



COURSE VIDEO



## Uncovering Hidden Histories: Compiling Biographies of People Omitted from Written Record

An online conversation course

*Perspective from  
Historian  
Anne F. Hyde*



**Finding Native Relations:**  
Histories of Dawes Rolls,  
Blood Quantum, and Tribal  
Citizenship

Anne Hyde, Professor of History,  
University of Oklahoma

**What you all want to know is how people decide if they or someone else is Native American/ Indigenous or not. . . .**

How can I figure out if my ancestors (and me) are Indigenous/Native?

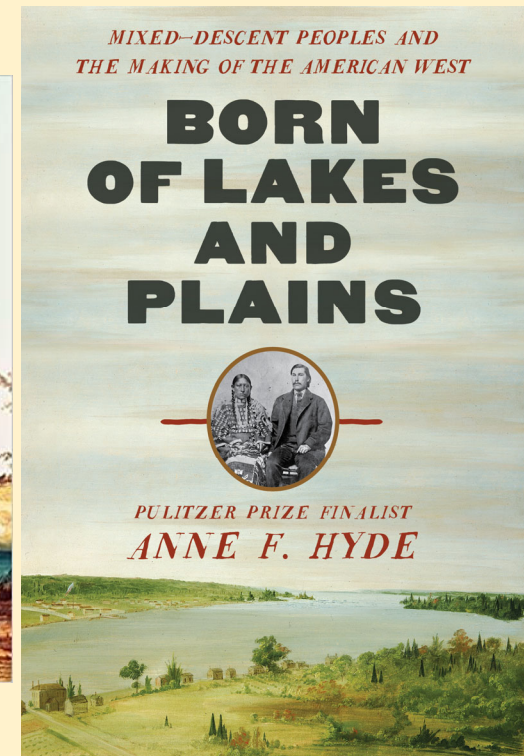
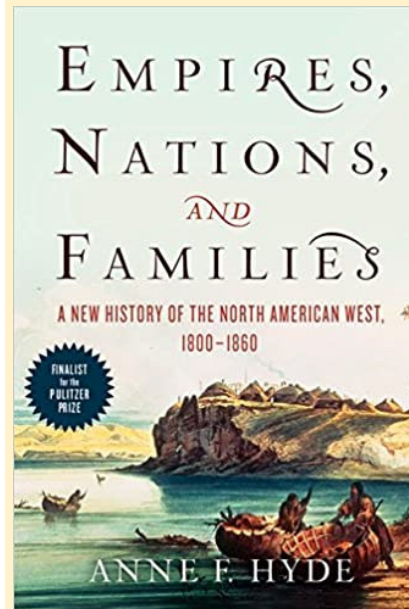
What does indigeneity have to do with tribal citizenship?

Why are questions about identity so fraught and tense right now?

What kind of data/evidence is out there and how reliable is it?

## About me: the questions that motivate my research

- I don't have Native/Indigenous heritage
- I think understanding how Americans have thought about race is essential to the past, present, and future.
- Fur trade and forts . . . where did all these powerful, influential families with mixed-descent people come from.. and then, after the 1890s, where did they go?
- Families, kin, and relations are, whether we like it or not, what we all have in common



- Teaching using family histories

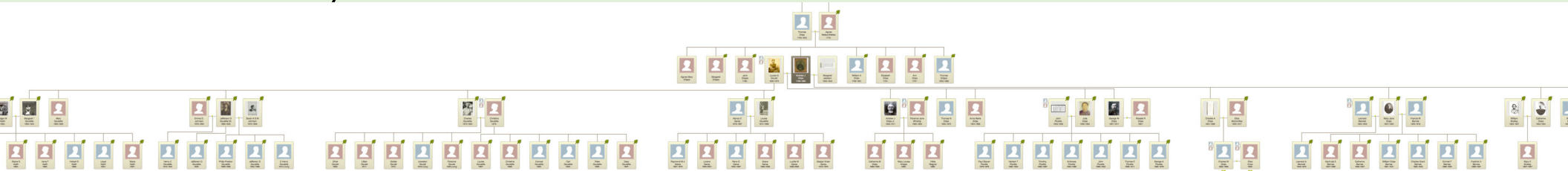
How do U.S. tribal nations, who all have the right to determine membership for themselves, determine citizenship?

They consider **descent, residence, language, who remembers you or your family, blood quantum, relatives on the Dawes Indian Rolls, cultural activities, etc.**

So, what do all these things mean in 1860 or in 1930 or now?

And, does being native/Indian/Indigenous/a citizen of a tribal nation depend on the Dawes Rolls?

# A quick example: The Otoe Drips Family



**Eagle of Delight 1802 / Mary Jane and Catherine, 1890/ Louise Drips Goulet,1865 / Thomas and Andrew 1858**

### Some U.S. census puzzles:

### Nebraska's "Half-Breed Tract" and the Drips-

### Barnes family

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Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Township No 3 Range 16, in the County of Nebraska, enumerated by me on the 24 day of June 1870

Post Office: Falls City, Neb

1	2	3	DESCRIPTION.		
			4	5	6
		Deafus Gulton	20	m	w
		Joseph	17	m	w
		Thomas	14	m	w
		Elizabeth	12	f	w
		Richard	8	m	w
		Maracy	5	f	w
116	117	Gould Henry	52	m	w
		Sousia	40	f	w
		Ottowa	19	m	w
		Susan	15	f	w
117	118	Drips Jack	20	m	w

14	45	46	Frank Isaac S.	37	m	w	Farmer			Maine
15			Sarah K	32	f	w	Keeping house			New York
16	46	47	Barnes Francis m	38	m	w	Farmer	1000		Maryland
17			Mary J	40	f	w	Keeping house	2000		Iowa
18			Leonard	20	m	w	Assisting on farm	3000		Missouri
19			Katie	11	f	w	Attending school			Missouri
20			William	9	m	w	Attending school			Nebraska
21			Grant	7	m	w	Attending school			Nebraska
22			Emmett	5	m	w	at home			Nebraska
23			Fredrick	2	m	w	at home			Nebraska

			attending school							Nebraska
			attending school							Nebraska
			Farmer	9000	500					Oregon
			Keeping house							Dacotah
			Assisting on farm							Nebraska
			at home							Nebraska
			Assisting on farm							Missouri

## HOW THE U.S. CENSUS GETS BUILT AND WHY YOU HAVE TO BE SKEPTICAL OF ANY DATA (ESPECIALLY AROUND RACE)

Until 1960, people did NOT fill out their own forms  
Census Workers filled out forms and often “guessed”  
about race

- Who were census takers?  
prisoners, enlisted military men, park rangers,  
Indian agents
- Why might people not tell the truth if asked about  
personal details?
- Who gets missed?



# Mary Jane Drips Benoist Barnes' Children and the Dawes Rolls NEBRASKA, OKLAHOMA, and ALLOTMENT - THE FAMILY LAWSUIT

6-128.

CENSUS of the Otoe & Missouri Indians of Otoe Agency, Oklahoma.  
 on June 30th., 1912, taken by Ralph P. Stanion, Supt. & Spl. Disb. Agt.  
(Name) (Official title)

NUMBER		INDIAN NAME Date of Birth.	ENGLISH NAME	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	SEX
Last.	Present.					
122	151	12-12-1907.	Delano, Florence.	Daughter.	4	F
	152	10-28-1909.	, Julia.	"	3	F
123	153	1-18-1912.	, Josephine.	"	1/2	F
115	154	1845.	Dent, Hoke S.	H. F.	67	M
116	155	1858.	, Miriam.	Wife.	54	F
117	156	1883.	, Ralph.	H. F.	29	M
118	157	1887.	, Madge F.			
119	158	9-26-1910.	, Abraham.			
145	159	1863.	Diamond, Bert.			
146	160	1870.	, Anna.			
147	161	4- 8-1897.	, Nancy.			
148	162	1- 6-1900.	, Rhoda.			
149	163	4-16-1902.	, Myrtle.			
150	164	3-30-1907.	, William.			
294	165	1859.	Dickey, Katie B.			
412	166	1877.	Dupae, Lydia.			
414	167	9-27-1903.	, Edna.			
415	168	3-11-1906.	, Bessie M.			
416	169	11-29-1910.	, Louie.			
167	170	1859.	Ellis, Samuel.			
161	171	1854.	, Mary I.			
166	172	1848.	Ely, Hildegard G.			

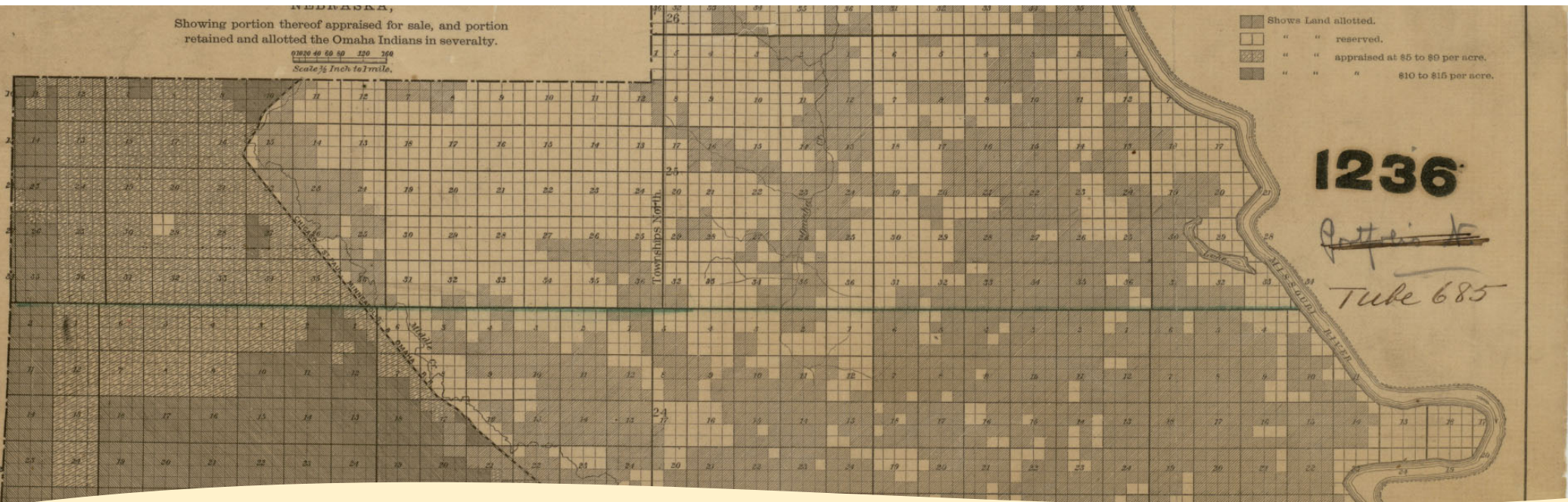


CENSUS of the \_\_\_\_\_ Indians of \_\_\_\_\_ Agency, \_\_\_\_\_  
 on \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, taken by \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2  
(Name) (Official title)

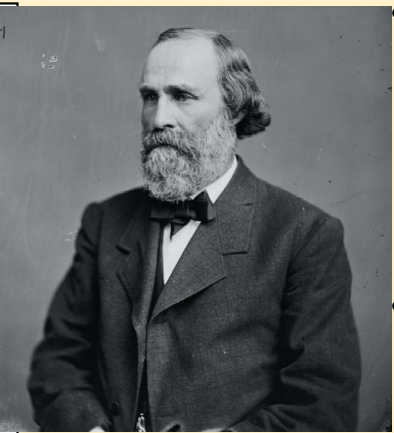
NUMBER		INDIAN NAME	ENGLISH NAME	RELATIONSHIP	DATE OF BIRTH	SEX
Last.	Present.					
28	25	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	Barnes, Jonathan	son	11-12-1912	M
29	26	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, William D.	H.F.	1861	M
30	27	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Dorrance	son	6-9-1898	M
31	28	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Marion	dau.	5-29-1900	F
32	29	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Frederick H. Jr.	son	7-4-1901	M
33	30	<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Helen	dau.	12-27-1902	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Hazel	dau.	12-25-1904	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Mary K.	dau.	10-10-1912	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Grant C.	H.F.	12-27-1863	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Roy G.	son	1-24-1904	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Vena C.	dau.	3-10-1908	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Emmet F.	H.F.	1866	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Warren C.	son	9-29-1896	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Valentine	dau.	2-14-1899	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Harold	H.F.	12-30-1888	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Frederick	H. F.	1868	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	Bassett, Sam	H.F.	1880	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Joseph	son	10-22-1909	M
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Dorcas	dau	11-9-1911	F
		<del>Trust Fund Settlement</del>	, Martha	dau	11-12-1913	F

## What is "blood quantum"? How did it get invented and used?

- 19<sup>th</sup>-century race science: goal is proving superiority of the "Anglo-Saxon" race . . . and the inferiority, at a cellular level, of everyone else
- North American obsession with keeping "white blood pure"
- Because Indian Reservations are invented as chattel slavery is ending after the Civil War, there is intense interest in tracking race in the 1860s and 1870s.
- In an era very concerned about who could be citizens and what kind of race or "blood" might disqualify people from citizenship, how much of any particular blood people carried - their blood quantum.
- No one, now or in the 1870s or 1910s, could see what race anyone's blood might carry.



So what is allotment and who thought this was a good idea? **Senator Henry Dawes and his 1887 Act**



- The 1887 Dawes General Allotment Act comes when U.S. policy makers, reformers, and military officials decide Indian reservations need to be abolished. Even though treaties guarantee Native lands, it is expensive to police them and that land should be made available for white settlers.
- Between 1890 and 1910, almost every reservation is allotted, which means the federal government decides who is "Indian," and most Indians lose land, access to water, cattle herds, and mineral rights.

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5-128

CENSUS of the ..... Indians of ..... Agency, .....

on ....., 19 ....., taken by ....., .....

(Name.)

(Official title.)

NUMBER.		INDIAN NAME.	Allot No.	ENGLISH NAME.	Degree Ind. bld	RELATIONSHIP.	DATE OF BIRTH.	SEX.
Last.	Present.							
1020	1079		2937	Rosa Seneca*	1/2	wife	1883	f
1021	1080			Russel Seneca	3/4	son	1906	m
1022	1081			Maurice Vivian Seneca	3/4	dau	1910	f
				(Husband not on roll)				
1024	1082		633	Rollin Blackwolf *	F	Husb	1882	m
1025	1083			Mohiva Blackwolf	7/8	dau	1906	f
1026	1084			John Blackwolf	7/8	son	1909	m
1027	1085			Louisa Blackwolf	1/2	dau	1914	f
1028	1086			William T. Blackwolf	1/2	son	1916	m
1029	1087			Mary Blackwolf	1/2	dau	1918	f
				(wife, white, not on roll)				
1033	1088		532 A	Robert Starr	F	Single	1893	m
1035	1089		210	Rollin Coyote	F	Husb	1884	m
1036	1090	Wa-hi-you	710	Maud Coyote	F	wife	1885	f

Cheyenne- Arapaho rolls, Oklahoma, 1921.

### REASONS SOMEONE WOULD NOT BE ON THE DAWES ROLLS

- Phenotype and genotype
- Didn't speak English
- Afraid of having children taken away
- Risk of signing anything
- Simply weren't around that day

A Last Example:

The McKay Family  
in Oregon and  
Washington:  
Chinook, Cayuse,  
Cree, and Scots-  
Canadian



Leila McKay



## PLACES TO LOOK BEYOND CENSUS or INDIAN ROLLS

1) Draft registration cards, WW1 and 2, Vietnam, etc. - people enter their own race and lots of Indigenous people chose to list it (George McKay)

2) Reservation and Boarding School records - (Leila McKay) or 1930s CCC Indian Projects (Louise Drips Goulet's Children)

3) Marriage records/licenses - states are very interested in race up to the present (Logan Fontenelle (Omaha) and his French/Dakota wife)

4) People "passing" as another race/ethnicity and later deciding to move to reservations or claim native heritage - Leila McKay

5) Towns near Indian Reservations - go back and look at

THANKS for listening and looking! Please save any questions or suggestions for when we meet "live" next week. . . .

Rachel Cocker, Blood Quantum: the Colonial Tool of Racial Superiority and Economic Dependency Native Communities Can't Let Go of, KNOWLEDGE IN INDIGENOUS NETWORKS (Aug. 10, 2016) <https://indigenouknowledge.net/2016/08/10/blood-quantum-the-colonial-tool-of-racial-superiority-and-economic-dependency-native-communities-cant-let-go-of/> <https://perma.cc/N425-QSS4>

"How to Register to get Your CDIB Card," ACCESS GENEALOGY, <https://www.accessgenealogy.com/native/how-to-register-or-get-your-cdibcard.htm> <https://perma.cc/5RWS-JU72>) that provides information for researching Indian ancestry and applying for a CDIB).

Paul Spruhan, "A Legal History of Blood Quantum in Federal Indian Law to 1935." *South Dakota Law Review* 51, no. 1 (2006): 1.

#### Books:

C. Joseph Genetin-Pilawa, *Crooked Paths to Allotment : The Fight over Federal Indian Policy after the Civil War*, (University of North Carolina Press, 2012)

Melissa Meyer. *Thicker than Water: The Origins of Blood as Symbol and Ritual*. New York: Routledge, 2005.

Katherine Ellinghaus, *Blood Will Tell : Native Americans and Assimilation Policy* (Nebraska, 2017).



*See you again on*  
Monday, October 17  
6-7:15 pm (ET)  
for our live conversation...

## ***Uncovering Hidden Histories: Compiling Biographies of People Omitted from Written Record***

featuring panelists Meaghan E.H. Siekman,  
Carole Emberton and Anne F. Hyde