Genealogy & Tiospaye History Resource Guide

This guide provides you a step-by-step visual guide to working your way through available at all district college centers and at Woksape Tipi and now at home with your library card!

We’ve also included information about Lakota and related American Indian specific genealogical resources that will help you in your searching.

Call/visit at Woksape Tipi Library & Archives - Piya Wiconi

Tawa Ducheneaux – 605-455-6065  tducheneaux@olc.edu

Stella Iron Cloud and Agnes Gay are also available for genealogical research assistance. Please contact us for more information.
How to Locate the U.S. Indian Census Schedules

We recommend you have a notebook and a family group sheet to work with when beginning your family search. As of 2017, you can now search the U.S. Indian Census Rolls at home through Heritage Quest, or you can use Ancestry.com at Woksape Tipi or any district college center. The main benefit of using Ancestry.com is that they have military records and immigration records that Heritage Quest currently does not. There are also different types of family group sheets available for download on Ancestry.com.

First, go to the OLC homepage and locate the Woksape Tipi homepage which is findable under the Services tab.

From the Woksape Tipi page, click the Databases link as seen below:
Next, scroll down toward the bottom of the **Database** page and click on the **Heritage Quest** or the **Ancestry.com** link.

This guide is going to walk you through using the **Heritage Quest** page since you can now access the U.S. Indian Census records from home with your library card.
There is now a quick link to the on the **Heritage Quest** page as seen below.

![Image of Heritage Quest page]

After clicking on **U.S. Indian Census Rolls**, you will see a page that looks like the one here:

![Image of Census Roll search page]

While you can narrow by Jurisdiction as seen above, we recommend you narrow your search by Agency (see arrow at left).
It is best to begin your search with one name. You will get different results entering traditional names in either the **First/Middle Name** field or the **Last Name** field. For example, when entering **Bull Bear** in the **First Name** field, the relevant results returned the earliest **Bull Bear**. You can scroll over the names and see a preview of the record as shown:

When you scroll your mouse over view record, you’ll see a preview of the record with the census date. This is helpful when you’re comparing census dates with who is listed in the family group. See example on the next page:
It’s quicker to modify your search when you choose Edit Search at the top of the screen (see arrow on left of the page above).

Next, try entering your family name in the Last Name field. For example, when entering Bull Bear in the Last Name field, results are quite different than from the First Name field, as you can see on the next page.
Here you can see what Lawrence Bull Bear’s records look like when you scroll your mouse over the View Record field in the popup window. Each record is from a different census date if you did not specify a date range within the Indian Census Records. This is a good thing when you’re starting out. It’s best to start broadly as misspellings often occur in census records.

Remember that many people carried the same name as there are today; there were several individuals named “Day” and it will take some time and persistence to see if you’ve found the exact one(s) from which you descend. We invite you to visit the archives to further your research with some information not available online and to enjoy the detective work in learning more about who you are!
Below you can see the 1890, 1891 (Summary Only), 1892 Record of the Pine Ridge (Sioux and Cheyenne Indians) Census. Each record result above is a different census record, even though it’s a little hard to see, the census record name is on the grey bar at the top of the page.

When you find a page you’d like to print, just go to File/Print at the top of the page. We suggest printing the entire page so you can see the full page record and then highlight the names and make any notes that will help you when you go back to these records when you’re filling in your family tree form. You can also email it to yourself by clicking the green SAVE button on the top right corner of the page.

Finally, RootsWeb is a database within Ancestry.com that has some message boards and other searchable resources that may help you with your research. Tiospaye: an Oglala Genealogy Resource http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mikestevens/ is a RootsWeb webpage with a large surname index that you may be able to find more information for your research. Unfortunately, it is offline as of early 2018, but it should be back online soon. Keep checking back using the link above.
Other Useful Links

http://www.american-tribes.com/ has historical information by tribe continually posted by tribal members, independent researchers, and authors. There is some excellent research on families of the Oceti Sakowin and the Titunwan Oyate. Within the site you may want to consider registering and joining the Teton/Lakota listserv forum. Within the listserv, you can search by topic or name. We highly recommend exploring the boards here as seen in the screenshot on the next page.

This site will have information no other site online has. Be sure and check it out!
Woksape Tipi Databases

Woksape Tipi Library & Archives has many other resources for you to research your tiwahes, tiospaye, and Lakota histories. The following page describes databases within the OLC Library Webpage that are accessible with your valid library card from anywhere. This guide is also downloadable from the Archives tab.

American Indian Histories and Cultures is from the Newberry Library and contains many formats of Lakota histories: images, newspapers, maps, and timelines will assist you in your tiospaye research.

Facts on File American Indian History Online contains some biographies of artists, leaders, and activists.

North American Indian Thought and Culture is searchable by individuals, places, events, subject, and image, audio, and video.

Don’t forget about Woksape Tipi’s online card catalog! You can search for books related to Lakota people and histories, including cataloged materials in the archives.
Find More at the Archives!

The OLC Archives at Woksape Tipi is home to three major collections: the administrative records of OLC, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, and Bureau of Indian Affairs Records of Pine Ridge Agency census and correspondence records. A diverse Special Collections includes manuscript collections of former faculty as well as maps, rare books and unpublished materials; also copies of historical records and photographs from other archives as well as artifacts and artwork of the Oglala people, ca. 1840 to present.

Some unique/hard to find materials include:

- **Families of Pine Ridge** genealogy index, 2010; Additional census records not available online; Hazel McGaa-Cuney Collection; Jeanne Smith Collection;

- **Oglala Light** magazine 1907-1918; *The Indian Sentinel* 1902-1956; Oglala newspapers;

- Holy Rosary/Red Cloud Indian School yearbooks; Oglala Community School scrapbooks 1934-1964;

- Pine Ridge Office of Indian Affairs Tract Books 1906-1918; Allotment Book, 1941; Pine Ridge Annuity Book, 1879; Register of Indian Supplies Received at Pine Ridge Agency, 1894; War Department OCE Construction Division Aerial Gunnery Range Tract Register, 1945; Pine Ridge Census for All Residents and Non-Residents by Family Number, 1956;

- Jim Iron Cloud collection 1918-1960; Iron Tail Collection 1914-1920; Musee de Homme Photograph Collection, ca. 1900; photographs from various institutions;

- **American Indian Research Project** interviews from South Dakota State University; James E. Emery audio collection; Matthew King audio collection; Indiana University of Traditional Music Archives;

- **U.S. Department of the Interior Biographical and Historical Index of American Indians and Persons Involved in Indian Affairs**: eight volumes; *Bureau of Ethnology Reports*, esp. 4th, 10th, 11th, and 14th volumes; *Dakota Odowan* hymnal, 1883; *Oglala Wic'oooyake*, 1972