

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT

5611

NUMBER 3075	ENGLISH NAME Lena Roberta Seneca	AGENCY	NATION Cayuga		
HAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS Rochester, N. Y.			
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD NO	BLOOD full	AGE 17	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.
FATHER	MOTHER				FORCED EXPR. SEX M
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Sept. 30, 1915	FOR WHAT PERIOD Five years	DATE DISCHARGED June 14, 1918	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE Grad.		
TO COUNTRY	PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS				FROM COUNTRY
6-6-16	On leave Returned				9-12-16
6-2-17	Outing - Mrs. A. A. Brown,				8-29-17
9-11-17	Walker Bourneau Cynwyd Woodstown, N. J.				6-8-18

SHAW-WALKER, BOSTON, U.S.A. 4545

Months in school before Carlisle, ... 6 yrs.

Grade entered at Carlisle, .....

Grade at date of Discharge, .....

Trade or Industry, .....

Church, Presbyterian

2 mi. to public school



CERTIFICATE OF PROMOTION

May 24, 1917, 191

This certifies that Roberta Seneca

(Name of student.)

has made the following record in Carlisle Indian School

(Name of school.)

SUBJECTS—ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL.

GRADE.

RATING.

SUBJECTS—ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL.	GRADE.	RATING.
English	4th Voc.	88
General Exercises		85
Child Study		82
Plant Diseases		83
Insects and Insecticides		84
Household Chemistry		70
Sewing		90
Cooking		87

Effort \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

DETAILS SERVED.

LENGTH OF TIME IN EACH.

RATING.

DETAILS SERVED.	LENGTH OF TIME IN EACH.	RATING.
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

and is or is not eligible to pursue work in the \_\_\_\_\_ grade, academic; and \_\_\_\_\_ grade or year vocational.

Superintendent.

Principal.

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Read Instructions on this Application Blank carefully



**BRIEF**

**Application of**

*L. Roberta Seneca*

FOR THE ENROLLMENT OF

*Five years (5)*

IN THE INDIAN SCHOOL AT

**Carlisle, Pennsylvania**

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

*L. Roberta Seneca Irony N.Y.*

Date of enrollment *Aug. 6* 1915

Term of enrollment *five* ( *5* ) years

*Important*—Only those students who desire to come to Carlisle because they have a definite purpose in view will be admitted. Applications for enrollment must be submitted in all cases for consideration before transportation can be made available. Time will then be taken to find out the records students have made in the schools previously attended, and to secure recommendations as to their *moral character* and their worthiness for further attendance at a Government institution.

# Application for Enrollment in a Non-Reservation School.

(For a child not enrolled at an Agency.)

For and in consideration of the United States assuming the care, education, and maintenance in the United States Indian School at Carlisle, Pa., of L. Roberta Seneca, (Name of child.) I, L. Roberta Seneca (Parent, guardian, or next of kin.) of Irving P. O., State of New York, do hereby voluntarily consent and agree to my enrollment in said school for a period of 15 1/2 years, (Not less than three.) and also obligates and bind myself to abide by all the rules and regulations for Indian schools.

I further say that ~~the said child~~ <sup>I</sup> was born at Irving N.Y. on Feb 7 1898 (Date.) that the father, Frank Seneca, (Name.) a 1/4 Seneca Indian of the Seneca Tribe located at Irving, N.Y. Agency; that he left the tribe about that he died Dec. 14 1906 (Approximate date.) that the mother, Catherine Seneca, (Name.) a 1/4 Seneca Indian of the Cayuga Tribe located at Irving, N.Y. Agency, and left the tribe about died April 18, 1914; (Approximate date.) that ~~the said child~~ <sup>I</sup> was born and reared in the United States, and now actually resides therein; and that ~~he has~~ <sup>I</sup> attended the following schools:

NAME OF SCHOOL—PUBLIC, GOVERNMENT, OR MISSION.	LOCATED AT—	DATE OF ENROLLMENT.	DATE OF DISCHARGE.	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE.	GRADE.
<u>Thos. Ind. School.</u>	<u>Sonanda, N.Y.</u>	<u>Sept. 1 1907</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>7th</u>
<u>High School</u>	<u>Wilson N.Y.</u>	<u>Sept 6 1913</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2nd yr.</u>

This 6 day of August, 1915

Two witnesses:

Katherine Menzie  
Harriet C. Menzie

L. Roberta Seneca  
(Parent, guardian, or next of kin.)  
P. O. \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE.—Every blank in this application must be properly filled out by the applicant, in his own handwriting, if possible. The signature, whether by mark or otherwise, must be attested by two witnesses.)

## AFFIDAVIT.

L. Roberta Seneca, do hereby swear that the statements made in the above application are true.

L. Roberta Seneca  
(Signature of applicant.) (Parent, guardian, or next of kin.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of August, 1915

Harriet C. Menzie Notary Public

(NOTE.—This application and affidavit must be executed before some officer authorized to administer oaths by the parent with whom the child is living; if the parents are dead, by the guardian or next of kin.)



FOR NEW YORK PUPILS.

This blank is to be filled out and signed by a former teacher of the applicant, by a school trustee, a school superintendent, or by some other person conversant with the status of the applicant's school attendance.

This is to certify that *L. Roberta Seneca* has attended the *Thomas Indian School* School at *Iroquois* New York, from *Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>* 19*14* to *June 28<sup>th</sup>* 19*15*. *Iroquois* N. Y. *Aug 11<sup>th</sup>* 19*15*.

*Emily O. Lenzohn*  
(Sign here.)  
*Supt.*

*born and brought up, that she should have.*

This *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*, 1915

*Herbert J. Menzic*

VOUCHER No. 2.

I, *Harriet C. Menzic*, a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Business, calling, or profession.)  
*Rochester*, *N. Y.*, do hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with *L. Roberta Seneca*, who makes the foregoing application; that I believe her statements therein are true; that I am acquainted with \_\_\_\_\_; that

(Name of Child.)

She is known and recognized in the community in which she lives as an Indian; and that in my opinion she cannot receive proper and adequate schooling at home for the reason that *she desires a higher education than can be given her on her home reservation*

This *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*, 1915

*Harriet C. Menzic*

**Certificate of Physician.**

*Elliott McHague*, a practicing physician of *Rochester N.Y.*, do hereby certify that I have carefully examined *L. Roberta Seneca*, the child named in this application, and find that *she* is in proper physical condition to attend school, and is not afflicted with tuberculosis or other disease which would be a menace to the health of other pupils.

This *16* day of *August*, 191*5* *Elliott McHague*, M. D.

**Vouchers of Disinterested Persons.**

VOUCHER NO. 1.

I, *Herbert J. Menzie*, a *Lawyer* of *Rochester, New York*, do hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with *L. Roberta Seneca* who makes the foregoing application; that I believe *her* statements therein are true; that I am acquainted with \_\_\_\_\_; that she is known and recognized in the community in which she lives as an Indian; and that in my opinion she can not receive proper and adequate schooling at home for the reason that *there are not the educational facilities on the reservation where she was born and brought up, that she should have.*

This *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*, 191*5* *Herbert J. Menzie*

VOUCHER NO. 2.

I, *Harriet C. Menzie*, a \_\_\_\_\_ of *Rochester, N. Y.*, do hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with *L. Roberta Seneca*, who makes the foregoing application; that I believe *her* statements therein are true; that I am acquainted with \_\_\_\_\_; that she is known and recognized in the community in which she lives as an Indian; and that in my opinion she cannot receive proper and adequate schooling at home for the reason that *she desires a higher education than can be given her on her home reservation.*

This *6<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*, 191*5* *Harriet C. Menzie*

## Certificate of School Physician.

I hereby certify that on \_\_\_\_\_, I made a careful examination  
(As soon after arrival as possible.)  
of the physical condition of \_\_\_\_\_, the child named in the fore-  
going application, and found \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_

I therefore recommend that the said child be \_\_\_\_\_ enrolled in this school.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 191\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*School Physician.*

### INDORSEMENT.

A child showing one-sixteenth or less Indian blood, whose parents live on an Indian reservation, Indian fashion, who, if debarred from the Government schools, could not obtain an education, may be permitted in the reservation day and boarding schools, but it is preferable that it be not transferred to a nonreservation school, without permission from the Office. Children showing one-eighth or less Indian blood, whose parents do not live on an Indian reservation, whose home is among white people where there are churches and schools, who are presumed to have adopted the white man's manners and customs, and are to all intents and purposes white people, are debarred from enrollment in the Government nonreservation and reservation schools. Superintendents, in all cases where doubt exists as to the degree of Indian blood of a child proposed for transfer, should fully satisfy themselves of the facts by affidavits from reliable persons, which affidavits must be kept on file at the school.

A pupil who has been regularly enrolled in a nonreservation school must not be taken to any other non-reservation school without the consent of both Superintendents and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and Superintendents will be held to strict accountability for such pupils taken to their schools.

A pupil dismissed from school for cause must not be enrolled in any other school without the permission of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Full facts must be submitted with each request.



*Important*—Only those students who desire to come to Carlisle because they have a definite purpose in view will be admitted. Applications for enrollment must be submitted in all cases for consideration before transportation can be made available. Time will then be taken to find out the records students have made in the schools previously attended, and to secure recommendations as to their *moral character* and their worthiness for further attendance at a Government institution.



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June 1st, 1916.

Mr. Jacob Seneca,  
Irving, New York.

My dear Sir:

Your sister Roberta desires to go to Rochester, New York, for the summer months and permission will be given her to do so in spite of the fact that we believe it would have been an advantage to her financially to remain here in order that a place under our outing could have been found for her.

Arrangements are being made to have her leave here on Tuesday evening of next week with the other New York state girls who are to start then for their homes.

Very respectfully,

HKM.

Superintendent.

NAME: Roberta Seneca  
 AGE: 18  
 SEX: Female  
 TRIBE: Cayuga  
 DEGREE OF BLOOD: Full  
 GRADuated: Special Course  
 HEALTH: Good  
 COURE PURSUED. Home Economics  
 HOW PERSONAL FUNDS ARE HANDLED:  
 Spends money freely.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE  
618

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

She is the daughter of Frank and Catherine Cusiuk  
 Seneca of Rochester, New York. Both Parents are dead. She has no  
 home of her own. She has workee in all of the industrial depart-  
 ments since coming to Carlisle and likes them all. She would like  
 to learn clerical work.

September 24, 1917.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of April 28, 1917, in which you direct attention to that paragraph of the Declaration of Policy in the Administration of Indian Affairs which refers to Indian students who have completed the course of instruction in the Government schools, being declared competent.

In accordance with these directions I have the honor to report that Roberta Seneca, a full blood Cayuga Indian, 18 years of age, passed her examinations and on May 24, 1917 was graduated from this school, in Home Economics, in accordance with a special course of study.

Roberta is the daughter of Frank and Catherine Cusick Seneca of Rochester, N. Y. Both parents are dead. She has no home of her own. She has worked in all the departments since coming to Carlisle, and likes them all. She would like to learn clerical work.

Principal Blair reports that Roberta is a gentle, lovable girl. She is fitful in her application to work and very easily discouraged; she must be praised in order to do her best. She is a fair musician.

Matilda G. Ewing reports that Roberta is a girl above the average. She is neat in appearance, pleasant and of a happy disposition. She loves a good time.

Roberta is in good health, and spends her money freely.

--2--

In view of the fact that Roberts is a New York Indian, and comes from a tribe over whom the U. S. Government has never exercised restrictions upon the person or property, no steps <sup>can</sup> be taken in ~~ther~~ case except possibly the issuance of a certificate of competency which I would gladly recommend.

Very truly yours,

Superintendent.

NAME Roberta Seneca Sex  Male  Female.

Tribes  Full  Cayuga State New York Date Sept 30th, 1915

Age 17 years Respiration 18 Condition of, Eyes Normal

Height 5 ft. 4 ins. Mensuration { Insp. 36 Ears Sup. otitis media in the past

Weight 128 1/2 lbs. { Exp. 33 1/2 Throat normal

Temperature 98 Vaccination Scar Cervical glands negative

Pulse 72 Vision wears correction Skin .....

Inspection .....

Palpation negative

Percussion .....

Auscultation .....

Heart Normal

(Menstruation) Normal

## FAMILY HISTORY.

	LIVING.	CONDITION OF HEALTH.	DEAD.	CAUSE OF DEATH.
Father			Yes	Cancer of Stomach
Mother			Yes	of womb
Brothers	4	good		
Sisters	1	good		

Personal history Mumps, measles, chicken pox, whooping cough, scarlet fever, diphtheria

Present condition .....

....., M. D.

This form is for the record of the physical condition of pupils of boarding or nonreservation Indian schools. It should be filled in by the school physician at the time of the admission of the pupil.

Physicians in the field should use this form to record the examination of pupils for transfer to nonreservation schools. It should accompany the pupils' transfer blanks.

The reverse side is intended as a card-index case-record for use by all Service physicians.



January 4, 1918.

Mrs. Walker Boureau  
Moorestown, N.J.

Dear Madam:-

I am returning to you the bill  
for \$5.00 presented by Dr. B. B. Powell for  
professional services rendered Roberta Seneca  
for the reason that Roberta has no money here.  
Roberta can pay Dr. Powell when she has earned  
the necessary amount.

Very truly yours

Superintendent.

NRD

Inc.

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February 12, 1918.

Miss Roberta Seneca  
Care Mrs. Walker Bureau  
Moorestown, N.J.

Dear Roberta, -I have received two bills against you from  
Hardy and Company, one for \$2.75 and the other for \$2.43.  
Will you please let me know how you can arrange to pay  
these bills ? You have no funds on our books here.

Very truly yours

Chief Clerk in Charge.

NRD



6/8

March 27, 1918

Mrs. Walker Boureau,  
Moorestown, N. J.

Dear Madam:

We are in receipt of a letter from Roberta Seneca, in which she asks permission to go to Philadelphia to the Women's Homeopathic Hospital to be treated for her ear trouble. Roberta says that through the efforts of her teacher, Miss Roberts, it has been arranged for her to go to the hospital and have this treatment free of cost. Will you see Miss Roberts and if everything is all right and you can spare Roberta, make the arrangements for her to go to Philadelphia. I presume that Roberta has the money to pay her railroad fare and incidental expenses.

Please tell Roberta that I believe it would be better to postpone her dental work until she earned some money, provided of course that her teeth do not need immediate attention. I think it is very unwise for her to incur any more bills at this time.

Very truly yours,

D-E

Superintendent

Moorestown, N. J.  
March 26, 1918.

Mrs. W. Denny.  
Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Denny,

Miss Jones earlier in the year planned to permit me to go to Philadelphia and have something done to my ear which has been bothering me for the last fourteen months. Last week she told me that the plan could not be carried out so I would have to wait longer, but before she had told me this I was talking to a dear friend of mine, Miss Roberts, the high school English teacher, she seems very interested and as I had revealed to her my poor circumstances financially; she being acquainted with one of the directors of "Women's Homeopathic

"Hospital" at Philadelphia, 1870.  
has arranged, providing we have  
your permission, to have me enter  
this hospital and have everything  
done, including board, without any  
charges, the latter being deducted  
from a special fund set aside  
purposely for the poor folks like me.  
She says, we may rely upon the  
good services that will be given.  
Our holidays being on Friday  
before Easter until the following Monday.  
Miss Roberts, <sup>thinks it</sup> would be the best  
time to have it done, and may I have  
your permission to do so, also asking  
your kindness to answer very soon.  
We would like to hear from you by Thursday.

Yours Truly

"over"

Roberta Sewell

Dr. Henderson, (the dentist) just looked  
my teeth over and estimates (\$20) of work  
to be done. Miss Johnson asked Mrs  
Boureaux to find out the amount necessary  
and send it to the school.

6/8

March  
Twenty-Sixth,  
1 9 1 8

Mrs. Walker Boureau,  
Moorestown, N. Y.

Dear Madam:

I have a letter from Roberta Seneca saying that she wants to go to her home directly after her school work is finished this coming June. She feels that she can earn more money at home and can pay her debts sooner than if she remained in one of our Outing homes.

You can tell her that her case will be taken up later and she will be notified regarding the decision in her case.

Very truly yours,

D-E

Superintendent

Johnston's Moorestown N. J.  
N. J.

March 18, 1918

Frances

Ind. Sch., Carlisle, Pa.

Dear Sir:

At last, I have arrived at a final decision as to my intention for this summer and its future.

Last Thursday afternoon, I went down to see Mr. Baker, purposely to find out if I may, in the remaining short term drop 3 of my subjects and take only Typewriting and Stenography. This he permitted me to do, but I have failed to do, until I had written you and notified you of my intentions, first. I still feel determined to go to work for myself as soon as I can

Even tho it may seem a step I may regret later, shall blame only myself as several have pointed out the value of ~~an~~ High School diploma but cannot convince me to give up my plans of starting to work this fall as intended.

So instead of remaining on the Outing this summer, I would like to go home as soon as school is closed and begin work, to pay my debts I have gotten into this winter. My doctor bill, glasses and my bill, which will be from the Hospital, soon and as my teeth have been bothering me very much lately. I am having

them attended to, so I guess it means  
all summers pay to straighten out  
my debts. I have several <sup>attempts</sup> ~~attempts~~  
my brothers, who I expected would help  
me a little, but they all seemed to  
have failed, therefore making me  
more determined to go out for myself  
as soon as I can.

Yours respectfully.

Roberta Seneca



Moorestown N. J.  
June 5, 1918.

Supt. Jno. Francis Jr.  
Carlisle, Pa.

~~421~~  
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Dear Sir,

A clerical position is being held for me until the 12th of June by the Erie Railroad Company, near my brother Hulcie's home. If it is convenient for you, can arrangements be made for me to start home Saturday evening, arriving there about 6:30 Sunday morning. I hope the commencement this year has been a wonderful success, extending congratulations to Class '18.

yours respectfully.

Roberta Seneca

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

3718 Walnut St., Philadelphia Pa.

May 8 - 1918.

Mr. John Francis, Jr.,  
Supt. Indian School.  
Carlisle Pa.

Dear Mr. Francis:-

Since Roberta Seneca does not wish to use this year of high school work for credit for another year's work and she is already in some debt with no visible means to cancel same, it seemed best to allow her to stop school and work for wages at the end of this week.

By doing thus she will be able to pay a doctor's bill of \$5.00 and have sufficient to return her to Carlisle about May 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>. Possibly, Mrs. Bourneau and family will motor to Carlisle about the middle or latter part of Commencement week. In that event they will bring Roberta with them, paying that carfare for her, and taking Agnes Conner back with them.

Roberta takes ear treatments every two weeks in Phila. This has necessitated expense. Mrs. Bourneau bought her a pretty pique suit from a neighbor - somewhat worn but in good condition. This was \$3.00 - so Roberta has kept pace with her spending money. I will meet Daniel Gebatu and take him to Dr. Fox on Thursday.

Very respectfully,  
Lida M. Johnson

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May 27, 1918

Mrs. W. Boureau,  
Moorestown, N. J.

Dear Madam:

It is not necessary for Roberta Seneca to return to the school before June 8th, so, unless you decide to motor to Carlisle for our Commencement exercises, you can retain her until that time. I will arrange for Agnes to go to you on that day, train due at Broad Street Station at 10:37 A. M.

Very truly yours,

D-E

Chief Clerk in Charge

Moorestown N. J.

May 23-1918.

Mr Jos Francis, Supt. U. S. I. S.  
Carlisle Pa.

Dear Sir:

The April report evidently  
has been lost - as it was made  
out the first of the month  
so we are now mailing new  
ones.

In reference to Roberta  
coming in as yet we have

not decided whether we will  
be able to motor up for the Commencement  
but if not we will send her  
in on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June on the  
day that Agnes Connor comes  
to me, if this is satisfactory or  
she will be able to come at once  
if it is advisable.

She stopped school on the  
10<sup>th</sup> of May as per Miss Johnston's  
instructions.

If you think it best and wish  
Robertā to come in immediately  
write me but I ~~do~~ would not want  
Agnes to come until the 5<sup>th</sup> as I  
think she would enjoy commencement  
week at the school.

Trusting these plans meet with your  
approval,  
Very truly yours,  
Mrs H. Bourne

Glad to have them motor up -

Roberta can return on June 8<sup>th</sup> - if  
they are not able to motor to Carlisle.