

# **Guide to the Geoffrey O'Hara cylinder recordings and lantern slides of Navajo Indians**

**WA MSS S-2625**



Beinecke Staff

2020

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-2625

**CREATOR:** O'Hara, Geoffrey, 1882-1967, author

**TITLE:** Geoffrey O'Hara cylinder recordings and lantern slides of Navajo Indians

**DATES:** circa 1913-1914

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 13 Audio Cylinders : circa 135 rpm, mono ; 6 cm x 11 cm

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 47 Photographic Slides : Lantern slides : glass, b & w and color ; 8.3 x 11 cm.

**LANGUAGE:** Materials in English and Navajo.

**SUMMARY:** Cylinder recordings of Navajo Indian songs, probably compiled by Geoffrey O'Hara, and lantern slides of Navajo Indians in Arizona, circa 1913-1914. The recordings consist chiefly of songs related to the Navajo Yeibichai ceremony. Singers include Robert Dayea, Shay Milford, and Miguelito (also known as Red Point). Lantern slides include informal portraits of Navajo men, women, and children in Fort Defiance and at the Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado. The collection also includes a portrait of O'Hara with Denver, a Shoshoni Indian man. Images include Navajo Indian ceremonies and dances, as well as foot and horse races. Images of Arizona include views of desert landscapes and arroyos with sheep and goats, as well as a view of the White House Ruins at Canyon de Chelly. Copy photographs in the collection include a portrait of Navajo Chief Manuelito, circa 1874, and illustrations of Navajo Yeibichai masks from Washington Matthews's anthropological study, *Night Chant: A Navaho Ceremony* (1902).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.oharanavajo>


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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.oharanavajo>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.        box  
f.        folder  
        item barcode

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from William Reese Co. on the Walter McClintock Memorial Fund, 2009.

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### Conditions Governing Access

Sound recordings are restricted fragile material. Reference copies are available. Consult Access Services for further information.

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## Geoffrey O'Hara

Geoffrey O'Hara (1882-1967) was a Canadian American composer, singer and music teacher.

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## Content Description

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## Collection Contents

### Lantern slides

Lantern slides include informal portraits of Navajo men, women, and children in Fort Defiance and at the Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado. The collection also includes a portrait of O'Hara with Denver, a Shoshoni Indian man. Images include Navajo Indian ceremonies and dances, as well as foot and horse races. Images of Arizona include views of desert landscapes and arroyos with sheep and goats, as well as a view of the White House Ruins at Canyon de Chelly.

b. 1, f. 1	Navajo children in Western dress, seated in a line, possibly outside their school house in Fort Defiance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 2	Group of Navajo boys at a distance, possibly on the town green area in Fort Defiance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide ( )</i>
b. 1, f. 3	Unidentified desert scene with tipi made of sticks <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 5	Image of music for two tunes, both titled Navajo Dance Song <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 6	Image of music for two tunes titled Navajo War Song and Navajo Medicine Song <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 7	Two very early cars in a desert landscape, one broken down <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 8	Several Indian boys racing on horseback, watched by a crowd of people both on foot and horseback, in a desert landscape <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 9	Group of people watching an Indian dance, possibly a Hopi Snake Dance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 10	Clothed skeleton in an opened coffin <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 11	Group of eight Indians, possibly preparing for a ceremony of some kind, in a desert landscape <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 12	Same group of eight Indians, possibly preparing for a ceremony of some kind, in a desert landscape from a different angle <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 13	Four Indian boys prepared to race on foot, watched by a large group of men on horseback <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 14	Another group of six Indian boys preparing for a footrace, watched by a large group of men on horseback <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slides</i>
b. 1, f. 15	Brick and log hogan-esque structure in a desert landscape <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 16	Two white men standing outside the door to the Hubbell Trading Post at Ganado, Az <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>

b. 1, f. 17	View of a group of pueblos on a ridge, taken from a fair distance. People and horses at the foot of the ridge <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 18	Navajo man on horseback <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 19	A man and two donkeys outside Hubbell Trading Post <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 20	Group of mounted men, milling about <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 21	View of a desert rock formation <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 22	A woman and several horses in a desert landscape possibly near Hubbell Trading Post <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 23	The same two men as featured in photo (16), still standing in front of Hubbell, but this image taken from further away <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 24	View of the White House Ruins at Canyon de Chelly <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 25	Indian man in a uniform doffing his cap at an Indian couple, similarly attired likely in the town of Ft Defiance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 26	Group of turkeys in some grass, possibly on a riverbank; desert landscape in the background <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 27	Two Model T Fords, circa 1915, with white passengers; five in one car and six in the other (three passengers are children) <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 28	View of an unidentified canyon wall <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 29	View of an unidentified desert landscape <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 30	A man mounted on a donkey, with another donkey in the foreground, outside of Hubbell Trading Post Two wagons heaped high with goods are parked in front of the building <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 32	Another group of six Indian boys preparing for a footrace, watched by a large group of men on horseback <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 33	Landscape <i>1 Photographic Slide</i>
b. 1, f. 34	Sheep and goats in an arroyo <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 35	Two women and a dog standing in front of a flock of goats and sheep <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>

b. 1, f. 36	Group of eight Navajo school girls in Western dress and smiling, possibly on the town green area in Ft. Defiance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 37	Copy photograph of a Navajo man <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 38	Copy photograph of Navajo Chief Manuelito, circa 1874 <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 39	Copy photograph of a drawing of a Navajo Yeibichai mask from Washington Matthews (1983-1905), Night Chant, a Navaho ceremony in Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History, Volume 6 New York: The Knickerbocker Press, 1902 <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 40	Copy photograph of a drawing of a Navajo Yeibichai mask from Washington Matthews (1983-1905), Night Chant, a Navaho ceremony in Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History, Volume 6 New York: The Knickerbocker Press, 1902 <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 41	Copy photograph of a drawing of a Navajo Yeibichai mask from Washington Matthews (1983-1905), Night Chant, a Navaho ceremony in Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History, Volume 6 New York: The Knickerbocker Press, 1902 <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 42	Sheep and goats near an arroyo <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 43	Two men in front of a large group of mounted men <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 44	A Navajo man, two women, two boys, and a girl with machine made blankets <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 45	A canyon with an arroyo <i>1 Photographic Slide</i>
b. 1, f. 46	Exterior portrait of Geoffrey O'Hara and Denver, a Shoshone man <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>
b. 1, f. 47	Group of Navajo boys, probably on the town green in Fort Defiance <i>1 Photographic Slide : lantern slide</i>





## Cylinder recordings

The recordings consist chiefly of songs related to the Navajo Yeibichai ceremony. Singers include Robert Dayea, Shay Milford, and Miguelito (also known as Red Point).

Sound recordings are restricted fragile material. Reference copies are available. Consult Access Services for further information.

b. 2, f. 1,  39002141090101	x a boy <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 2,  39002141090119	Yebechai songs sung by Shay Milford Ft. Defiance School <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 3,  39002141090127	No 2 <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 4,  39002141090135	Song of the Coyote, Bird Song, and Bird Song (different version) <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 5,  39002141090143	[Sages?] <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 6,  39002141090150	Yebechai <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 7,  39002141090168	Boys at rock; photo <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Contains three songs, "Song of the Coyote", "Bird Song", and an alternate version of "Bird Song". Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 8,  39002141090176	Blue Bird Song, 4 minute record, Atalisch <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
b. 2, f. 9,  39002141090184	Robert Dayla <i>1 Audio Cylinder</i> Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.



- b. 2, f. 10,   
39002141090192      Yebechai Songs; Shay Milford Ft. Defiance School  
*1 Audio Cylinder*  
Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
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- b. 2, f. 11,   
39002141090200      Yebechai  
*1 Audio Cylinder*  
Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
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- b. 2, f. 12,   
39002141090218      Coyote + Bird Songs, sung by Migueleto  
*1 Audio Cylinder*  
Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
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- b. 2, f. 13,   
39002141090226      War Songs  
*1 Audio Cylinder*  
Audiovisual material. Restricted fragile. Reference copies may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.
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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Indians of North America  
Navajo Indians -- Pictorial works  
Shoshoni Indians  
Trading posts -- North America

### **Geographic Names**

Arizona -- Pictorial works

### **Genres / Formats**

Audiovisual materials  
Lantern slides -- United States  
Sound recordings

### **Acquired From**

William Reese Co., bookseller