

## The USAHEC highlights the Carlisle Indian Industrial School Photograph Collection

In honor of National American Indian Heritage Month, the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC) is excited to highlight its Carlisle Indian Industrial School (CIIS) photograph collection. The CIIS was established in 1879 by Richard Henry Pratt. Pratt was Lieutenant in the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. Cavalry who became an advocate for American Indians after his experiences as a Soldier on America's Western Frontier. He believed that through education the hostilities of the American Indians would cease. During a time period when no public schools allowed Indian students, he rallied up interest and supporters to open the Indian School at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. The CIIS accepted boys or girls, taught them at least one mechanical trade or domestic skill, and English. At the same time, the school stripped the children of their cultural traditions.

The CIIS collection consists of photographs which cover the entire period of the Indian School's history from 1879-1918. These photos include every aspect of the Indian School's existence including Native Americans in their tribal attire. Photos also include students in the classroom, the fire company, band, sports, graduation, and images of the teachers. Richard Henry Pratt as well as many of the alumni who returned to visit Carlisle Barracks in the years that followed their graduation are also illustrated. Further exploration into the overall collection reveals the Anne Ely Album that showcases some of the earliest images of the Indian school. The album identifies by name over 316 Indian students listed with their associated tribes and identifies 31 CIIS staff members.

All of the CIIS photographs are digitized as part of the USAHEC's ongoing mission to provide U.S. Army historical collections to a broad audience. The USAHEC



Pete Orotea      Colton Balcatza  
Grasshopper Apaches      Justin Head



White Man Apache Chief      Stumbling Bear Minor Chief



Big Horse and Son Hubble - Cheyennes



Left Hand and Son Grant - Arapahoes

also houses some hardcopy issues of the student produced periodicals, both in English and several Native American languages that will eventually be digitized also. In the meantime, the USAHEC holds a microfilm copy of the full series, which is housed at the Library of Congress.

The U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center is free and open to the public, located at 950 Soldiers Dr., Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The Digital Archives and Research Catalog can be accessed online at [www.usahec.org](http://www.usahec.org). The facility is open Tuesday thru Saturday 9am to 5pm and Sunday 11am – 5pm. If you would like more information or have any questions, please call in the Information Desk at 717-245-3972.