

MS-195

The Museum of Northern Arizona
Harold S. Colton Memorial Library
3101 N. Fort Valley Road
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928)774-5213 ext. 256

Title

Edmund Nequatewa collection

Dates

circa 1945

Extent

2 file card boxes

Biographical History

Edmund Nequatewa (5 Jul 1877 – 28 Apr 1969) was born in 2nd Mesa on the Hopi reservation into a family of hereditary chiefs, the Sun Forehead Clan. He lived a traditional early life, learning Hopi tribal ways from his family. Nequatewa was sent away to boarding school in Phoenix in 1899 at the Phoenix Indian School. His grandfather told him to learn the secrets of the white man's "black book," but Nequatewa rebelled against the institution's severe discipline and its attempts to assimilate Hopi youths. He finished school in 1904 and he returned to the reservation. Nequatewa's childhood is detailed in his autobiography, *Born a chief: the nineteenth century Hopi boyhood of Edmund Nequatewa*.

Nequatewa married June (Dawahonka) and had three sons: Douglas (Tateekinve), Jack (Boosna), and Neilson (Tawakuku). The two eldest boys subsequently died at the Phoenix Indian School, so Nequatewa and his wife moved to Flagstaff so their youngest son could attend a public school. Nequatewa became one of many Hopi employees at the Museum of Northern Arizona (MNA). He established a close relationship with MNA over the years and authored many books on the subjects of Hopi history, myths, and spiritualism. His portrait was painted by Mary Russell Ferrell Colton in the 1940s and is a part of the MNA fine art collection.

When Nequatewa was about 60, he separated from June and married a Hopi woman from Hotevilla named Jean. They had 8 children.

In his later years, Nequatewa became associated with a Protestant splinter religious sect in his quest for spiritual truth. He passed away in 1969 after a long illness.

Scope and Content

Collection contains 2 file cards boxes with Hopi-English, English/Hopi vocabulary cards; many in sentence form.

MS-195

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Languages and Scripts of the Materials

English & Hopi

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection prepared by Edmund Nequatewa for Harold S. Colton (Accession #MS-195)

Publication Note

Nequatewa's vocabulary cards were used for this publication:

Voegelin, C. F., Charles F. Voegelin, and Florence M. Voegelin. 1957. *Hopi domains: A lexical approach to the problem of selection*. Baltimore: Waverly.

His childhood autobiography is:

Nequatewa, Edmund, Alfred F. Whiting, and P. David Seaman. 1993. *Born a chief: the nineteenth century Hopi boyhood of Edmund Nequatewa, as told to Alfred F. Whiting*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

Description Control

Finding aid written by Eileen Hogan using DACS, 28 July 2010

Edmund Nequatewa collection				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-195-1	Vocabulary	circa 1945	2 file card boxes	Box 1 - 2

LCSH Access Points

Hopi Indian Reservation (Ariz.)
Hopi Indians
Hopi language
Hopi language materials
Nequatewa, Edmund, ca. 1880-1969