck, North Dakota). In 1837, the old Upper Missouri Agency became the Council Bluffs Agency, and the old Sioux Sub-agency became the new Upper Missouri Agency, assuming responsibility for the Sioux, Ponca, and Cheyenne peoples. The agency existed from 1839 to 1842 with no agent, and with no central location for several more years after that. In 1866, the agency was permanently located near Crow Creek on the Missouri River in Dakota Territory and from that point was commonly called the Crow Creek Agency. The name was officially changed to Crow Creek Agency in 1874, and its jurisdiction was restricted to the Lower Yanktonai and Sicangu living in the area.

Letters Received by the Office of Indian Affairs, 1824-1874 (M234).

The records in this microfilm publication consist of communications received by the Office of Indian Affairs from the Upper Missouri 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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