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Western History Collection

Oklahoma Indian Rights Association Collection

Oklahoma Indian Rights Association Collection. Records, 1966–1980. 11.50 feet.

Indian advocacy organization. Records of the association (1966–1980), including correspondence, reports, financial records, and publications of the Oklahoma Indian Rights Association, regarding its involvement in the cause of American Indian civil rights, economic betterment, and the organization's relations with Oklahoma Indian tribes and nations.

About the organization:

In May of 1970, a three-day seminar was held at the University of Oklahoma, sponsored jointly by the Indian Education Department of the University of Oklahoma and the two Area Offices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Oklahoma. At this meeting, Indian leaders from Oklahoma's 34 tribes and four from Kansas indicated a strong interest in the problem of legal rights. In November of 1970, a one-day seminar was held dealing solely with questions of Indian Rights. Out of this seminar was born the Oklahoma Indian Rights Association, incorporated under the laws of the State of Oklahoma on 16 December 1970, and given IRS Number 73-093-8479.

The purpose of OIRA, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, is: "The Oklahoma Indian Rights Association is organized for the purpose of aiding, financially and otherwise, by any lawful means, any individual Indian, Indian band, tribe or nation, in the securing of any and all legal rights guaranteed by the laws and constitution of the United States of America or the State of Oklahoma, and by aiding, financially or otherwise, in the furnishing of legal services furthering the purpose of securing such legal rights, and to engage in any project beneficial to legal rights of Indians in civil or criminal matters." Unique, in that the idea originated with Indians to fill a statewide need, Oklahoma Indian Rights Association has been developed entirely by Oklahoma Indians; the board of directors is entirely Indian; the program is being conducted by Indians, to serve all Indians who need help.

Oklahoma Indian Rights Association is governed by a ten-member board of directors, two from each of the four quadrants of the State and one member each from the Oklahoma City and Tulsa metropolitan areas. A chairman is elected by the board of directors from outside their numbers. In addition to the board of directors, there is an advisory board made up of the principle officer (or his designated representative) from each of the organized tribes in Oklahoma. Membership is open to anyone, but only persons of Indian descent, 18 years of age or older, may vote or hold office. The office is located at 555 East Constitution, Norman, Oklahoma.

Since inception, OIRA has handled over 2,200 cases of violation of rights. These cases include both civil and criminal cases, and violations have been found in all parts of the

state. OIRA has also sponsored a number of seminars, workshops, and training programs on legal and consumer rights for Indians, recruited, trained and placed seven Indian legal investigators with six tribes and one urban center. During 1976-77 OIRA provided legal education and training programs for Bureau of Indian Affairs schools and public schools in Oklahoma. This included on-site programs and workshops for students and faculty. OIRA does not take any case of Indian against Indian, nor does it involve itself in intra-tribal matters. OIRA seeks to preserve to our Indian people the rights guaranteed under the constitution.

Series #1. Administrative records. Includes meeting minutes and list of Board of Directors and Members. Also By-Laws and the Articles of Incorporation of the OIRA and the funding sources of the association.

Folder 1:

1. OIRA - Articles of Incorporation, 1970
2. OIRA - Birth and Death Forms
3. OIRA - By-Laws First Meeting, December 31, 1970.
4. OIRA - Charities and Corrections Report, 1970-74.
5. OIRA - Completed Questionnaire on activities in tribes.
6. OIRA - Description Letters.
7. OIRA - Funding Sources
8. OIRA - Illustrative Cases
9. OIRA - Insurance
10. OIRA - Insurance/Workmen's Comp.
11. OIRA - Job Applications
12. OIRA - Know Your Rights (Original)
13. OIRA - Letters of Credentials (Forms)
14. OIRA - Mailing Lists
15. OIRA - Memberships, 1971-78
16. OIRA - Membership list - Index card file (re: file box)

17. OIRA - Minutes - Advisory Board Meetings, 1971-72
18. OIRA - Minutes - Board of Directors Meetings, 1971-78
19. OIRA - Minutes - Conference on the Indian Law Enforcement, 1970
20. OIRA - Minutes - Membership Meetings, 1970-77
21. OIRA - Officers and Directors
22. OIRA - Oklahoma Indian Affairs Contract
23. OIRA - OU Employment Procedures
24. OIRA - OU Public Information Memos
25. OIRA - Profile - Board of Directors
26. OIRA - Sand Creek Massacre, 1941-71

Series #2: Contains the general correspondence of OIRA and the correspondence of the staff. Also correspondence from the funders of OIRA.

Box 2

Folder:

1. BIA - Correspondence and contracts
2. Committee of Concern, Inc. - correspondence
3. Donner Foundation, Inc. - correspondence
4. General correspondence, 1970-71
5. General correspondence, 1971
6. General correspondence, 1972
7. General correspondence, 1972
8. General correspondence, 1973-75
9. General correspondence, 1976-78

10. Hayden, F.L., 1966-67
11. Hayes, Pat: Anadarko, OK, 1965-66
12. McCormick Foundation Correspondence, 1974-75
13. Miller, Bob, 1971-73
14. National Indian Youth Council, Inc. - correspondence, 1974
15. O'Hara, Dr. John B., 1966-67
16. Schulze, Labon, 1970-72
17. Timmons, Boyce D. - correspondence and memos, 1969-73
18. Timmons, Boyce D. (OIRA- Executive Director), 1974-78
19. Timmons, Boyce D. (OIRA- Executive Director), 1974-78
20. Towle, Les (Retired from BIA in 1967), 1966-67
21. Wantland, William (OIRA- Executive Director), 1970-73

Series #3: Proposals for financial assistance for individuals, organizations and projects in the OIRA.

Box 3

Folder:

1. Consumer Education, 1981
2. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Title IV) 1979
3. Donner Foundation, Inc.
4. Education Program for Indian Land Owners
5. Episcopal Church
6. Funding to create the Indian Trust Counsel Authority
7. Misc. Funding (correspondence) 1974
8. Indian Education

9. No folder
10. Legal Intern Project
11. OIRA
12. Legal Services Corporation
13. National American Legal Defense
14. Native America Center
15. Oklahoma Crime Commission
16. Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women (US Office of Education) July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976.
17. Paralegal Training
18. Pretrial Release Program
19. Provide Funding for Workshop
20. Southern Cheyenne Research and Development Association
21. US Department of Education
22. United Methodist Church, February 2, 1971

Series #4: Workshops on legal and consumer rights for Indians. Sponsored by various organizations and OIRA.

23. Chilocco, July 13-14, 1977
24. Community Development Workshop for area social workers, May 14-17, 1967.
25. Concho (Attitude survey), June 17, 1977.
26. Concho (Self-esteem survey), June 17, 1977.
27. Concho (Values exercise continuum), June 17, 20, 21, 1977
28. Human Relations

29. Indian Adult Education (Legal)
30. Indian Student Law Education, March 21-22, 1977
31. Indian Student Law Education, March 21-22, 1977
32. Tribal Government Workshop (Sponsored by Seminole Nation and OIRA), August 1978.

Series #5: Status and Final Reports on Workshops and Organizations

33. Annual Report (BIA), 1968-69
34. Census Reports
35. Cherokee Nation (Reports)
36. Dept. of Corrections Research Report
37. Headlands Indian Health Careers Program (Report)
38. Indian Civil Rights Task Force (Status Report)
39. Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission (Report)
40. Report- Legal Workshops to Donner Foundation, Inc., 1971
41. State Department of Education (Dropout Report)

Series #6: The Financial Records of the IRA. Statements, paid invoices, personnel expense accounts and financial reports.

**Box 4
Folder:**

1. Donner Fund (OIRA)- Check Register, 1974-77
2. Donner Fund Subsidiary Ledger, 1974-75
3. Donner Fund- General Ledger, 1974-76
4. Donner Fund- Cash Receipts and Disbursement Journal, 1974-76

5. Donner Fund- Checks (carbon), 1974
6. Donner Fund- Checks (carbon), 1975
7. Donner Fund- Checks (carbon), 1976
8. OIRA- General Fund (Gen. Journal), Donner Fund, Legal Project Fund, 1973-77.
9. OIRA0 Legal Project Fund, Cash receipt and disbursement journal, 1976-77.
10. OIRA- Legal Project Fund (checks: carbon), November 1976 to Dec. 1977.
11. Check stubs (general fund), 1971-72.
12. OIRA- General fund check register, 1973-80.
13. OIRA- general fund, cash receipts and disbursement journal, gen. ledger, 1973-75
14. Cash receipts, 1973
15. OIRA- general journal (general fund), 1976
16. OIRA- general fund, cash receipts and disbursement journal, gen. ledger, 1976-77
17. OIRA General Ledger, 1978
18. OIRA Payroll, 1972
19. OIRA Payroll, 1973-75
20. OIRA Payroll journal, 1973
21. OIRA Payroll, 1976
22. OIRA Payroll, 1977
23. Payroll information (payroll scales)
24. OIRA checks (carbon) general fund, 1973
25. OIRA checks (carbon) general fund, 1974
26. OIRA checks (carbon) general fund, 1975
27. OIRA checks (carbon) general fund, 1976

28. OIRA checks (carbon) general fund, 1977
29. OIRA Blank Checks
30. Travel claims (misc.), 1966-67
31. Treasurer's Report, 1972
32. Membership Dues (monies received), 1973-74
33. Presbyterian Subsidiary ledger, 1974-75
34. No folder
35. OIRA Law Enforcement Seminar (expenses-travel), June 1971
36. United Western Tribes-Legal Seminars budget expenditures
37. Support for 501
38. Auditors confirmation, 1974
39. Form 941 (employees W-4), 1972-75
40. IRS correspondence, 1973
41. State withholding taxes, 1972-75
42. State unemployment taxes, 1972-75
43. W2 and W3 forms, 1972-75
44. Federal tax deposits, 1972-75
45. Requisitions, 1966-67
46. OIRA Tax Information, 1980
47. OIRA Tax exemption (correspondence)

Box 5
Folder:

1. The American Indian Institute (paid invoices and statements)

2. Anque, Truman (expense claims and salary)
3. ABC Answering, Inc. (paid invoices)
4. Botone, George D. (expense claims and salary)
5. Brown, Herbert (expense claims)
6. Bryan, Mike-Office Products (paid invoices)
7. Center for Emergency Preparedness Studies (paid invoices)
8. Chupco, Helen (expense claims)
9. Collins, Williams Jr. (expense claims and salary)
10. Commons Restaurant (paid invoices)
11. Coombes, Monette (expense claims and salary)
12. District Court of Oklahoma County (paid invoices)
13. Donner, Wm. H. (Fund) (paid invoices)
14. Donner, Wm. H. Foundation Fund (Checks issued for OIRA)
15. Doonkeen, Wahilla (salary-Indian Manpower Program)
16. Ecosystems, Inc. (paid invoices)
17. Expense Claims (Misc.)
18. Harjo, Floyd L. (expense claims and salary)
19. Harjo, Yvonne C. (expense claims and salary)
20. Hawkins, George (expense claims)
21. Hooper Printing, Inc. (paid invoices)
22. Home and Co. (CPA) (paid invoices)
23. James, Orville E. (expense claims and salary)
24. Johnson, Samuel (expense claims)

25. Jotco Office Supplies (paid invoices)
26. Kickingbird, Carl (expense claims)
27. Klinekole, Houston (expense claims)
28. Legal Project OIRA (advance/disbursement of cash)
29. Logan, Grace (salary)
30. McKee, Bill Jr. (expense claims and salary)
31. Mealor, Buddy (expense claims)
32. Metcalf, Mary J. (salary)
33. Miller, Robert L. (expense claims)
34. Oheltoint, Frances M. (expense claims and salary)
35. Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (paid invoices)
36. Paid invoices (misc.)
37. Public Responsibility and Community Affairs (paid invoices)
38. Roberts, Cynthia (expense claims)
39. Shunatona, Bat (expense claims)
40. Southwest Center for Human Relations (paid invoices)
41. Southwestern Bell (paid invoices)
42. Special payments
43. Starr, Bobbie R. (expense claims and salary)
44. Starr, Edward D., Jr. (expense claims and salary)
45. State Auditor and Inspector (paid invoices)
46. Sullivan-Dollar Inc. (paid invoices and policies)
47. Timmons, Boyce D. (expense claims and salary)

48. Timmons, David R. (expense claims and salary)
49. Transcript Press (paid invoices)
50. Travel and Car Rental expenses (receipts)
51. Twoguns, Donald (expense claims)
52. University of Oklahoma (paid invoices)
53. Wantland, William C. (expense claims)
54. Wesley, Joe Jr. (expense claims)
55. White, Barbara J. (expense claims)
56. Whitebird, Robert A. Sr. (expense claims)
57. Willis, Carole (expense claims)
58. Wolfe, Nancy Juanita (salary)
59. Written and Graphic Communication (paid invoices)
60. Treasurer's Report
61. Form 941, 1976-77
62. Federal Tax Deposit (First National Bank), 1976-77
63. State Unemployment Taxes (Oklahoma Employment Security Comm), 1976-77
64. State Withholding Taxes Quarterly Report, 1976-77
65. Legal Project Fund (Financial Report), June 30, 1977
66. Financial Statements, March 31, 1977.
67. Report of Audit, December 31, 1972 thru December 31, 1977

Box 6
Folder:

1. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1971

2. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1972
3. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1973
4. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1974
5. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1975
6. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1976
7. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1977
8. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1978
9. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1979
10. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1980
11. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1981
12. Bank Statements (canceled checks and deposit slips) 1982
13. Donner Fund (bank statements: canceled checks and deposit slips), 1974
14. Donner Fund (bank statements: canceled checks and deposit slips), 1975
15. Donner Fund (bank statements: canceled checks and deposit slips), 1976
16. Legal Project (bank statements: canceled checks and deposit slips), 1976-78

Series #7: Conferences sponsored by OIRA and other organizations dealing with Indian Welfare and assistance, also newsletter of various Indian organizations.

**Box 7
Folder:**

1. American Craftsman Council "Dynamic Directions", June 9-11, 1967.
2. BIA, January 22-28, 1968
3. BIA Community Development Seminars
4. BIA "Community Development", September 10-15, 1967

5. BIA October Community Development Seminar, October 8-13, 1967
6. BIA and SW Center for HRC Community Dev. Workshop for Social Workers, 1967
7. Conference Calendar OCCE OU, 1967-68
8. Community Dev. Seminar BIA: Muskogee and Anadarko areas OKC, June 4-6, 1968.
9. Community Dev. Seminar BIA: Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, January 23-27, 1967
10. Community Dev. Seminar UCLA, May 1967
11. Community Service Weekend Seminar III, December 16-17, 1966
12. Conference on Indian Ministers (OIO), April 19, 1969
13. Consultative Center "Counselor's Role in Improved Human Relations", December 1966
14. Consultative Center High School Program, 1967
15. Consultative Center "The Human Relations Dimension in Curriculum Improvement", March 19-21, 1967.
16. Consultative Center "News Media Conference", December 9-10, 1966.
17. Ethnic Diversity "Beyond the Melting Pot" (Tulsa), January 17-18, 1967.
18. 8th Annual Human Relations Seminar, July 25-30, 1966
19. Equality of Educational Opportunity and the Indian Student in OK: A Focus, November 22-23, 1968
20. Equality of Educational Opportunity for the Indian Pupil in OK, December 14-16, 1967
21. "Extremism" 4th Annual Conf. on Human Relations, April 20-22, 1967
22. Governors Conference on Economic Opportunity, December 7, 1966
23. Health Studies Alcoholism Workshop, March 9-12, 1969
24. HRC Seminar for Social Workers and Counselors, June 5-10, 1967

25. Indian Education-Arizona State Univ. (Tempe), March 17-18, 1967
26. Indian Education Bureau of Indian Affairs Social Workers, May 14-19, 1967
27. Indian Health Institute, October 13-15, 1969
28. Indian health Institute for Leadership Training, December 8-14, 1968
29. Indian Leadership, September 22-24, 1967
30. Indian Leadership Conference, February 15, 1969
31. Indian Education Leadership, November 9, 1968
32. "Institute on American Indians" Employment Service, July 10-22, 1967
33. National Manpower Conference "The Rural to Urban Population Shift- A National Problem", May 17-18, 1968
34. Series: Continuing Education for Minorities, April-October, 1967
35. Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, November 20, 1976
36. Oklahoma's Culturally Disadvantaged Child, September 21-22, 1966
37. One-Day Indian Prog. Conference, June 19, 1968
38. Seminar- "Crisis In The Nation HRC", July 8-13, 1968
39. Special Education Regional Workshop: Economic System, Inc., July 24-26, 1968
40. Symposium on Indian Affairs, December 7, 1968
41. 10th Annual Human Relations Seminar, July 8-13, 1968
42. Tribal Leadership Conference, May 15-16, 1970
43. Tribal Leadership in Judicial Services
44. Tulsa Consultative Center: Indian Education, March 25, 1968
45. UCEPR Univ. of California "Quest for Identity", May 19-22, 1967
46. Weekend University "Death a Part of Life", March 10-11, 1967

47. Weekend University "Weekend in a 'T'", November 11-12, 1966
48. Western OK Inter-tribal Alliance, August 24, 1968
49. Workshop (NCCJ, PTA, HRC) "Rearing Children of Goodwill", July 25-27, 1966
50. 9th Annual Human Relations Seminar, July 10-15, 1967
51. BLS College of Continuing Education (Newsletter), March-August 1969
52. Indian Affairs Association of American Indian Affairs, Inc. (Newsletter), 1965-66
53. Indian Education Newsletter
54. Indian Record (Newsletter)
55. Indian Voices Ed. University of Chicago. Printed in Tahlequah, Oklahoma
56. OIO Newsletters, 1966-67
57. Newsletters (Miscellaneous)

Series #8: Indian Education Files: Legal education and training programs for BIA schools and public schools in Oklahoma

Box 8
Folder:

1. Attorney's Sourcebook: High School Law Program
2. Clinical Records
3. Educational Materials (Law)
4. Evaluation Indian Students train Indian Students in Law Project
5. Evaluation Law for Public School Use Project
6. Handbook: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance for Attorneys and Advocates
7. HRC Graduate Program in Human Relations, 1966-67
8. Indian Development Program (Catfish farming)

9. Indian Education Facility
10. Indian Education Material (Papers on Indian Education References)
11. Indian Education-Names and lists
12. Indian Education-Report, July 1970-January 1971
13. Indian Education Quarterly Reports (Muskogee Area), 1971-72
14. Indian Education Quarterly Reports (Anadarko Area), 1971-72
15. Indian Student Law Education Program
16. Indian Students of the week
17. Indian Tribes Sponsoring Investigation Training Program for OIRA
18. Instructional Material Continuum- How Serious an Offense?
19. Law Focused Mini-Course (Grade 3-12)
20. Legal Project: Law Education
21. OIRA Training Program for Investigators
22. SWCEL- Indian Students Study, 1966-67

Series #9: Complaint File. Civil and Criminal cases and violation rights investigated by OIRA. Includes two (2) card files of complaints.

**Box 9
Folder:**

1. CV:1-9 (1972)
2. CV:10-19 (1972)
3. CV:20-29 (1972)
4. CV:30-39 (1972)
5. CV:40-49 (1972)

6. CV:50-59 (1972-73)
7. CV:60-69 (1972-73)
8. CV:70-79 (1972-73)
9. CV:80-89 (1972-73)
10. CV:90-99 (1973)
11. CV:100-109 (1973)
12. CV:110-119 (1973)
13. CV:120-129 (1973-74)
14. CV:130-139 (1973)
15. CV:140-149 (1973)
16. CV:150-159 (1973-74)
17. CV:160-169 (1973-74)
18. CV:170-179 (1973-74)
19. CV:180-183 (1974-75)
20. CV:208 (1974)
21. CV:220-229 (1974)
22. CV:230-239 (1974)
23. CV:240-249 (1974)
24. CV:250-259 (1974)
25. CV:260-266 (1974-75)
26. Anquo, Truman CV: Misc. cases (OKC Area)
27. Collins, William Jr. CV: Misc. (Ponca City Area)
28. Harjo, Floyd CV: Misc. (Wewoka Area)

29. McKee, Bill CV: Misc. (Tahlequah Area)
30. Starr, Bobbie Rae CV: Misc. (Miami Area)
31. Starr, Edward, Jr. CV: Misc. (Watonga, Clinton, etc. Area)

Box 10

Folder:

1. CV: Misc. (1971)
2. CV: Misc. (1971)
3. CV: Misc. (1971)
4. CV: Misc. (1972)
5. CV: Misc. (1973)
6. CV: Misc. (July 1, 1975)
7. Crime Reports
8. Legal Cases
9. Legal Material
10. Non-Jury Docket: Cleveland County, OK, 1973
11. OIRA- Dana and Lewis Knight
12. OIRA Summary of Criminal cases, 1970-77
13. Volunteer Attorneys
14. Two (2) Index card files of complaints

Series #10: Churches, Associations, Cities, and Tribes concerned with the welfare of Indians. Includes newspaper items and political materials about Indian issues.

Box 11

Folder:

1. The Commission on Religion and Race (The United Methodist Church)
2. Executive Council of the Episcopal Church
3. Indian Mission Advocate Published by OK Methodist Indian Mission, 1966-67
4. Oklahoma Conferences of Churches
5. The Presbytery of OK: Presbyterian Church in the US (Task Force on Hunger)
6. Child Welfare Act (Indian)
7. Fox-Tatums Desegregation Controversy, December 31, 1966
8. Health, Education, Welfare Publications (Indian)
9. Indian Special Services, Inc., Formerly Anadarko Committee of Concern
10. Indian Tribal Council: Constitution
11. Human Rights Commission (OK) Policy Statement
12. National Congress of American Indians
13. Native American Rights Fund: Summary of Litigation and other activities
14. NAIRO- National Association of Intergroup Relation Officials
15. OIO- Oklahoma for Indian Opportunity
16. OEO- Office of Economic Opportunity
17. Hobar, July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
18. HRC Human Relations Center: Executive Committee Meetings and Advisory Committee Meetings, 1966-67
19. Lawton Center, July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
20. Muskogee Area Office (BIA), July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
21. Ponca City Center, July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
22. Shawnee Agency (BIA), 1966

23. Seminole County Center, July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
24. Tulsa Indian Center, 1966-67
25. Watonga Center, July 1, 1966 to June 30, 1967
26. Youth Opportunity Centers Bureau of Employment Security US Dept. of Labor
27. Navajo
28. Seminole Nation Summary and Finding of a Workshop, 1980
29. Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Ordinance and Resolutions, Sept.-Dec. 1969
30. Southern Cheyenne
31. Western Tribes Seminars
32. Calendar of Indian Events
33. Extending Group Function by Focused Feedback (paper), February 1967
34. Harkness Ballet (OKC), February 26, 1967
35. Newspaper Items
36. Newspaper Subscriptions, 1966-67
37. Pamphlet and Booklets on Rights for Indians
38. Political Materials Concerning Indian Issues