



The
Brinton
Museum

ART SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you find?

The **150th Anniversary - Treaty of Fort Laramie** exhibit features important rare photographs by the nineteenth century American photographer **Alexander Gardner** who is celebrated for his emotionally moving photographs of Indian Delegations and Civil War soldiers and his photographic portraits of Abraham Lincoln. In 1868, Gardner was commissioned by the federal government to photograph the peace talks between a federally appointed commission and chiefs of the Plains Indian tribes at Fort Laramie in Wyoming. The **Fort Laramie Peace Treaty was signed on April 29**. Additional signatures by the Oglala band of Sioux by the chiefs and headmen were subscribed and duly authorized on **May 25**.

Alexander Gardner's photographs taken at Fort Laramie and the surrounding Indian territories are called albumens. An albumen photograph refers to a photographic process that requires using a heavy glass plate negative coated with a chemical emulsion that is then in contact with a paper coated with albumen (egg whites) and salt and silver nitrate. It was the first known method of producing a photographic print. Unlike photography today, it could take up to two hours to make a single print.

Can you find the portrait photograph of **Iron Nation** of the Brulé Lakota?

- Did he sign the 1868 Fort Laramie Peace Treaty? _____
- Did he sign other peace treaties? _____
- In what year was Iron Nation born? _____

Can you find the portrait photograph of the Lakota leader **Yellow Hawk**?

- In what year was Yellow Hawk born? _____
- Who was Yellow Hawk's wife? _____

Find the Alexander Gardner photograph of **Fire Thunder, Man Afraid of His Horses** and **Pipe** standing together in an open plain. Summarize briefly what you think these names might mean or perhaps why these names were given to them.

- I found this photograph _____

➤ **Fire Thunder** might mean _____

➤ **Man Afraid of his Horses** means _____

➤ **Pipe** might mean _____

Can you find four portrait images (not taken by Alexander Gardner) of four **U.S. Generals** who were present at the peace talks at Fort Laramie in 1868? List their names here:

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

➤ _____

What was the purpose or objective of the 1868 Fort Laramie Peace Treaty:

➤ _____

Summarize in a few sentences the reasons why this important treaty was broken:

➤ _____

Find two photographs by the photographer **John C. H. Grabill** taken in 1889 depicting gold prospectors and tin miners? Explain the effect the discovery of gold in 1874 in the Black Hills of South Dakota had on the 1868 Fort Laramie Peace Treaty?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

List three things about Alexander Gardner’s photographic processes that are completely different from photography today?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Alexander Gardner’s historically important 1868 photographs taken at the Fort Laramie Peace Treaty talks and his Indian Delegation portraits were assembled in impressive albums and presented to various U.S. government officials and dignitaries of the time.

List several reasons why photography is important now just as it was in Gardner’s time:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Describe some of the ways that you keep, share or store your photographs: _____

Answers to the Art Scavenger Hunt questions:



Iron Nation was born in February in 1815 into the Lakota tribe. He was often referred to as the “Red Man’s Moses”. He signed the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty, the 1865 Fort Sully Treaty and the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty as well as the Dakota Territory treaties of 1880. He died on November 14th, in 1894 due to pneumonia, and was the tribe’s last head chief.



Yellow Hawk was a Lakota Leader born in 1847. He married a white woman named Julia who had been found in a destroyed village as a baby, and was raised by people of the Lakota Tribe. Yellow Hawk lived until 1930. The **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** (Lakota: *Wazí Aháŋhaŋ Oyáŋke*), also called **Pine Ridge Agency**, is an Oglala Lakota Native American reservation located in South Dakota. Originally included within the territory of the Great Sioux Reservation, Pine Ridge was established in 1889.



Fire Thunder, Man Afraid of His Horses and Pipe

We do not always know the story about why a particular name was given to an Indian person but we do know why Man Afraid of his Horses was given his name, the meaning of his name is described in various publications about Plains Indians and the Indian peoples.

Fire Thunder: Fire was a necessity for keeping warm in winter and cooking food. Thunder is a powerful element found in nature, perhaps this name describes someone with a strong spiritual life force or who possesses powerful medicine.

Man Afraid of His Horses was an Oglala Chief. His name roughly translates ‘the man of whose horse we are afraid’, meaning the bearer of the name was so feared in battle that the mere sight of his horse inspired fear.

Pipe: A sacred pipe was always used in opening councils like those that took place at the Fort Laramie peace talks. The pipe is sacred. The pipe never fails. No treaty is binding without a smoke. This was not to be taken lightly. Similar to our courts where an individual giving testimony is required to take a sworn oath “to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth”, those holding council must speak the truth. It could be that the name Pipe refers to this action, to one who speaks the truth. He is an honest man whose word can be trusted.

The four generals are: **William Tecumseh Sherman, Christopher Columbus Augur, Alfred Howe Terry, and William Selby Harney**

The purpose of the 1868 Fort Laramie Peace Treaty was to end the conflicts between white settlers and the Plains Indians allowing pioneers and settlers to cross through the western territories without harm. In the Fort Laramie Treaty, the United States recognized the Black Hills as part of the Great Sioux Reservation, set aside for exclusive use by the Sioux people. However, in 1874, General Armstrong Custer discovered gold in the Black Hills and the 1868 Treaty was quickly broken by the U.S. government who confiscated the land in 1877. To this day, ownership of the Black Hills remains the subject of a legal dispute between the U.S. government and the Sioux.



Gold Fever, Prospectors



Celebrated Spearfish Tin Mine, Bear Gulch

The Black Hills of Dakota are sacred to the Sioux Indians. The discovery of gold in the Black Hills by General George Armstrong Custer in 1874 brought thousands of miners and prospectors as well as more white settlers into Indian territories and ultimately resulted in the confiscation of the reservation lands that had been promised to the Sioux in the 1868 Fort Laramie Peace Treaty. The loss of the Black Hills by the Sioux eventually led to Custer's demise at the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876. The Sioux have never regained ownership of the Black Hills although they deny its loss. Conflicts between the whites and Indians escalated. In December 1890, the Wounded Knee Massacre took place at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota where hundreds of Lakota men, women and children were killed.

Alexander Gardner's photographs are very different from photographic processes today in several ways. 1) It could take at least 2 hours or more to make one photographic image. 2) Contact prints were made from large glass plate negatives. The size of the finished print is also the size of the glass negative. 3) Photographic processes were not digital! (Talk about how photographs are shared today by email, text, Instagram and other 'instant' means.)

Photography is important because it **documents people, places and time, it is a record of the past and a means to preserve the present.** It is why we take photographs of family and friends at celebrations such as weddings, birthday parties and graduations. Photographs are a visual **record of historic events, and places.** Photographs **connect us to the past** and tell us about our history. Photography is a **portable magic**, a way to tell us about things **old and new**, about buildings and structures, landscapes, wildlife, plants, and about different peoples around the world, about the planets and the stars. Examples: historic albums, photos of presidents, photo images in National Geographic Magazine, NASA space exploration *and more!*

Assessment:

Advanced	Proficient	Basic	Below Basic
<p>Demonstrates an excellent comprehension of the purpose and goals behind the treaty and why a federally appointed commission was in Fort Laramie for peace talks, as well as a good understanding of why the treaty unraveled with the discovery of gold in the Black Hills in 1874</p>	<p>Can summarize in good detail why the U.S. Government wanted peace talks with the Indians, resulting in a peace treaty and what affect the discovery of gold in the Black Hills had in undoing the agreement(s) of the treaty</p>	<p>Can give at least three facts about why there was a peace commission at Fort Laramie that resulted in a peace treaty signed in 1868, and that the discovery of gold meant the loss of the Black Hills lands by the Sioux peoples</p>	<p>Demonstrates awareness about two or less facts associated with the peace treaty of 1868 and that gold was discovered in the Black Hills</p>
<p>Can articulate with clarity who Alexander Gardner was and why his portfolio of rare photographs of 1868 are important historically</p>	<p>Can explain in good detail why Alexander Gardner was selected to be the photographer to photograph the peace talks at Fort Laramie</p>	<p>Can identify that Alexander Gardner was at Fort Laramie for the purpose of documenting the peace talks and that his photographs are important</p>	<p>Can identify that Alexander Gardner is a photographer and that he took photographs of Indians at Fort Laramie</p>
<p>Demonstrates an excellent understanding of photography as a means by which to record or document people, places and time, as well as its invaluable usefulness as a visual record of the past and present</p>	<p>Understands how photography serves as a visual record of historic events and why we consider photography to be "portable magic"</p>	<p>Can identify or give at least three examples of why photography is important as a medium to document or record places and people</p>	<p>Understands that photography is a means by which to remember places or people</p>

Gallery Educational Activity Designed by Curator of Exhibitions Barbara McNab

The Brinton Museum (Big Horn, WY)

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