Annotated Bibliography

Internet Resources for Native American and Canadian Aboriginal Studies

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Over the past decade, a plethora of scholarly resources related to indigenous studies have appeared on free, open-access Web sites. The multidisciplinary nature of indigenous studies research has been reflected in the content of these sites, which feature resources in related disciplines such as history, anthropology, archaeology, law, literature, environment, sociology, health, and political studies. In many cases, the items that appear on these research sites include digital reproductions of the original print text, photographs, or audio/visual recordings. In other cases, the text is simply transcribed from print into an electronic format; newer resources have been created or “born” digital from the outset. Researchers have benefited from the emergence of Internet resources, but there are some significant challenges.

The greatest advantage of digital and electronic resources on the Web is, arguably, access. The Internet’s visual and, increasingly, audio nature has made the wide range of formats used in indigenous studies much more accessible to researchers around the world who might otherwise not have had the opportunity to see them. Now more research is conducted online: researchers use online descriptions to prepare in advance of a research trip to make the most productive use of their time; sometimes, the resources required by researchers are located online and make a trip unnecessary. Digitization has been described by photo archivist Andrew Rodger as an excellent “transportation mechanism.”¹ A large volume of reproductions of original documents can be saved electronically; e-mailed to anyone, anywhere in the world; or included as part of other works. Fortunately, the quality of digital images has improved dramatically in recent years. The largest maps that the Library of Congress currently has placed online, for example, contain four gigabytes of data. The researcher can zoom in and eventually arrive at the lowest, or pixel, level; it would require a magnifying glass to view the same level of detail on the original map. The advantages of such digital resources are obvious.²

Although some other advantages to digitization are its usefulness in facilitating open access, operating as a transportation mechanism, and creating quality reproductions in a wide range of formats, there are real challenges that surround the newer formats. The context of online resources, especially in the case of archival documents, is sometimes sacrificed due in part to efforts to satisfy the time restrictions imposed by funding agencies that create strict annual deadlines for the completion of digital projects. As a result of this kind of pressure, sometimes correspondence is scanned and mounted online with no easy way to determine context by accessing preceding or subsequent related correspondence. In other instances, online photos appear without the textual notes from photographers that explain why the images were shot in the first place. There are many other instances where context is compromised due to expedience and competition for funds.³

Copyright is another factor that limits access to digital and electronic reproductions on the Web. Many resources that appear on Canadian digital sites predate 1948, and many resources on American sites predate 1923. This is due to copyright laws that place a large portion of original resources in the public domain prior to these dates. Once copyright has expired and resources are no longer owned or controlled by anyone, the institutions that create these online sites may save a great deal of expense and effort in tracking down permissions by focusing on resources in the public domain as much as possible.⁴

Some potentially valuable resources for researchers are oral interview recordings and transcriptions of Native American and Canadian Aboriginal people and the firsthand accounts they provide of their cultures, histories, and traditions. But these resources pose challenges for online access. Susan Haigh, senior advisor at Library and Archives Canada, notes that archives are “very worried about the fact that Aboriginal Elders . . . their oral traditions, are not getting
recorded [and] if they are getting recorded they are not necessarily being well preserved.”5 In most Aboriginal communities the funding resources and infrastructures simply are not in place to create and sustain such programs. There are also issues of ethics that pertain to how such interviews were conducted and whether informed consent was given. Beyond this, many large institutions have few holdings created by indigenous people. Many recordings that do exist and are being digitized at larger institutions, such as the Canadian Museum of Civilization, simply cannot be placed online for a variety of reasons, including copyright, cultural sensitivity, and, in many cases, issues of ownership and rights related to stories, oral histories, music, and songs. The issues of indigenous ownership and intellectual property rights are especially important and complex ones that relate not only to online but also to original formats of resources.

When recordings of Omaha people were selected for the Library of Congress/American Folklife Center’s Omaha Indian Music project site, this was done in close collaboration with the Omaha. “Omaha people decided which materials were okay for the LP/cassette release and for the Web site,” explained Judith Gray, folklife specialist at the American Folklife Center. Asking Oklahoma people to determine what went on the site “was a conscious decision on the part of the Folklife Center.” Ms. Gray adds, “We cannot put [oral interview and music recordings] online unless we have made a good faith attempt to contact performers or performers’ estates. In the case especially of tribal music, we have to work directly with the community.” Family songs and stories, along with recordings that are ceremonial or sacred in nature, are of special concern to the American Folklife Center: “It is our mission to make sure that the material is treated respectfully and that we act responsibly with regard to the materials that are here.”6 In the Coast Salish communities (where the author used to work as an archivist), many oral traditions were shared enthusiastically with non-Aboriginals and those outside the communities. In some cases, though, songs, stories, genealogies and histories are considered private knowledge and are carefully guarded as they are seen as being the proprietary information upon which a family’s status and economic wealth are built. To share the knowledge with a competing family would be to risk giving that family an edge in competitions.7 Moreover, some knowledge is not to be shared beyond the individuals, families, or communities for which it is intended for fear of harmful spiritual or metaphysical results. These kinds of considerations create obvious and necessary challenges to putting digitized resources from American Indians and Canadian Aboriginals online without careful consultation with, the direct participation of, and the consent of Native communities. If more relationships of trust and respect are built up between universities or cultural institutions and the Native communities, we may see a greater number of those resources created by indigenous people being placed online, if considered appropriate for dissemination. This relationship building requires a genuine commitment from all involved and requires time and funding; unfortunately it is an approach that may not be in keeping with the requirements of funding agencies that often insist on quick results.8

Web sites owned and operated by Native American Indians abound on the Internet and, although beyond the scope of this article, sometimes include recordings or transcriptions of oral histories and traditions. In “Indians on the Internet—Selected Native American Web Sites,” Lisa Mitten notes that her own Web page includes 192 separate tribal links to sites “created by Indians, rather than about them” that represent 136 different tribes in the United States. About 25 percent of the 562 federally recognized tribes have Web sites. The Iroquois, Lakota/Dakota, Cherokee, Ojibwa, and Navajo were described as having a particularly strong presence.9 Cokie Gaston Anderson explains in her article, “American Indian Tribal Web Sites: A Review and Comparison,” that the types of information that appear on almost all the tribal sites include
genealogy, tribal history, Native language, employment opportunities, community events, tribal government structure and contacts, health services, economic development, and support for members of the military. In keeping with Indian concerns in regard to private knowledge and potential exploitation or distortion of their beliefs, detailed descriptions of religious rites were absent from the official tribal sites.  

SELECTION AND SCOPE

Another major challenge for those who conduct Internet research, and in particular those who do research in the field of indigenous studies, is the sheer number of sites available. There is wide variation in the quality of resources that can make the location of individual collections or documents a challenge to track down. It is with this latter challenge of “where to look” in mind that the following selective, annotated bibliography of eighty Web sites was created. This is a bibliography of what the author considers to be some of the best quality, most useful, and, in a few cases, most innovative sites of value to academics, independent researchers, and students who conduct research in the field of North American indigenous studies. The majority of these site’s creators are universities, cultural institutions, or governments, but, in a few instances, private organizations that employ academics have taken the lead. This Internet bibliography is not intended to be an exhaustive list; it is of necessity only the tip of the iceberg. Web sites selected include those with valuable and/or hard-to-find primary and secondary resources of interest to academics; content that has been vetted by scholars; and/or sites where the overall nature, quality, and accuracy of information provided is at a level that goes beyond the general public’s interest to include the scholarly and university student community. All sites selected also feature digitized or full-text hypertext markup language (HTML) resources and are free, open-access sites that do not require fees or licensing agreements.

Some sites that contain resources oriented toward academic researchers were not included for content or accessibility reasons. The University of Virginia’s Texts by and about Native Americans from the Modern English Collection is a first-rate site on the whole but contains too small a collection of mostly antiquated books to be reviewed here. The Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs site in Vancouver, meanwhile, features collections such as the McKenna-McBride Royal Commission Reports, which will be of strong interest to legal, land claims, and historical researchers; to date, though, the site contains too many gaps of unscanned documents to be included within this bibliography. More eclectic sites such as YouTube contain hundreds of useful research and teaching video resources—most relate to popular culture—but the site is so unwieldy that it is difficult to know how or what to search for.

The bibliography’s content, with its emphasis on sites at institutions such as the Library of Congress and Library and Archives Canada and its inclusion of a relatively high number of western American and Canadian sites, is, inevitably, a reflection of the author’s own knowledge and interests. These were shaped in part by my experiences over the past decade first as an archivist for Stó:lō Nation, a large Coast Salish community near Vancouver, British Columbia, and, more recently, as a librarian at the University of Saskatchewan with a focus on indigenous studies; knowledge gained from a recent series of interviews conducted with thirty-five librarians, academics, archivists, and museum curators about the digitization of American Indian and Canadian Aboriginal resources at more than a dozen institutions in the United States and Canada; and a review of secondary literature on Native Web sites.
This annotated bibliography is organized into four sections. The Internet sites are first
categorized broadly into those hosted at institutions in the United States and those hosted in
Canada. For Canada, the term Aboriginal has been chosen because it is the legal term that
includes First Nations peoples (Indians), Inuit, and Métis. In terms of geography, sites and
resources reviewed in this bibliography focus on indigenous peoples and issues in the United
States, Canada, and, in a few cases, northern Mexico (all but two Web sites are either in English
or bilingual). Readers will also find two subsections, found directly after both the US and
Canada main sections, dedicated to Web sites and their digitized content that has not been
created expressly for indigenous studies research. These sites are included because it is not
widely known that they contain valuable resources about indigenous people.

A number of general Web sites contain unique and fascinating resources related to
American Indians and Canadian Aboriginals. For example, the Library of Congress’ broadly
focused Map Collections: 1500–2004 Web page includes a manuscript map of Manhattan and
vicinity drawn in the seventeenth century. In addition to the evidence of Dutch settlement in
Manhattan, the map features (in what is now known as Brooklyn) four longhouses that represent
the Indian villages of Wichquawank, Techkonis, Mareckewich, and Kedkachauc. One settlement
contains the note (in Dutch): “This is the type of house the Indians lived in.” The map is
somewhat typical of the evidence of Indian settlement, lifeways, and/or names of people that can
appear on cartographic records not normally considered a source for indigenous studies research.

HOW TO FIND EACH WEB SITE IN THE BIBLIOGRAPHY

The uniform resource locator (URL) (address) of each site described is provided. The URLs
usually link to the home or search page; in cases where there are large concentrations of relevant
resources, brief instructions or collection titles usually are provided to help readers navigate to
the series or item level. Some URLs may have changed since the last confirmed access to the
resources in early November 2007. However, a Google search by Web site title will also, in most
cases, call up a link to the respective home pages.

UNITED STATES—AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES SITES

American Indian Health (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland)
This site is thoughtfully designed and provides online resources with reliable information related
to American Indians and links to relevant Web sites. The main categories of information include
traditional resources, environmental health, access to health care, health data, programs and
services, and other pertinent health topics. In addition the site contains direct links to numerous
tribal groups in the United States and Canada. The Internet offers a great deal of information on
Native American health issues; this site helps to sort out the authoritative sites from the
questionable ones that distort sensitive topics such as traditional healing, spirituality, and tribal
cultures. The American Indian Health site fills an important void by having carefully assembled
and organized links to quality online resources (provided by Native Americans and government
organizations) that are useful to scholars and the general public.
American Indians of the Pacific Northwest (University of Washington, Seattle and the American Memory Project, Washington, D.C.)
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/pacific/
According to the home page, this digital collection integrates more than “2,300 photographs and 7,700 pages of text relating to the American Indians in two cultural areas of the Pacific Northwest, the Northwest Coast and Plateau.”17 The source materials were taken from collections of the University of Washington, Cheney Cowles Museum/Eastern Washington State Historical Society in Spokane, and the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle. Almost half the textual material is made up of Annual Reports of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs to the Secretary of the Interior. These provide useful records for the examination of posttreaty reservation life and the impact of federal government policies on the Northwest tribes. Some topics that receive the most coverage for the other resources include housing, clothing, crafts, transportation, education, and employment; other subjects, such as archaeology and language, receive much less attention. The site is quite easy to navigate and good search tips are provided; it is best suited to undergraduate-level research.

American Museum of Natural History Research Library (New York, New York)
http://digitallibrary.amnh.org/dspace
Complete collection of the American Museum of Natural History’s anthropology publications including current and back issues of the American Museum of Natural History scientific series all in full-text PDF format. The museum’s Web site also features two outstanding collections databases. First, the North American Ethnographic Collection Database is one of the most comprehensive and well-documented collections in the world and contains more than forty-nine thousand artifacts of various types from every Native American cultural region in North America. The Plains ethnological objects are the most significant holdings. The database has several excellent search-and-display features that allow the researcher to view the objects and related documentation simultaneously (http://anthro.amnh.org/javascript/pub_coll.htm). Second, The Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History, published from 1893 to 1930, include the ten volumes that comprise the results of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition (1897 to 1902)—considered one of the most important anthropological field studies ever conducted. Organized by museum president Morris K. Jesup and led by Franz Boas (considered the “father of American anthropology”), the expedition set out to investigate the cultural and biological links between people who lived on both sides of the Bering Strait, with the hope of determining whether America was first populated by migrations from Asia. The resources featured in this collection relate to peoples of the West Coast from Washington State through British Columbia and southern Alaska. Highly recommended for upper-undergraduate students, graduates, and scholars who work in the fields of anthropology along with archaeology (especially the Collections Database) and ethnohistory (Memoirs).

Edward Curtis’s The North American Indian (Northwestern University, Chicago and Evanston, Illinois and the American Memory Project, Washington, D.C.)
Northwestern University: http://curtis.library.northwestern.edu/
Curtis published these twenty volumes in the early twentieth century with the intent to record traditional Indian cultures. Geographic coverage tends to emphasize Alaska, Canada, and the American West. In 1998, Northwestern University and the Library of Congress teamed up to
create 2,226 color scans of photogravure plates. Five years later, Northwestern scanned the approximately five thousand pages of narrative text. On the Northwestern site, a portfolio of large photogravure plates accompanies each digitized volume. Researchers may link to desired text from the table of contents and illustration lists that follow the original publication’s format; additional background material is provided. Northwestern’s site is carefully constructed with high-quality images and text that respects the context and original order of Curtis’s print works. The Library of Congress site, meanwhile, includes only the images but does complement the Northwestern site in some respects by allowing for browsing and searching of keyword indexing of the portfolio images themselves, along with providing some contextual essays about Curtis’ and his work. The Library of Congress site can also be searched easily by topics such as customs and rituals, artifacts, settlements and building, clothing, and travel. Overall, by providing access to the original text and keeping the contents in context, the Northwestern site is the preferred resource for scholars.

Fourth World Documentation Archive (Center for World Indigenous Studies, Olympia, Washington)
http://www.cwis.org/fwdp/
This site’s purpose is to provide visitors with broad access to fourth world documents and resources and includes four categories of full-text resources: UN documents (most of which do not appear to be available online from the United Nations); tribal and intertribal resolutions and papers; treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements; and internationally focused documents. Search items by keyword; geographically by nation, subject category, document type, or organization; or chronological listing. Documents load quickly. The site’s aim is to be comprehensive, but the North American coverage is somewhat uneven with particular emphasis on some regions, such as the Northwest Coast, while resources for Central America in particular seem lacking. On the whole, this is a carefully designed and highly useful site for researchers interested in global indigenous rights and title issues or with an interest in tribal resolutions, treaties, and arrangements for selected regions of North America.

Frances Densmore—Song Catcher (Minnesota Public Radio, St. Paul)
http://news.minnesota.publicradio.org/features/199702/01_smiths_densmore/docs/index.shtml
This early and innovative Web site includes an extensive bibliography of Densmore’s work and a Magic Lantern Show that features photographic slides and selections from the hundreds of wax cylinder sound recordings of indigenous North American music and songs recorded by Densmore in the early twentieth century. This site is a good introduction for undergraduate students taking their first look at Densmore’s work.

Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development (Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts)
http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied/index.htm
The Harvard project focuses on the “systematic, comparative study of social and economic developments on American Indian reservations. What works, where and why?” Under the Research and Publications icon there are hundreds of publications, field reports, teaching cases, speeches and testimony, and occasional papers. The keyword search works well, but improved browse features and a subject search would help facilitate better access. This site will be of interest to scholars and students at the graduate and upper-undergraduate levels.
Historical Documents Online: Native American Records (National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.)
http://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/

The National Archives and Records Administration’s huge database includes collections of the Bureau of Indian Affairs records from across the United States that date from 1793 to 1989 with a particular emphasis on the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. There are links to detailed descriptions that explain how to access many popular and comprehensive collections of photographs and documents, including Indian commissions’ reports and census records. This site is useful to scholars in a wide range of disciplines who conduct research about government–tribal relations and many other related subjects.

Hubert Wenger Eskimo Database (University of Alaska, Fairbanks)
http://www.wengereskimodb.uaf.edu/welcome.html

Nearly two hundred accounts related to early contact between Europeans and Inuit/Eskimo and Aleut people. This site includes books, journal articles, bibliographies, drawings, photographs, and maps. Some material is quite recent and contains copyright restrictions. Researchers should check the search instructions as the site’s use of a “Word Wheel” (a search method in which each typed-in character moves the on-screen index to the closest matches) along with its features for refining of searches by date, and other facets, contain some approaches that are not common for this type of online database. This site should be of particular use to undergraduate students.

Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties (Oklahoma State University, Stillwater)
http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/

An invaluable Web site that provides access to seven volumes of compiled information on US federal Indian laws, treaties, proclamations, and executive orders. Volume II covers the final text of 366 federal treaties with American Indians from 1778 to 1883, and volume I and volumes III through VII cover US laws and executive orders related to American Indians from 1871 to 1970. The treaty documents contain the parameters under which Indian lands were ceded and under which the federal government agreed to compensate or provide support to the tribes. The site features fully searchable digitized text by keyword, a clickable table of contents, and a detailed index. Charles J. Kappler wrote the original five volumes at the turn of the twentieth century, and the treaties are held physically by only a small number of institutions. Two previous reviewers of this site noted that its search capabilities are by far superior to those of the earlier, indexed print versions. Text is available in either HTML format, which includes the original marginal notes, or in JPEG image format. This site is a first-rate resource for academic, legal, and tribal researchers.

Indian Peoples of the Northern Great Plains (Montana State University Libraries and the Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman)
http://www.lib.montana.edu/epubs/nadb/

An online collection that consists of almost two thousand photographs, stereographs, and drawings with some text organized overall by tribe, including the Crow, Cheyenne, Blackfeet, Salish, Kutenai, Chippewa-Cree, Gros Ventres (Atsina), and Assiniboine. The site is easy to navigate but could be improved with additional interpretation and description. As a result, it is best suited to undergraduates and the general public.

http://www.loc.gov/law/guide/indians.html

This site is a gateway and links to full text for selected federal laws, constitutions, treaties, commentaries, and other resources from across the United States. It includes links to some of the most significant legal resources including Indian laws and treaties; searchable congressional documents and debates; constitutions of Indian nations; US Supreme Court decisions on Indian law; federal regulations; and US code. The Law Library of Congress Web site is an excellent launch point for legal research on Native American law.

**Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents, 1610–1791 (Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska)**

Creighton University: http://puffin/creighton.edu/jesuit/relations/

Library and Archives Canada: http://www.collectionscanada.ca/jesuit-relations/index-e.html

This site contains the seventy-one-volume collection of Jesuit missionary texts in English translation; it is one of the most significant sources of information about French contact and colonization in North America. These documents include numerous descriptions of indigenous societies and culture, and the religious, demographic, and economic results of cross-cultural contact, as provided in firsthand accounts sent from missionaries in North America to their superiors in Quebec or Montreal from the early seventeenth to the late nineteenth centuries. Descriptions of indigenous peoples are most revealing for the “facts” they convey and for the authors’ biases, attitudes, and perceptions. Reuben Gold Thwaites translated the entire collection into English between 1896 and 1901. Each file contains one published volume in an HTML format. Links from this Creighton University site to Early Canadiana Online allow readers to access a selection of untranslated originals scanned directly from facsimile editions. It is recommended that scholars who use documents for publication purposes recheck them against the original volumes as the transcriptions contain some errors.

The same seventy-one volumes plus two additional volumes, numbered seventy-two and seventy-three, which contain a final preface and two indexes, can also be found on the Library and Archives Canada Web site named the Jesuit Relations and the History of New France. This site was launched a few months before the Creighton site and features PDF images of the original translated texts. Both Jesuit online collections will be of interest to scholars, graduate students, and independent researchers.

**Native American Authors (Internet Public Library—University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)**

http://www.ipl.org/div/natam/

This searchable database of information about Native North American authors with bibliographies listing their published works, biographical descriptions, and links to online resources contains information primarily on contemporary authors though some historical authors are being added. Although the site’s scope is quite comprehensive (many Native authors in the United States and Canada are included) and the site is easy to use, the quality and depth of entries vary considerably. Many biographies are too brief to be of much use to academic researchers, and listings of publications for authors are sometimes incomplete. In addition to the authors’ full-length book publications, references to their published articles and book chapters would make this a more valuable resource. As it stands, the Storytellers site described below,
although less comprehensive in coverage, has more in-depth entries, which makes it of greater use to undergraduate students, in particular.

Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project (University of Oklahoma Law Library, Norman and the National Indian Law Library, Boulder, Colorado)
http://thorpe.ou.edu/
Linked to on the Law Library of Congress site, this collaborative project provides access to constitutions, tribal codes, and other legal documents. Items are placed online with the tribes’ permission or are US government documents already in the public domain. This site will be of interest to legal researchers at all levels.

http://www.cnie.org/NAE/index.html
This site’s goal is to “educate the public on environmental problems in Native communities, . . . explore the values and historical experiences that Native Americans bring to bear on environmental issues, . . . [and] promote conservation measures that respect Native American land and resource rights.”21 The database includes thousands of Internet and published resources described and cataloged for this site along with a document archive. Searches can be refined through subject terms or by clicking on a map divided into ten Native American cultural areas. The site is especially strong for sources on the Northwest Coast region and includes some excellent bibliographies in addition to the reports. The Case Studies tab feature is the weakest feature with only one entry to date. The site will be of interest to students and scholars at all levels in the growing field of environmental studies and Native issues.

Native American Ethnobotany Database (University of Michigan, Dearborn)
http://herb.umd.umich.edu/
Anthropologist Dan Moerman’s database is the product of more than thirty years of ethnobotanical research and gradually evolved, technologically, from punch-edge index cards in the mid-1970s to the highly sophisticated database it is today. The database is heavily consulted (about one hundred thousand visits per year) and contains forty-four thousand items of foods, drugs, dyes, and fibers from indigenous peoples of North America, as derived from plants. Descriptions are carefully cited and link to the page for each plant at the US Department of Agriculture Plants Database. Native American Ethnobotany (1998), a book based on the database, was the recipient of the Annual Book Award from the Council for Botanical and Herbarium Libraries. This site is an excellent resource for scholars, students, and the general public.

Native Health Database (University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, Albuquerque)
http://hsc.unm.edu/library/nhd/index.cfm
This site includes bibliographic information and abstracts of health-related articles, reports, surveys, and other resource documents that pertain to the health and health care of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Canadian Aboriginals. It is unclear how many resources are on the site, but frequently the search results are impressive, and individual resources are carefully annotated. Native Health Database has strong search options with drop-down menus that allow researchers to refine searches by the standard methods along with options for text words, date
ranges, tribes, state/province, region/country, or document type. The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center provides an excellent and important free service with this site, which is recommended for scholars and the public.

**Omaha Indian Music (American Folklife Center/American Memory Project, Washington, D.C.)**
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/omhhtml/
I consider this a rare site for its use of multimedia and oral history and songs. It includes traditional Omaha music from the 1890s and 1980s. The multi-format ethnographic field collection contains forty-four wax cylinder recordings collected by Francis La Flesche and Alice Cunningham Fletcher between 1895 and 1897. There are also 323 songs and speeches from the 1983 Omaha harvest celebration pow-wow and twenty-five songs and speeches from the 1985 Hethu'shka Society concert at the Library of Congress. Contextual information for the songs and speeches are provided through segments from interviews with members of the Omaha tribe conducted in 1983 and 1999. Researchers may also access a collection of black-and-white and color photographs taken during the 1983 pow-wow and the 1985 concert, as well as research materials that include fieldnotes and tape logs about the pow-wow. The American Folklife Center decided that the Oklahoma communities would determine which resources would be included on this site. The site will appeal to all levels with an interest in the music and songs of the Omaha and their context.

**Southeastern Native American Documents, 1730–1842 (GALILEO—University System of Georgia Libraries and University of Tennessee, Knoxville)**
http://neptune3.galib.uga.edu/ssp/cgi-bin/ftaccess.cgi?_id=7f000001&dbs=ZLNA
Two thousand original documents and visual images that relate to Native American populations in the Southeast, including the Cherokees, Creeks, Chickasaws, Seminoles, and Choctaws. Documents date from 1730 to 1842, with the bulk of the collection focused on 1783 to 1802, and include letters, diaries, military orders, maps, and legal documents. Images from the McClung Museum’s Tellico Reservoir Archaeology Project collection provide an archaeological record of Cherokee town sites in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and journals and correspondence reflect cross-cultural attitudes of whites toward Southeastern Native peoples. For this region and time period, this is the most comprehensive online collection of primary source materials that relates to Native Americans. Some archaeological images were not as clear as one might hope, but, for the most part, the site includes sharp photographic images and both transcribed and digitized images of documents. The site contains resources of interest to scholars at all levels. The awkward URL makes locating this site through a Google search preferable.

**Southern Oregon Digital Archives: First Nations Tribal Collection (Ashland, Oregon)**
http://soda.sou.edu/
This carefully constructed Web site contains digitized documents, books, and articles related to indigenous peoples of the southwestern Oregon and northern California bioregion, including the Klamath, Modoc, Yahuskin, Takelma, Shasta, Coos, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua, and Hupa nations. From the home page, select First Nations Tribal Collection. Tribes and tribal representatives were consulted to help determine the scope and appropriateness of material. All Southern Oregon Digital Archives’s collections, including its separate Bioregion Collection and new Southern Oregon History Collection, are full-text and searchable by author, title, year,
subject, and keyword. The site includes several decades of scanned images of the *Annual Report of Indian Affairs to the Secretary of the Interior for the Indian Agencies in Oregon*, along with treaties, explorer and missionary accounts, Native-language dictionaries, linguistic texts, legal documents, journal articles, and ethnographies. Documents date from 1843 to 2004. This is an example of a high-quality site created by a relatively small institution in collaboration with Indian communities. I highly recommended this site for researchers interested in the history of American Indians in the southwestern Oregon and northern California region.

**Storytellers: Native American Authors Online (NativeWeb)**
http://www.nativewiki.org/Storytellers:_Native_American_Authors_Online
This site, which began as the Index of Native American Authors Online, has recently been migrated into a Wikipedia-like format with information on Native authors and poets from a wide range of editors. The subindices of tribes and alphabetical listings of authors are the most practical approaches to searching the site. A more consistent and unified format of scholarly criticism would improve the site’s overall usefulness, and, relatedly, the new wiki format raises concerns about the long-term quality control of new entries in particular. Storytellers is best suited to undergraduates and, for the most part, is a good resource for those who may conduct research about established writers for the first time or are in the earliest stages of their research.

**Traditions of the Sun (NASA’s Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum, or SECEF, Washington, D.C.)**
http://www.traditionsofthesun.org/
This carefully designed and visually stunning site provides accurate coverage of known and suspected precontact solar observatories in the Chacon Canyon and the Yucatan. Although there is no search feature, the visual design is consistent and thoughtfully considered, and the site easy to navigate. Once you make your way through the initial pages, module pages are organized in three primary areas: the aerial photography with the navigation pods and multicolored links (on the right), linked photographic images and video (on the left), and a separate navigation bar in the lower part of the screen. The casual scholar could learn a great deal of general information by navigating his or her way through this site. Traditions of the Sun is also excellent for generating research questions, and it is fascinating to explore; it is less suited, however, to the serious researcher. Many visually impaired users may encounter difficulties with Flash software; a text-only version would be helpful for these visitors, and more textual material in general would provide more substance for the student or scholar. This said, there are some real research gems here, especially on the Chaco site; these include ground-based photographs that sometimes include composites of historic and current images to demonstrate the results of stabilization projects, along with photographic records of areas of the site that are not accessible to the public.

**Tribal Court Decisions Clearinghouse (Tribal Law and Policy Institute, West Hollywood, California)**
http://www.tribal-institute.org/lists/decision.htm
This searchable database contains more than 2,607 fully annotated tribal court opinions, memorandums, and orders from twenty-one tribal courts in the United States. Along with a keyword search, the decisions may be limited by tribal, federal, or state law or by thirteen general topics that include such options as environmental law, tribal jurisdiction, and domestic violence. The site and its contents are oriented for use by indigenous communities and tribal
justice systems, but resources will also be valuable for lawyers and legal scholars who work in
the field of Native issues in the United States.

**World Wide Web Virtual Library—American Indians: Index of Native American
Resources on the Internet**
http://www.hanksville.org/NAreresources/
This is an extensive gateway to World Wide Web resources related to indigenous North
Americans that are organized into thirty-three subject categories including archaeology, artists,
history, language, legal, music, and video and film. Karen M. Strom, a professional astronomer
who retired from academic life to become a webmaster, maintains Virtual Library—American
Indians. Strom’s category of legal sources is especially noteworthy and provides an excellent
resource for locating court cases, human rights resources, and government documents related to
legal issues throughout the North American continent. The site is easy to navigate and updated
regularly; although other sites offer more depth, this is perhaps the most extensive compilation of
links to significant North American indigenous resources found anywhere on the Web.
Researchers will find many primary and archival resources along with links to academic
institutions, government, nonprofit organizations, and activist sites.

**World Wide Web Virtual Library of Circumpolar Studies (Center for World Indigenous
Studies, Olympia, Washington)**
http://www.ldb.org/vl/cp/index.htm
A similar format to Virtual Library—American Indians, this is a gateway to World Wide Web
resources related to circumpolar peoples that is organized into the following topics: arts, culture,
education, environment, health, media, social development, tribes, and women.

**UNITED STATES—OTHER SITES OF INTEREST**

**Alaska’s Digital Archive (University of Alaska and Alaska State Library, Anchorage and
Fairbanks)**
http://vilda.alaska.edu/index.php
This site features a wealth of primary resources for exploring Alaska Native peoples and history
in various formats such as maps, images, sound recordings, film, and scanned documents with
searchable text. By clicking on the *Alaska Native History and Cultures* icon on the home page,
users are taken directly to a dozen convenient subject headings or a clickable map of six regions
of Alaska. An interesting collection that appears under the *Religion and Church Leadership*
icon is the Angoon and Killisnoo Papers, 1878 to 1911, which are fully searchable. The advance
search allows users to search across selected fields, allows users to browse in order to choose
from document collections, and offers a detailed list of subject terms. There are some search
inconsistencies (the back button needs to be pressed several times and the Northern Alaska
regions map was not listing resources), but there is wonderful content on this site that will be of
interest to scholars and the general public.

**American Journeys: Accounts of Early American Exploration and Settlement (Wisconsin
Historical Society, Madison)**
http://www.americanjourneys.org/index.asp
This is a small but valuable site of digitized rare books, original manuscripts, and travel narratives of North America and indigenous–newcomer encounters from AD 1000 to the early nineteenth century. Resources include complete or excerpted journals and correspondence of Christopher Columbus, Jacques Cartier, John Smith, James Cook, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (all seven volumes of their expedition), and George Catlin. The advance search allows users to locate resources by name of explorer and/or individual Indian tribes. Although many of these resources have been widely published and some are excerpts only, there is a significant advantage for researchers in having such a widely dispersed collection of accounts available from one online, searchable database. The site is suitable for a general audience, and its convenience of access makes it useful to scholars of early cross-cultural encounters.

**Arctic Circle (University of Connecticut, Storrs)**  
http://arcticcircle.uconn.edu/  
This site seeks to expand knowledge of the circumpolar north and features three interrelated themes: natural resources; history and culture; and social equity and environmental justice. Clickable resources appear in browse lists with headings and subheadings. The site was created by arctic anthropologist Norman Chance of the University of Connecticut and is of most value to first- and second-year undergraduate and high school students.

**Arizona Memory Project (Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, Phoenix)**  
http://azmemory.lib.az.us/index.php  
The Arizona Memory Project is a digital repository of collections from archives, libraries, museums, historical societies, and other Arizona cultural institutions. The site is meant to be accessible to the general public but includes resources of interest to scholars, including the Medallion Papers, which are a series of thirty-nine publications issued by the Gila Pueblo Archaeological Foundation between 1928 and 1950. Gila Pueblo’s works are described on the Arizona Memory Project site as playing an instrumental role “in defining the Hohokam, Mogollon, San Simon and Cochise cultures and in describing early pottery types including Hohokam red-on-buff, Salado polychrome, Casas Grandes and others.” These papers can be accessed through the sites’ Collections Directory along with three other collections of interest: Cochise County Historical and Archaeological Collection, Montezuma’s Castle Historic Archive, and Sharlot Hall Museum American Indian Image Collection. These specialized collections will be of particular interest to researchers at the upper-undergraduate level in the fields of archaeology, anthropology, and, in the case of some collections, history.

**Avalon Project at Yale Law School (Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut)**  
http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/avalon.htm  
This site mounts full-text electronic documents relevant to the fields of law, history, politics, diplomacy, economics, and government and covers the pre-eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. It provides links to supporting documents expressly referred to in the texts. The project includes controversial documents not for their endorsement but for completeness and balance. Documents that relate to US–Native American relations include treaties, speeches, presidential messages, cases, and constitutions. Texts are listed under the headings: Treaties between the United States and Native Americans, Statutes of the United States Concerning Native Americans, and, the umbrella for these resources, Relations between the United States and Native Americans. This is an excellent resource site for faculty, graduate, and upper-undergraduate students.
California Academy of Sciences Anthropology Collections Database (San Francisco)
http://www.calacademy.org/research/anthropology/anthcoll.html
This engaging database includes more than thirteen thousand digital images of collection objects. The objects load quickly and the site navigates smoothly and features clear interfaces, graphics, and fonts. The site has an impressive array of one-dozen search parameters that offer visitors the opportunity to retrieve object records through almost any combination of fields contained in the database. Parameters include object categories, object name, materials, maker’s name, collection, culture, global region, country, state/province/district, and images, and offer four display options. The collections are strongest in their holdings from the US Southwest, the Pacific Islands, and basketry from California. This site will be of most interest to archaeologists and anthropologists who specialize in indigenous-related research in these regions.

Colonial Connecticut Records, 1636–1776 (University of Connecticut, Storrs with the assistance from the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Mashantucket, Connecticut)
http://www.colonialet.uconn.edu/
This site offers digitized versions of fifteen volumes of Connecticut (Colony). The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, from April 1636 to October 1776 . . . transcribed and published, (in accordance with a resolution of the General assembly) (Hartford, CT: Brown and Parsons), 1850 to 1890. Each volume can be accessed by browsing an A through Z subject index or by searching the date, volume, and/or page number. I recommend this site for academic researchers at the upper-undergraduate level and above who explore Native–white relations in the region.

Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1764–1789
(Library of Congress and American Memory Project, Washington, D.C.)
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/continental/
This site highlights some of the most significant historical documents of the Revolutionary War and Early National Periods. Two-dozen documents relate to treaties, relations with Indians, and Indian lands. Browse the general subject category “North American Indians” and Indian nation names such as “Iroquois” to locate relevant documents. In 2005 the site was upgraded to include full-color scans of original documents. Although the site was initially created for a more general audience, it contains valuable resources for scholars of Indian–white relations during this era.

Ethnologue: Languages of the World (SIL International, Dallas, Texas)
http://www.ethnologue.com/web.asp
This site includes a wide range of resources to support research of the world’s languages, including most indigenous languages spoken in North America. The online version of this standard directory offers several advantages over the print version. Most notable is its ability to search by country, language family, or language name files to find demographic linguistic information. One may also make use of hypertext links to broaden and narrow searches. Keyword searches (using the “and” search feature to focus on topics) are available. The site is impressive technically and contains quality content with links to full citations. The addition of detailed maps to this site (the only feature missing that appears in the print version) would improve it even further. Many of the site’s full-text publications will be of interest to linguists.
and students of linguistics, and the brief Languages of the World descriptions provide a helpful, general reference source.

**The First American West: The Ohio River Valley, 1750–1820** (University of Chicago, Illinois; Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Kentucky; and American Memory Project, Washington, D.C.)  
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award99/icuhtml/fawhome.html  
This site is a valuable resource for tracing the social life and economy of the trans-Appalachian West. The first page provides a rather brief but still useful overview and a link to “Native Americans” that brings up sixty-six resources including books, pamphlets, broadsides, petitions, maps, payrolls, artifacts, and letters. Access, as with most American Memory Projects, is straightforward, and the eclectic nature of the resources is part of what makes this site fascinating for scholars and students.

**Florida Photographic Collection and Video Clips** (Florida Memory Project, State Library and Archives of Florida, Tallahassee)  
http://www.floridamemory.com/PhotographicCollection/  
This extensive database of more than 137,000 digitized photographs and a small selection of video clips includes the Irvin M. Peithmann Collection of more than one thousand photographs of Seminole Indians taken during the 1950s; the Harriet Bedell collection of images of Bedell working with the Seminole from 1933 to 1960; and twelve thousand black-and-white slides digitized from the Florida Folklife Collection that feature numerous shots of the Seminole arts and performers circa 1910 to 1995. One of the sites’ most useful features for the researcher is its clickable description fields that allow visitors to quickly and conveniently find all images that appear on the site of a given individual, related to a specific subject, or by an individual photographer. All levels.

http://international.loc.gov/intldl/fiahhtml/fiahhome.html  
This site is a bilingual digital library that explores the history of the French presence in North America from the first decades of the sixteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century. The site was created through collaboration between the Library of Congress and the National Library of France. France in America differs structurally from the single New France, New Horizons Web site (a collaboration between Canada and France) in that it is made up of two separate sites—one at the Library of Congress and the other at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France—that each feature descriptions in accordance with their own standards and point (or automatically link) to image presentations that reside only on the respective institution sites. There are a few minor interface problems (for example, the menu’s font sizes are small and difficult to read). In terms of content, it includes useful collections inventories, interpretive texts, a strong bibliography, a time line, and more than two hundred books, maps, and prints about or relating to Indians of North America. The site’s resources are useful for teaching and academic research.

**Gallica: Bibliothèque Nationale de France (Paris)**  
http://gallica.bnf.fr/
This French-language digitization site is comparable to the Library of Congress American Memory Project and includes many digitized resources in English along with English descriptions. One notable collection is the fifty-four volumes of the Annual Reports of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution that date from 1881 to 1933. The first bureau head, John Wesley Powell, promoted the broad vision to “organize anthropological research in America.” The bureau organized large, multiyear research projects; sponsored ethnographic, linguistic, and archaeological field research; promoted the discipline of anthropology; and initiated this important publications series. The series can be located from the home page by clicking on the word Recherché (Search) in the menu and then entering the series title in the Mots du titre field. The clickable titles of the fifty-four volumes appear in a list. Each issue loads quickly with the original text on the right and a clickable table of contents in English on the left. Individual volumes can then be read or saved in either PDF or TIFF format. As of January 2008, a new beta (test) site that features an English language interface is available to users; this site, currently named Gallica 2, is under construction with new digital resources being added daily. The Annual Reports are among the collections recently added to this site (Access: http://gallica2.bnf.fr/). The Gallica sites are designed for the general public, but the Annual Reports are valuable to researchers in many disciplines related to indigenous studies who have an interest in the bureau’s work, its findings about indigenous peoples throughout the continent, and the methodologies employed during these late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century projects and expeditions.

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award97/codhtml/hawphome.html
This site is a collaborative project of more than thirty thousand images, including many intended to document the lives of Native Americans from more than forty tribes that live west of the Mississippi River. The descriptions typically lack depth and are aimed primarily at a general audience. The large collection includes many fascinating photographs of use to those who specialize in the Dakota, Hopi, Navajo, Pueblo, Salish, and Teton, to name a few. Scholars may need to investigate the context of the photographs in more depth to determine their usefulness for research. This site is best suited to lower undergraduate and high school levels and the general public.

Internet Archive (Presidio of San Francisco, California)
http://www.archive.org/index.php
An “Internet library” that offers permanent access for researchers, historians, and scholars to historical collections that exist in digital format. The Internet Archive includes texts, audio, moving images, and archived Web pages with thousands of resources related to indigenous people in North America. (For example, a search for Cherokee yielded 180 results.) Resources range from scholarly to popular to highly eclectic. Films and audio can be easily downloaded and included in Microsoft PowerPoint presentations for classroom use.

Internet Sacred Text Archive (Santa Cruz, California)
http://sacred-texts.com/index.htm
The largest freely available archive of full-text books and journal articles published after 1923 about religion, mythology, and folklore available on the Internet. The subject “Native American”
(listed on the home page under “Topics”) is broken down into nine cultural areas for North America, some of which are subdivided into specific groups such as the Zúñi under the heading Southwest and the Cherokee under the heading Southeast. Certain nineteenth- and twentieth-century ethnographers who, according to the site’s creators, “were known for their careful and respectful approach to the people they studied . . . and obtained permission to transcribe their sacred oral literature” wrote the scanned text. Each source is presented in HTML format, and the tables of contents, where they exist, are clickable. This site is recommended for all levels of research.

**Making of America (Cornell University, Ithaca, New York and University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)**
http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagrp/
This site is a digital library of primary sources in American social history from the US antebellum period through Reconstruction (which is defined here as continuing through to the close of the nineteenth century). This impressive collection contains ten thousand books and fifty thousand journal articles. The monitor image can be enlarged easily, which is important when reading original printed pages with small print, and the “help” directions are written clearly. A keyword search for *Indians of North America* returned 256 matches in 191 works; the same subject heading and twenty-two related subheadings can be found in Making of America’s recently added subject-browsing feature. Resources on this site are especially valuable for Euro-American descriptions of Native Americans in the West during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html
This site offers a selection of more than eight thousand maps from the Library of Congress’s geography and map division that have been digitized to date. It uses Library of Congress subject headings and some of the best technology available to allow researchers to zoom in close to reveal the smallest details of most digitized maps. Although some of these historic maps relate intentionally to indigenous people—such as An Indian Map of the Upper Missouri (1801) and Map of Linguistic Stocks of American Indians (1890)—dozens of others do not, but the latter still contain valuable information on village sites and names of individuals. A keyword search of the word Indians brings up one hundred maps, but if researchers know what they are looking for the best approach is usually to search by location and time period (which is how the author located such valuable items as the Dutch Map of Manhattan circa 1665). Some maps include accompanying field notes. This site is recommended for scholars, students at the graduate and upper undergraduate level, and will be of interest to the general public.

http://frontiers.loc.gov/intldl/mfhtml/mfhome.html
Bilingual, multimedia, English-Russian-language digital library of resources that reflects the story of American exploration and settlement of the West, the parallel settlement of Siberia and the Russian Far East, and the meeting of the Russian–American frontiers. The site includes rare resources on cross-cultural encounters. It is a collection of collections and was developed by historians, technicians, and others involved in direct work with indigenous peoples in Alaska and Russia. Use the search field or the site map to help locate resources on indigenous people of the
north and the west. This site includes many items which have never been published or made available previously and is intended for scholars (especially those who do not have access to major research libraries), high schools, and the general public in both the United States and Russia.

Northern Arizona University: Colorado Plateau Digital Archives (Flagstaff, Arizona)
http://www.nau.edu/library/speccoll/
This site contains a collection of archival and published material that documents the history and development of the Colorado Plateau in a variety of disciplines. One area of emphasis includes Native American history and culture in the Four Corners area. This digital archive contains hundreds of sources cataloged as Navajo, Hopi, and Pueblo in a wide variety of formats that include video and oral interviews. Researchers can locate sources by collection, name, or keyword search and can refine their searches to resource types that include textual materials, maps, visual recordings, sound recordings, and exhibitions. This is a fascinating site, in many respects, that includes rare oral interviews, but access could be improved with a controlled vocabulary (list of subject or keyword terms) to guide researchers. The digital archives will be of interest to scholars and students of all levels with an interest in Native American history and culture and their relationship with the environment of this region.

OAIster (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)
http://www.oaister.org/
The goal of OAIster, a huge catalog that combines digital resources from numerous libraries and other institutions, is to create freely available, academically oriented digital resources in all formats. The database contains more than thirteen million records from 903 contributors and includes tens of thousands of digitized and electronic resources related to indigenous people and issues. Searches can and should be conducted with the precision one would use when searching an academic research library catalog. For example, a search string of Hopi and basket* and design* brought up ninety-five hits of digitized resources; a search for Salish and canoe* brought up seventeen hits (note that the asterisk is employed to search using root terms with potentially different word endings); and Iroquois and French and Indian War, ten hits. The note fields often contain substantial abstracts. This is an impressive resource for searching across many sites simultaneously; the ability of researchers to find resources depends primarily on the originating institutions quality of subject description. A valuable site for scholars, researchers, and students at all levels.

Online Archive of California—Images (University of California at Berkeley)
http://www.oac.cdlib.org/search.image.html
The site includes more than thirty thousand images that illustrate California’s history and culture; the images consist of photographs, pictures, and manuscripts from the collections of the Bancroft Library. You can browse the collection. One highlight of special note is the Merriam Collection of Native American Photographs, circa 1890 to 1938, which contain almost fifteen hundred digitized photographs of members of California tribes. Digitized images are available as thumbnails or in medium- or high-resolution scans and are best located by individual name, tribal name, or location. Descriptions are based in part on Hart Merriam’s classification of California Indian tribes. All levels.
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/umhtml/umhome.html
The site portrays the states of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin from the seventeenth to the early twentieth century in 138 volumes. Online collections include ethnographic and antiquarian texts, biographies, first-person accounts, colonial archival documents, promotional literature, and local histories. Because almost all accounts predate the 1920s, most descriptions of Native Americans include early encounters between settlers/missionaries and Indians and accounts of Indian–white warfare from a Euro-American perspective. Unfortunately, some important cataloging data, including the length of each work, is not included in the book descriptions. The collection includes Henry Row Schoolcraft’s *Personal Memoirs of a Residence of Thirty Years with Indian Tribes on the American Frontiers . . . 1812–1842* and Andrew J. Blackbird’s rare *History of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan . . . (1887).* The site will be of particular interest to regional scholars, and graduate and upper undergraduate students with an interest in Native-newcomer relations.

Raid on Deerfield: The Many Stories of 1704 (Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, Massachusetts)
http://www.1704.deerfield.history.museum/
This engaging Web site was created for the three hundredth anniversary of the raid by the French and their Indian allies on this English settlement in Massachusetts. The site portrays the histories, cultures, and encounters of the five nations involved: the Kanienkehaka (Mohawk), Wabanaki, Wendat (Huron), French, and English. Using a tab design, Raid on Deerfield is set up to enable visitors to explore how each nation experienced the raid and the region’s larger historical and cultural context. It offers an impressive collection of maps, artifacts (which can be moved for different views), songs, creation stories, images, biographies and short essays by scholars, narratives, and a lengthy bibliography. The site was a collaborative effort that involved many scholarly and technical contributors who created a kind of model for other institutions interested in presenting conflicting points of view. Although perhaps most useful as a teaching resource for secondary schools, the information provided has been carefully researched, and items included on the site will also be of interest to scholars.

THOMAS: US Congress on the Internet (Washington, D.C.)
http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.html
A researcher can search by subjects, such as federal–Indian relations, Indian children, Indian claims, Indian law enforcement, Indian medical care, Indian water rights, and Internet gambling, or by bill number to locate federal legislation. Text loads quickly on this huge database, but the site does not permit convenient browsing. Researchers with names of sponsoring legislators and dates of congressional sessions will have the most success in navigating this site. The site’s content is of value for scholarly and independent researchers and the general public.

USC Digital Archive: California Historical Society Collection (University of Southern California, Los Angeles)
http://www.usc.edu/libraries/archives/arc/digarchives/chs/
The George Wharton James Collection contains more than two thousand images of portraits, customs, ceremonies, arts, and games of various groups of Southwestern Native Americans that
date between 1890 and 1905. Search the overall Digital Archive site by typing in names of Southwestern Native American tribes (for example, Apache, Coahuilla, Hopi, Navajo, Palapai) or select the Location tab and browse or enter a place name (such as Acoma Pueblo). The site is better suited to scholarly research than many other sites with large photograph collections because of its thorough descriptions at the item level.

CANADA—ABORIGINAL STUDIES SITES

Aboriginal Canada Portal (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada [INAC], Ottawa, Ontario—federal and provincial government sources)
The site is a gateway to Canadian indigenous online resources, contacts, and information with an emphasis on government programs and services. Convenient navigation to national Aboriginal organizations, Canadian government departments, and Aboriginal communities, businesses, and other organizations is available. This site is oriented more toward the public, high school, and first-year undergraduate rather than scholarly research but does include convenient access to other sites of interest to academics.

Canadian Native Law Cases (University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon)
http://library2.usask.ca/native/cnlch.html
This site contains all reported Canadian court decisions related to Native law from 1763 to 1978, including those that went to the Privy Council on appeal from Canada. There are nine volumes in HTML format. The site is searchable by keyword, and/or/not search, or by browsing each volume’s table of contents. The site could be improved by providing greater context for these volumes. A list of clickable subject terms, even a general one as appears on the Tribal Court Decisions Clearinghouse, would also help users locate relevant cases for their research. The site is intended for legal researchers at all levels.

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs: Record Group 10--Black and Red Series (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/02010502_e.html
The Red (Eastern) and Black (Western) series includes valuable resources for documenting department-wide policies and providing a national view of Indian Affairs, especially between 1872 and 1923. As Library and Archives Canada digitizes these documents from 494 microfilm reels chronologically, the quality and readability of these scans vary somewhat. The more recent documents, searchable by keyword, include brief descriptions. Digitized images can be searched and viewed through the ArchiviaNet database by entering combined terms in a keyword search and the number “10” for Record Group, and then limiting the search to digitized images. This is an invaluable resource for scholars, graduate students, and upper-level graduate students who conduct research in Canadian government policy and the postcontact history of regions and individual reserves.

Indian Affairs Annual Reports, 1864–1990 (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/indianaffairs/index-e.html
This site covers the complete federal government annual reports online. The contents of these reports often vary as they were dependent on what the Indian agents, and sometimes their superiors, considered important. The reports’ eclectic natures (especially during the series’ early years) are part of what makes them so valuable to researchers today. Schedules of Indian bands, reserves, and settlements from 1902 to 1992 are also included. Transcribed and scanned images of each page are available. The site’s search capabilities are somewhat awkward. Results are conveniently listed in reverse chronological order, but movement back and forth between pages can be a challenge. Ideally, scholars and students should use the original print or microfilm versions of these reports in conjunction with this searchable database to help provide context for the individual digitized pages.

**Indian Reserves—Western Canada (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/indian-reserves/index-e.html

This database provides item-level descriptions of approximately fifteen hundred published and unpublished maps, along with approximately twelve hundred digitized items, now in the public domain. Search criteria include reserve name, reserve number, province, and date. Maps date from 1852 to 1994 and will be helpful to scholars, graduate students, and band researchers interested in historical geography, archaeology, writing reserve histories, or environmental impacts on Aboriginal lands.

**Métis National Council Historical Online Database (Métis National Council, Ottawa, Ontario, and the University of Alberta, Edmonton)**
http://www.metisnation.ca/database/intro.html

This site went live in 2006 and is intended for community members and academics who work toward constructing genealogies of the Métis people. Researchers from the Métis National Council and the University of Alberta based the site on a three-year archival project and have created a database of high-resolution, digitized archival documents, photographs, and other resources, primarily from Library and Archives Canada. Researchers can use the Search tab to locate documents by family name, date, and location or to browse them alphabetically or by date range. The Learn tab features interactive maps and documents to provide excellent context for Métis historical research, links to excellent related guides on census documents, Manitoba Declarations, Scrip Applications, and an archival image gallery. Community members can create sophisticated family trees. Researchers may pan and enlarge areas of digitized documents. This site also takes care to provide clear context for original scrip records. By contrast, the photo gallery’s images, though interesting, often include little descriptive information. Overall, this is a thoughtful and well-organized site that is highly useful to scholars who study family and Métis histories and to community members.

**Métis Scrip Records (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/02/02010507_e.html

This searchable database of more than fifteen thousand images of selected parts of original scrip (Record Group 15) documents from the Government of Canada provides access to the affidavits and applications only. Researchers can zoom in on documents so that they can be viewed or printed with clarity. Although this site includes many valuable digitized records, the database is somewhat of a misnomer because it actually includes hundreds of scrip records for white settlers. This Library and Archives Canada site would be improved with additional context (such as that
included on the Métis National Council site described above): for example, maps to help users understand the territories and their subdivisions, related links, and an explanation that even though Métis land scrip is predominant on the database, in keeping with the original legislation (Section 32 of the Manitoba Act) it also includes those of white settlers. This is a useful site in terms of content and, as with the Métis National Council site, will be useful to genealogical researchers in particular.

Project Naming (Nunavut Sivuniksavut, Ottawa, Ontario; Government of Nunavut, Iqaluit, Nunavut; and Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)  
http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/inuit/index-e.html

This site is a reciprocal endeavor by Library and Archives Canada and the Nunavut that encompasses a visual repatriation approach and the feedback system of description. The former provides elders and other Nunavut people with the opportunity to view online Library and Archives Canada photos of their ancestors and relatives that they never would have seen otherwise. Library and Archives Canada, meanwhile, is able to rely on information provided by these same elders to vastly improve the descriptions of their holdings.27 Search the photo collections section by using the Inuit and non-Aboriginal community names. The site is carefully laid out and includes sections with maps, audio and video resources (Voices from Nunavut) and the Inuktitut language. There is also a regularly updated “The Naming Continues” section that features photographs of unidentified individuals and asks visitors to the site to submit any information that they might have about the people, places, and events that appear in the images along with related information such as approximate dates. For scholars, the interaction between the Inuit, Government of Nunavut, and a federal government archival repository is one of the site’s most interesting features. Project Naming also provides academic researchers with the opportunity to compare photograph collections of Inuit people taken by government agencies, amateur ethnographers, and church representatives over a period that spans several decades of the twentieth century. It is a thoughtful, innovative Web site.28

Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples Reports (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)  
http://www.aicn-inac.gc.ca/ch/rcap/index_e.html

This site contains the complete 1996 Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report and highlights with detailed tables of contents linked to the text. The report covers a broad range of subjects that include the history of Aboriginal-white relations in Canada, treaties, governance, residential schools, veterans, health, education, social programs, arts and heritage, and differing perspectives of Aboriginal peoples. The site is fast and easy to navigate. Given the amount of valuable documentation produced by this commission during the first half of the 1990s, this site would be even more valuable were it linked to the hearings documents on which much of the final reports were based. This site is of value to scholars and students at all levels.

CANADA—OTHER SITES OF INTEREST

ASTIS—Arctic Science and Technology Information System (University of Calgary, Alberta)
This database of fifty-four thousand records describes publications and research projects about Northern Canada. The subject code for indigenous peoples is “T” and when entered in a search it retrieves more than twelve thousand documents. Records pertaining to Indigenous peoples can be located with precision by selecting from thirty geographic codes (for example, *Hudson Bay*), searching for words in the title and abstract, entering authors’ names, and/or restricting the dates of publication. Many resources relate to environment, health, and demographics and make the site of most value to academics who work in these fields.

**Atlas of Canada (Natural Resources Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
The site includes digitized versions of thirty-three maps and more than two hundred textual references related directly to Aboriginal people from the well-respected *Atlas of Canada*. Simply enter the term *Aboriginal* in Search to see a browsable and annotated list of all maps and related texts. The site includes excellent demographic and historical information; shows the impact of settlement, treaties, environmental change, and the economy on Aboriginal communities; and is intended for the general public and undergraduate students in particular.

**BC Archives and Royal BC Museum (Victoria, British Columbia)**
http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/index.htm
This strong site for visual history includes eighty thousand online historical photographs, paintings, drawings, and prints that depict a wide range of subjects that relate to British Columbia’s history and culture. It also contains a large number of excellent images of British Columbia’s Aboriginal people that date from the time of the Canada–US Boundary Commission in 1858. Along with a standard search, images may be located by browsing titles, subject terms, photographers/artists, or geographic regions. Unfortunately, the subject terms chosen are of mediocre quality and precision for locating Aboriginal images, and the database does not allow researchers to combine the different criteria described above in a single search. The site contains some excellent resources, however, for those researchers willing to take the time to locate them.

**Champlain Society Digital Collection (Toronto, Ontario)**
http://eir.library.utoronto.ca/champlain/search.cfm?lang=eng
This site contains eighty-three of the society’s most important volumes (more than forty-one thousand printed pages) that deal with exploration and contact throughout three centuries from Samuel de Champlain’s voyages to New France to the first European land exploration of the Arctic in 1819 and 1820. Resources provide European views of cross-cultural relations with Aboriginal people who live in the geographic area now known as Canada. Subject terms of use include *Huron*, *Iroquois*, *Mi’kmaq* (enter *MicMac* on this database), *Riel Rebellion*, and *French and Indian War*. This site will appeal to all levels of researchers.

**Dictionary of Canadian Biography (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.biographi.ca/EN/
This site includes biographies of people who died between the years 1000 and 1930 and who played an important role in the formation of what is now Canada. It includes biographies of 214 indigenous people and many others who played significant roles in indigenous–newcomer relations. Indian names and their anglicized equivalents are automatically cross-referenced. All
entries have been carefully researched and conclude with helpful bibliographic lists on published and archival documents related to the individual entry. Taken from the twenty-plus-volume print series of the same name, this easily searchable database is an excellent resource for undergraduate students and, for many of the entries, graduate students and faculty as well.

**Early Canadiana Online (Toronto and Ottawa, Ontario)**
The free, open-access version of a digital library offers open access to 550,000 pages of text from the time of first European settlement in what is now Canada until the early twentieth century. The site includes a total of 42,500 pages that detail the history of the Hudson’s Bay Company and 22,500 pages of Jesuit relations text translated into English. One may search the site by using the browse feature, which lists topics by Library of Congress subject headings such as *Indians of North America—British Columbia—Social Life and Customs*, or by the names of individual Aboriginal groups that include, among many others, the “Iroquois Indians” or the “Salish Indians.” Though not on the scale of the for-a-fee, licensed version of the Early Canadiana Online database with its holdings of more than two and a half million pages, this open-access version is still a valuable resource for accessing Canada’s diverse and scattered printed heritage. The site is oriented toward early undergraduate and high school researchers; its depth and range of primary resources make Early Canadiana Online useful to more advanced researchers as well.

**Early Images of Canada: Illustrations from Rare Books (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/earlyimages/index-e.html
This site offers images from Library and Archives Canada’s rare book collection; many were taken from exploration or missionary narratives published prior to 1800. More than one-third of these illustrations relate to Aboriginal peoples and their ways of life. The illustrations provide insights into Europeans attitudes toward Native people during the early contact eras in eastern North America and along the West Coast. The image quality is fair though the fine print on many images is difficult, and at times impossible, to read. Although the site is recommended to all levels, researchers may want to follow up by locating better quality print versions of those images and text found online.

**Framing Canada: A Photographic Memory (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/framingcanada/index-e.html
This site features more than two thousand digital images from Library and Archives Canada’s collections that date from 1843 to the mid-twentieth century. As with several other sites reviewed here, for researchers their best chance to obtain relevant hits is to use the names of Aboriginal groups, such as Cree, Mohawk, or Blackfoot, or names of individuals, such as Poundmaker, Big Bear, or Louis Riel, in a keyword search. Framing Canada also includes thematic essays such as “Aboriginal Peoples,” though these are oriented toward high school students.

**Images Canada (hosted by Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.imagescanada.ca/r1-220-e.html
This gateway to tens of thousands of digitized images from fifteen Canadian institutions from coast to coast is an excellent example of a large-scale, collaborative project (based on an idea pioneered by the site Picture Australia), which, had funding not been cut, would likely have continued to grow into an even more impressive project. It contains good quality and full-size images; clear but fairly basic descriptions to accommodate all institutions involved in the initiative; and seamless cross-collection searching. Two important contributors include the Glenbow Archives in Calgary with its first-rate collection of images of Aboriginal peoples of the northern plains (a search for Blackfoot retrieves an impressive 1,616 images) and the Nova Scotia Museum with its excellent Mi’kmaq Portraits Collection (the term Mi’kmaq calls up 773 hits). With Images Canada’s tremendous breadth and acceptable depth of description, this is a highly useful and fascinating site for photographic researchers at all levels.

Justice Laws Web Site (Justice Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)
Indian Northern Affairs Canada’s Treaty Texts: http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/pr/trts/hti/site/trindex_e.html
This site includes online versions of consolidated acts, statutes, and regulations, including those related to indigenous people, such as the Indian Act, the Nunavut Act, and the Nisga’a Final Agreement Act. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada’s Treaty Texts site would compliment this one well with its text from eighteen Canadian treaties. Justice Laws will be of use to researchers who do not have access to libraries with general collections that cover Aboriginal law in Canada.

New France, New Horizons: On French Soil in America (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, and the National Archives of France, Paris)
http://www.archivescanadafrance.org/english/accueil_en.html
This is one of the largest French content Web sites in the world but, surprisingly, not well known. The New France, New Horizons site makes use of the strengths of both the Canadian and French National Archives to combine two large and complimentary collections into onefirst-rate site with one database. More than four hundred thousand pages, many of which concern French–Indian relations, were digitized including legal documents from New France, maps, plans, and imagery. Two caveats: although a search may be initiated on an English platform the vast majority of texts returned are, for obvious reasons, in French; also, the grey-on-grey color schemes on the home page will almost certainly create difficulties for visually impaired researchers. This site will be appreciated most by scholars, graduate students, and upper-undergraduates.

Notman Photographic Archives (McCord Museum, Montreal, Quebec)
This highly searchable database of 125,000 images that provides a visual history of Canada with a focus on the 1840 to 1935 period. This site has features that the author has not seen anywhere else, including an amazing zoom feature that allows visitors to zoom in on small sections of photographs and then pan them in all directions. Thousands of photographs, paintings, cartoons, and sketches of Aboriginal peoples and archaeological artifacts and landscapes appear on the site (search by tribal and individual names), and the images are of such stunning quality that researchers may forget that they are using a Web site. As an added option, images may be
conveniently e-mailed to others or oneself as virtual “postcards.” The site is highly recommended to researchers at all levels with an interest in early photographs of Aboriginal people in Canada.

**Our Roots: Canada’s Local Histories Online (University of Calgary, Alberta)**
http://www.ourroots.ca/e/
This site is a collection of digitized Canadian local histories in English and French. Search under Library of Congress subject heading *Indians of North America* and its fifty-plus subheadings, or search *Métis, Inuit*. The text size can be enlarged and the tables of contents for all publications are clickable. The number of publications about Aboriginal peoples and histories is relatively small but will save some researchers who conduct local history research a trip to special collections libraries to find the original, rare texts. The site will be of particular use to scholars and graduate and upper undergraduate students with a particular interest in regional histories and early cross-cultural relations.

**Theses Canada Portal (Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario)**
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/thesescanada/index-e.html
A comprehensive, open-access database of Canadian theses compiled by the Library and Archives Canada and other partner university libraries in the Theses Canada Program. The indexing of Canadian theses goes back to 1965, with full-text availability from 1998 to 2002 (this coverage will continue to expand). The advanced search allows you to enter any available information (author name, keyword, title, date, subject, university); the Canadian site is smaller and slower than its American counterpart, ProQuest Dissertations and Theses: Full-Text. Unlike the expensive ProQuest database, however, the Theses Canada Portal is an open-access Web site. I recommend this site for scholars, independent researchers, graduate and upper undergraduate students.

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NOTES

3. This was a comment made, sometimes confidentially, to the author by interviewees at institutions in both the United States and Canada when discussing the creation of digital projects and Web sites.
5. Susan Haigh (senior advisor, transformation, Library and Archives Canada), interview by author, 10 May 2005, Ottawa, Ontario.
6. Judith Gray (folklife specialist, American Folklife Center), interview by author, 5 May 2005, Washington, DC.
8. Many funding agencies, such as Canadian Heritage, require that all funds be spent within a fiscal year and sometimes the funding does not arrive in a timely manner. This places limitations on the ability of institutions to create the product they would like to have more time been allocated at the outset.
11. University of Virginia: Texts by and about Native Americans from the Modern English Collection can be found at http://etext.virginia.edu/subjects/Native-American.html; the Union of British Columbia Indian Chief’s Resources page at http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/Resources/; and YouTube at http://www.youtube.com (all accessed 30 November 2007).
12. Although I cannot demonstrate this with hard data, there also seems to be a much greater emphasis on American Indian issues on Web sites created in the western United States,
than in the east. This is almost certainly due in part to the fact that states such as California, Oklahoma, and Washington State have much larger Indian populations than states east of the Mississippi.

13. From June 2004 to August 2007, the author conducted in-person interviews about the digitization of indigenous resources with individuals at the following institutions: Library of Congress (7 persons interviewed); Library and Archives Canada (13); Canadian Museum of Civilization (4); Glenbow Archives in Calgary (2); Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia (2); American Folklife Center; Field Museum of Chicago; Northwestern University; Royal British Columbia Museum; University of Hawaii at Manoa Library; University of Michigan; and the University of Washington Libraries.

Some of the secondary sources appear in this bibliography. Few annotated descriptions have been produced previously; one of note, which focuses on international indigenous sites is Gina Matestic, “Indigenous Nations: Sites of Interest,” *College and Research Library News* 65, no. 1 (January 2004): 16–19.

14. The Gallica site in Paris, France is the only non–North American site listed and can be found here in the “United States—General Sites of Interest” section.

15. The exceptions being the French-language sites, Gallica: Bibliothèque Nationale de France and New France, New Horizons (Library and Archives Canada); the former, however, includes significant digitized resources in English while the latter can be searched from an English-language platform.


20. These links include two sites listed in this bibliography: THOMAS: US Congress on the Internet; and the Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project.


