Gene Joseph Crediford Collection

(Updated 3/14/2018)

Volume: 3.75 linear feet
Processed: 2017-2018, by Brent Burgin
Provenance: Donated by Gene Joseph Crediford, June 1, 2012

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Biographical Note

Native of Pennsylvania, educated West Virginia University (BA 1960), University of Maryland (M. Ed 1969), Ohio University (MFA 1972)

University of South Carolina (1982-2002), Professor Emeritus of Arts, Division of Media Arts
Art Institute of Pittsburgh (1980-1982), Department of Photography
West Virginia University (1972-1980), Photographer and Cinematographer

Gene Crediford was one of the first modern-day academic researchers to work with Native American tribes and tribal groups in South Carolina. For over twenty-five years he interviewed, photographed and worked with South Carolina’s Indians.

Scope and Content Notes

The collection consists of 3.75 linear feet of material. Research materials consist of photographs, slides, negatives, cassette tapes, correspondence, maps, articles, reports, field notes and various ephemera.
Series I. Correspondence
General, 1978-2010, not dated (primary correspondents Dr. Thomas Blumer and Wesley Taukchiray)

Native American Correspondence
Bolton, Carolyn, 2005 (Pee Dee)
Brayboy, Lilly, 1987 (Pee Dee)
Chavis, Blondell, 2005 (Pee Dee)
Clark Family, 2008 (Wassamasaw)
Council of Native Americans of South Carolina, 1986, 1992-1993
Creel, John, n.d. (Edisto)
Creel, Matthew and Pearl, 2003 (Edisto)
Garris, Beckee, 2004-2010 (Catawba)
Hatcher, Harold “Buster”, 2004-2011 (Waccamaw)
Lewis, Thomas, 2005 (Meherrin)
Locklear, David, 1992 (Pee Dee)
Muckenfuss, Jr., John, 1993, 2003, ps. (Edisto)

Series II. Journals/Field Notes (transcribed)


7. 1994. Contains notes relative to Crediford’s work on photographing James Dickey and various information relative to Catawba Indian Pottery and history.

8. Miscellaneous field notes
Series III. Writings and Publications


Contemporary Native Americans in South Carolina: A Photo Documentation Covering the Years 1983-1985. Columbia, SC: Dept. of Media Arts, College of Applied Professional Sciences, University of South Carolina, 1991?.


Those Who Remain: Native Americans in South Carolina 500 Years After Columbus. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Department of Media Arts, 199?.

Unpublished writings on South Carolina petroglyphs

Series IV. Slides and Photographs

The Crediford Collection contains a wide range of various photographic media. The collection contains photographs, slides, negatives and contact print sheets. Many of these images have been digitized and added to the South Carolina Native American Archive: https://www.nativesouthcarolina.org/

Photographic materials are divided by folder.

1. Affidavit of Native Descent

2. Catawba Indian Nation, 2 folders
   A. Captioned – “Pipes and tools of Sara Ayers”
   B. Captioned – “Fred Sanders, Vice Chief, Catawba Indians, 1990”
   C. Captioned – “Chris Judge filming Catawba storyteller, 2009” Chris Carpenter storyteller
   D. Captioned – “Catawba Dancer, USC Lancaster, 2009”
   E. Captioned – “Fred Sanders, Catawba”
   F. Captioned – “Snake Pot by Georgia Harris, Catawba Indian”
   G. Captioned – “Display of Sara Ayers’ pottery @ Gastonia, NC Museum, 2012”
      Reverse captioned – In background is a reconstruction of Native Housing (Catawba), pre or early contact era (Photograph taken at Schiele Museum of Natural History, Gastonia, NC)

      L to R: Chris Carpenter, Beckee Garris
I. Captioned - “Catawba Drummer, USC Lancaster 2009”  
   Rear: Photographer Chris Judge Front: Ronnie Beck  
J. Captioned – “Beckee Garris, Catawba, with turtle shell, 2009”  
   L to R: Beckee Garris, Ashley Carpenter, Ashley Sexton  
L. Captioned – “Catawba Dancer, USC Lancaster, 2009” Hoop Dancer Ronnie Beck  
M. Captioned – “Horse Pot by Earl Robbins, Catawba, 1992”  
N. Captioned – “Viola Robbins”  
O. Captioned – “Earl Robbins”  

3. Chicora Indian Tribe of South Carolina, 2 folders, includes 27 3” x 5” photos  
A. Captioned – “Gene Martin with his Father”  
B. Captioned – “Gene Martin, Chief of Chicora, 1990”  
C. Captioned – “Gene Martin at a Powwow. He has consulted with an anthropologist who affirmed that his teeth are of Native Heritage”  

4. Council of Native Americans of South Carolina  
A. Captioned – “Leaders, Council of Native Americans of South Carolina, 1986 (Grace Lowry, Lumbee at top right, Chairperson”  
   L to R standing: Anthony Davidson, unidentified, David Locklear, Virgie Montoya, Grace Lowry  
   L to R seated: unidentified, unidentified, unidentified, unidentified, Matthew Creel  
B. Captioned – “Children of Members of the Council of Native Americans of SC at a picnic”  
C. Captioned – “Grace Lowry: Chair, Council of NA, at Powwow, 1983”  
D. Captioned – “North Carolina Indian boy, Name unknown, at SC Powwow”  

5. Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Snowbird Cherokees  
A. Captioned – “Nicely Rattler and her granddaughter, Cherokees – “Snowbird Cherokees”  
B. Captioned – “Christian Church of the Snowbird Cherokees and their graveyard”  

6. Eastern Cherokee Southern Iroquois and United Tribes (ECSIUT)  

7. Edisto Natchez Kusso Tribe, 3 folders  
A. Captioned – “Glenn Creel, Edisto, and son of Johnny Creel. Glen was to become a medical doctor, the First SC Indian to do so I am told”  
B. Captioned – “Dorothy Spell, Edisto and mother of Andy, 1986”  
C. Captioned – “Lisa Muckelvaney, Miss Edisto, 1983”  
D. Captioned – “North Carolina Indian with whip, Name Unknown, at Edisto Powwow, 1983”  
E. Captioned – “Andy Spell, Front Left, and the Edisto Dancers”  
F. Captioned – “Note: Chief Martin can trace his Indian ancestry thru an “Affidavit of Indian Descent” from research by Wes White Taukhiray. John Hosendorf Martin, Former Chief of Edisto Indians, 1983”  
G. Captioned – “John Muckenfus, Jr. beside his house, Edisto, 4 Holes, 1984”  
H. Captioned – “Edisto Dancers Matt Creel and Andy Spell at a Powwow”  
   L to R: Jessie Noal, Andy Spell – Edistos have states that Matt Creel is misidentified informed us that Matt Creel is misidentified and the image is of Jessie Noal
I. Captioned – “John Muckenfuss, Jr. with his granddaughter” L to R: Danielle Muckenfuss, John Muckenfuss, Jr.
J. Captioned – “Johnny Creel, Edisto Indian inspecting pine stump used for chemicals, 1985”
K. Captioned – “Opening Ceremonies at Edisto Powwow in Summerville, SC”
L. Captioned – “Frank Pye, vice Chief of Edisto Natchez, at Night”
M. Captioned – “Johnny Creel, Edisto Indian, 1987”
N. Captioned – “Chief Matthew Creel, Edisto, (Circa) 1984”
O. Captioned – “Robert Davidson, Chief of Edisto Tribe, Four Holes, South Carolina”
P. Captioned – “Edisto woman, name unknown, learning to make pottery via the coil method”
   Edistos identified this woman as Myrtle Russell

8. Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
9. Midlands Powwow

10. Pee Dee (3 folders)
   A. Captioned – “Stump Hunt’s sister (Mary Jane ?), Pedees. Her adopted daughter, background.”
   B. Captioned – “Woman of Native Heritage, Name Unknown, Living in Pee Dee Region of SC, She attends a Methodist Church that is predominately Indian and where Brayboy attended.”
   C. Captioned – “Karen Montoya, Pee Dee, and creator of Pee Dee Dancers”
   D. Captioned – “Pee Dee Indian Dancers, McColl, SC”
   E. Captioned – “Young Indian woman, Pee Dee Baptist Church, Dillon County, SC”
   F. Captioned – “Indian boy reading to himself at Sunday School at Pee Dee Indian Church, Dillon County”
   G. Captioned – “Hands of Joe “Stump” Hunt, Pee Dee Indian at their Powwow, 1985”

11. Santee Indian Organization
   A. Captioned – “Hudson Crummie (and son), Former chief of Santee Indians”
   B. Captioned – “Members of Santee Church (Indian)”
   C. Captioned – “Santee Indian Man (Name Unknown)” (On motorcycle)
   D. Captioned – “Figures in Pine Tree at Santee Burial Grounds”

12. Unidentified, 3 folders
   A. Captioned – “American Indian, Name Unknown, Posing for Camera”

13. Wassamassaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians
   A. Captioned – “Bubber Harmon with his gun display”

14. Wesley Taukchiray

15. Western Indians
   A. Captioned – “Mark Small, Cheyenne Indian, on visit to SC”
   B. Captioned – “Indian Witnesses to Ceremony Performed by Mark Small, Cheyenne, 1991”
C. Captioned – “Mark Small in Cheyenne Regalia on Visit to Sc. He came to bring peace between Murphy Woods and Gene Martin”

16. Palmetto Indian Association
   A. Captioned – “South Carolina Chiefs Meeting, 4 Holes Indian Center”
      L to R Rear: Gene Martin (Chicora), Matthew Creel (Edisto), David Locklear (Pee Dee), Oscar Pratt (Santee)
      L to R Front: Shannon Fowler (Chicora Council), Frank Pye (Edisto Vice Chief), Unidentified, Tim LaBean (Pee Dee)

17. Unidentified Pow Wows
   A. Captioned – “NC Indians in SC at Powwow”
   B. Captioned – “Close-up, regalia of young man at Powwow”
   C. Captioned – “Scene at a Powwow” (Aztec dancers)
   D. Captioned – “Flutist at night at a Powwow in SC”
   E. Captioned – “Native in Regalia at Powwow in SC”
   F. Captioned – “Indian boy, name unknown”
   G. Captioned – “Red Regalia”
   H. Captioned – “South Carolina Indians watching North Carolina Indian Dancers, 1984”
   I. Captioned - “Unknown Indian woman at Powwow” “Indian woman at a Powwow”
      Duplicate photos

18. The Waccamaw Indian People

19. Petroglyphs
   A. Captioned – “Pre-Contact Rock Art, Pickens County, SC”
   B. Captioned – “Pre-Contact Rock Art, Pickens County, SC in Infrared Light”
   C. Captioned – “Pre-Contact Native Rock Art, Pickens County, SC”
      (Photograph A chalked in to show the design of the petroglyph)

20. Powwow at South Carolina Statehouse, 2007
21. Four Holes Swamp/Edisto River Swamp

Slides:
The following 88 slides were added to the existing collection on October 25, 2017:
4-10. Earl Robbins, Viola Robbins and pottery
11. Sam Beck at the house on the reservation where he was raised, 1984
12. Early construction of Catawba Mormon Church, 1984
13. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1992
14. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1983
15. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1992
16. Documentary, SC 1985
17-19. Oscar Pratt, Chief of Santees
20. Santee Indian Woman, 1984(?)
21. Pee Dee Dancers, 1992
22. Karen Montoya, Leader of Pee Dee Dancers 1992
23. Pee Dee Indians, 1992
24. Pee Dee woman in church
25. Pee Dee Indian Cemetery with house in background, once and Indian school
26. Pee Dee Indians, David Locklear, his mother and wife, 184
27. Leland Grove Free Will Baptist church members, Pee Dee Indians, 1990
28. Pee Dee Woman with her children, date unknown
29-37. Sara Ayers, 1991
38. Foxx Ayers, 1991
39-47. Sara Ayers Pottery
48. Catawba pot, potter unknown
49. Chief Davidson, Edisto, 1983
50. Ann Creel, Edisto at their powwow, date unknown
51. Ann Creel Johnson, Edisto, 1992
52. Unknown Edisto Indian, 1986
53. Georgia Creel, Edisto feeding her birds, 1992
54. Georgia Creel, Edisto with her daughter and granddaughter, 1992
55-56. Edisto Powwow, 1992
57. Unknown Edisto, 1983(?)
58. John Muckenfuss, Edisto
59. Miss Edisto, year (?)
60. 4 Holes (Edisto), 1992
61. Gene Davidson’s Home, Edisto Indian
62. Gene Davidson’s old house and new trailer, 1992
63. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1992
64. Edisto Powwow, 1992 Original slide
65. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1992
66-67. Edisto Indian Powwow
68. Playing games at Edisto Indian Powwow, 1983
69. Edisto Indian Powwow, 1983
70. Mark Small, Cheyenne, a healer brought to SC to help repair relations between two factions
71. Mark Small, Cheyenne healer with some members of SC Indians who are at odds.
72. Mark Small, Cheyenne Healer, with Murphy Woods (at left) and unknown SC Indian
73. Scene at a SC Powwow, 1992
74. Unknown dancer at Powwow, 1992
75. SC Indian Powwow, 1983
76. An Indian concessionaire at Edisto Powwow
77. North Carolina Indian at SC Powwow
78. Ann Lowry, Lumbee living in SC, 1983
79. Leaders of Indian group living in NW SC
80. Children playing at meeting, Council of Native Americans of SC, 1985
81. Affidavit of Indian Descent, 1854. Chief Eddie Martin’s Relative. Martin is an Edisto Indian
82. Archaeologist at Pre-History Rock Art Site, Pickens County
83-86. Petroglyphs, Pickens County, SC
87. Pre History Pottery, USC Museum
88. Gene Crediford, Self Portrait
Series V. Reference Files

Topical
Catawba Indians
Cherokee Indians
  General
  Language revival efforts, 2004-2007
Chicora Indians
Cofitachequi
Council of Native Americans, Clippings and Legal, 1986-1992
Edisto Indians
Lumbee Indians
Maps and Demographics
Miscellaneous and Ephemera (various research notes, powwow flyers, parts of journal articles
  and unidentified writings)
Meherrin Indians (NC)
Pee Dee Indians
  Schools (Leland Grove, Sardis)
Southeastern Indians
Waccamaw Indians
  Clippings–1905, 1921 (Miscegenation suits)
  General
  Schools (Pine Level) 1934-1955

Series VI: Writings and Publications

Cliffdale Elementary and the South Carolina Committee for the Humanities (1988) – “Education
  and the Native American”

Gregorie, Anne King (1925) – “Notes on Sewee Indians and Indian Remains of Christ Church
Parish Charleston County, South Carolina”

Hazel, Forest (1995) – “The Dimery Settlement: Indian Descendants in the South Carolina Low
Country”

Hicks, George L (1965) – “Cultural Persistence versus Local Adaptation: Frank G. Speck’s
  Catawba Indians”


Kasakoff, Alice Bee, Gene Crediford and Wesley Taukchiray (1997) – “The Catawba Settlement and Other Recent Developments among Native Americans in South Carolina”

Moore, David G (2005) – “Catawba River, North Carolina, Cultural Chronology From Late Woodland to Catawba Valley Mississippian”

Native American Information Service (1997) – “A Short History of Pan-Indianism”

Scherer, Joanna Cohan (1978) – “You Can’t Believe Your Eyes: Inaccuracies in Photographs of North American Indians”


Taukchiray, Wes
(1989) – “Claude Medford on American Indian aboriginal style handmade goods among the Lumbee Indians”
(1985) – “To Dr. Leland Ferguson from Wes White: Responses to queries” (Pee Dee & Edisto information, along with other lowcountry tribes)
(19??) – Edisto Natchez Kusso File
(2009) – “Map Errors and Indians of the Carolinas”
(1996) – “Memo on the Dimery Settlement as of about 1996” (Waccamaw)
(1991) – “Report on a Visit with the Indians in Horry County, South Carolina”
(1996) – “Report to Alice Bee Kasakoff” (Catawba Indian Nation events)


Series VII. Media
A. Cassette tape interviews converted to CD’s:
1. Chief Gene Martin (Chicora) and meeting in Horry County, SC, Jun 6, 1992
2. Arthur Clark (Wassamasaw), May 18, 2004 and Earl Carter (Lumbee), May 19, 2004
3. Cheyenne Indian pipe ceremony (healing ceremony for two SC tribal members)
4. Chief Buster Hatcher (Waccamaw), 1994
5. Gene Crediford, My Own Narrative, and Catawba Festival with Chief Gilbert Blue, 1991
6. Pee Dee Chapel Baptist Church Service, Dillon, SC (playback/speed issues)
7. Cathedral Lake Singers from British Columbia, Grand Entry and Drum
8. Chief Hatcher (Waccamaw), 16 May 2004
9. Chief Oscar Pratt (Santee), 16 May 2004
10. Lumbee Sacred Fire, Gene Crediford and others
11. Wes White Taukchiray) Interview, 1984
12. South Carolina’s Forgotten Indians (aired 11/2/1985 on Mosaics on SCERN
   Timothy Carrier, host featured Dr. David Eliades, UNC Pembroke, Moderator, Dr. Leland Ferguson, USC SCIAA, Dr. Alice B. Kasakoff, USC and Chief Eddie Martin (Edisto) and Johnnie Creel (Edisto)

B. VHS Tapes
1. SC ETV “Those Who Remain.”
2. “Sacred Wind”, the Dakota People and the Episcopal Church.
4. ETV Interview of Charles Mann, 1991 Re: population of Native Americans before Columbus