

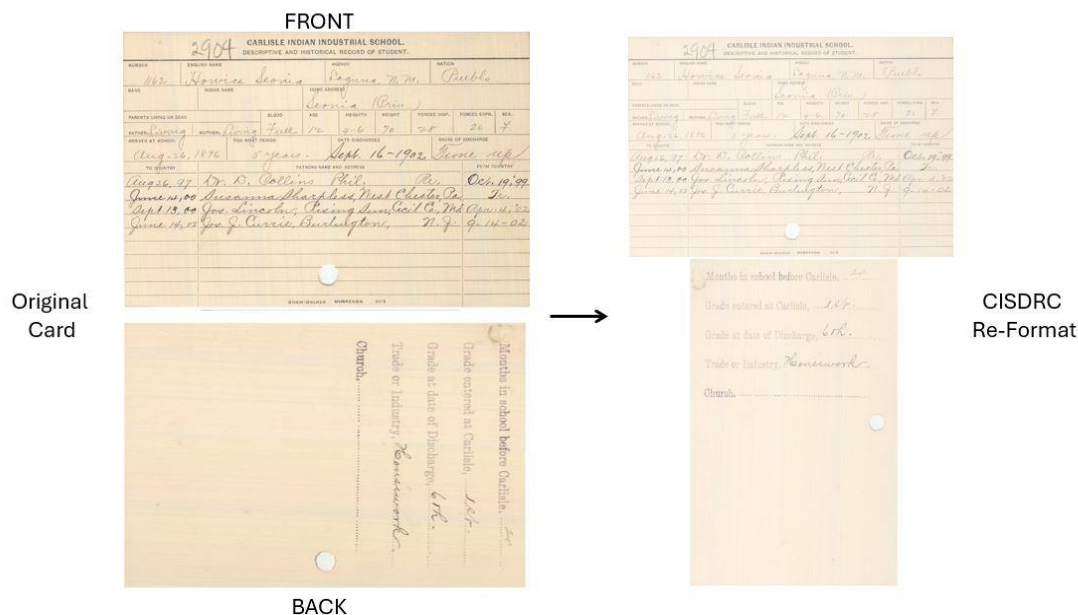
Understanding the 1328 Student Information Card

Overview

This guide has been written to explain all of the information typically found on the student information cards that we refer to as 1328 cards. Among the many boxes of historical records of the Carlisle Indian School, which are preserved at the National Archives in Washington, DC, these cards are stored in 6 boxes and cataloged as Entry 1328 within Record Group 75 (records from the Bureau of Indian Affairs). These 1328 cards are also sometimes found inside student files (Entry 1327), but regardless they are one of the most common surviving documents about individuals who attended the school. Both the printed headings and the handwritten entries on the cards are often abbreviated, so looking at one card in isolation can leave you with a lot of questions about what certain information means. This guide is here to help.

The examples used in this guide that share student's personally identifiable information are ancestors of Dr. Ka-ow-dthu-ee, Director of the Center for the Futures of Native Peoples at Dickinson College. These cards have been shared with her permission.

Keep in mind that when you see a 1328 card on this site, one page represents both the front and the back of the same card. CISDRC project staff have rotated and combined the front and back of each card so that it is easier to read online or printed out.



Howice Seonia 1328 Card

History of the Cards

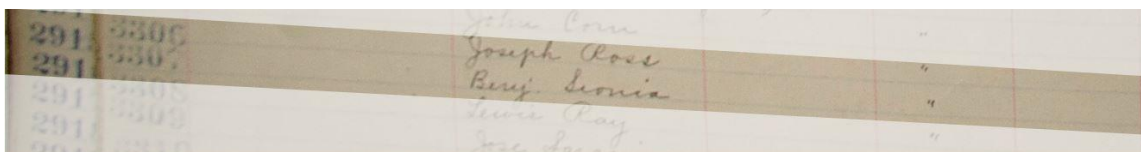
During the first 20 years that the Carlisle Indian School was open, staff recorded information about each of the students in a variety of ledgers based on the activity. Students might be listed in an admissions ledger, an outing ledger, a discharge ledger, etc. Finding out information about any one student required staff to consult multiple locations. Beginning in 1901, the school administration transitioned away from using ledgers exclusively, deciding that a card-based system would improve their record-keeping processes and be more efficient. Information that had originally been recorded in the various ledgers over the previous 20 years was copied onto the new cards. This left room for clerical error so that information on the cards may not always agree with other sources of information about the person in the school records.

Components of the 1328 Card (From Left to Right, Top to Bottom)

Number: Generally, this refers to the line in the admissions ledger where school staff first wrote down a student's details. If someone returned to CIS for a second or third term, there is a new number because staff recorded their re-enrollment on a new line in the ledger.

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.										
1493	3307		Benjamin Seonia Laguna, N. Mex.				Pueblo			
Paquate		Sha-yai-eea		Jose Angel Seonia Paquate, N. Mex.						
Living		Living		F.	16	5-5	130	36	32	M

Benjamin Seonia 1328 card



page 35 of volume 2 of admitted students ledger

English Name: Typically, this is the name by which a student was known while at the school. In rare cases when a student did not have an English language name while attending the school, the name in the Indian Name box was likely used.

Agency: This box refers to the political/administrative structure that the Indian Bureau/Office of Indian Affairs developed to administer government relations with certain Native communities/Nations. Examples include Pine Ridge, Omaha & Winnebago, and Klamath. While most of the students have an official agency named, about a third of students' cards are less clear. Sometimes the card lists a reservation or a geographic location similar to an agency (e.g. "Cattaraugus Reservation" or "Yankton, SD") or a school name (e.g. "Grand Junction School,

CO”). Other times there may be a geographic location that does not correspond to an agency, it is explicitly written that the student is “Not from an Agency,” or the box is left blank.

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.										
NUMBER 349	ENGLISH NAME Mary Bailey	AGENCY Pueblo	NATION Queres							
BAND Laguna	INDIAN NAME Ki-as-se-ta	HOME ADDRESS Loomis								
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD	BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.			
FATHER, Living	MOTHER, Living	Full	12					7		
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Oct. 4, 1885	FOR WHAT PERIOD 5 years.		DATE DISCHARGED July 5, 1893		CAUSE OF DISCHARGE Time out.					
TO COUNTRY June 30, 86		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS F. Wood Torredale			FROM COUNTRY Pac		Sep. 12, 87			
Feb. 20, 88		Dr. W. Collins Phil. Pa, Conn. 38 St.								

Mary Bailey, later 1328 Card

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.										
NUMBER 3306	ENGLISH NAME Joseph Ross	AGENCY Laguna, N. Mex.	NATION Pueblo (over)							
BAND Seama	INDIAN NAME Josiah	HOME ADDRESS Jose' Ross, Cubero, N. M.								
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD	BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.			
FATHER, Living	MOTHER, Living	F.	19	5-7/2	128	35	32	M		

Joseph Ross, earlier 1328 card

Nation: This indicates the tribal affiliation of the student. The terms used are sometimes very broad (e.g. Sioux) or even incorrect (e.g. Queres, a language spoken among the Pueblo).

Band: Denotes a clan or other smaller group within a tribe.

Indian Name: It is either the name translated into English or a transliteration of the person's name in their Native language. This field is often left blank.

Home Address: This indicates the school's primary point of contact for the student's family or guardian. Sometimes, especially early on, it was the person's father, but that is not guaranteed. It could be someone in the student's extended family or just an address. It may also look a little different from one card to another of the same student.

2904 CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.									
NUMBER	ENGLISH NAME	AGENCY	NATION						
1162	Howice Seonia	Laguna, N.M.	Pueblos						
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS							
		Seonia (Prin.)							
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.	
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	Full	12	4-6	70	28	26	F.
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL	FOR WHAT PERIOD		DATE DISCHARGED			CAUSE OF DISCHARGE			
Aug. 26, 1896	5 years		Sept. 16-1902			Time up			

Home Address box for Howice Seonia

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.									
NUMBER	ENGLISH NAME	AGENCY	NATION						
349	Mary Bailey	Pueblos	Queres						
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS							
Laguna	Ki-as-se-la	Seonia							
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.	
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	Full	12					F.
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL	FOR WHAT PERIOD		DATE DISCHARGED			CAUSE OF DISCHARGE			
Oct. 4, 1885	5 years		July 5, 1893			Time out			
TO COUNTRY		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS					FROM COUNTRY		
June 30, 86		F. Wood Torresdale					Pa.		
Feb. 20, 88		Dr. W. Collins Phil. Pa. Conn. 38 St.					Sep. 12, 87		

Home Address box for Mary Bailey

1493 CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.									
NUMBER	ENGLISH NAME	AGENCY	NATION						
3307	Benjamin Seonia	Laguna, N. Mex.	Pueblos						
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS							
Paguete	Sha-yai-eea	Jose Angel Seonia Paguate, N.M.							
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.	
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	F.	16	5-5	130	36	32	M
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL	FOR WHAT PERIOD		DATE DISCHARGED			CAUSE OF DISCHARGE			
Oct. 23, 1904	Five years		6-23-'09			Time out			
TO COUNTRY		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS					FROM COUNTRY		

Home Address box for Benjamin Seonia

Parents Living or Dead: This box reflects whether the person's mother and father were alive at time of enrollment. Bear in mind though that this does not necessarily indicate biological parents. It is more indicative of the household the student came from rather than the status of their biological parents.

Blood: Indicates the blood quantum of the person based on the government's calculation.

Age: Indicates the age of the person based on the date when they arrived at the school. Ages of the students who arrived in the 1880's or 1890's were often estimates made by government officials.

Height: This reflects the person's height at the time of enrollment.

Weight: This reflects the person's weight at the time of enrollment.

Forced Insp.: Abbreviation for forced inspiration, a measure of lung capacity when inhaling, used to screen for tuberculosis.

Forced Expr. Abbreviation for forced expiration, a measure of lung capacity when exhaling, used to screen for tuberculosis.

Sex: Indicating a person's sex - "F" for female and "M" for male.

Arrived at School: This is the day the person first physically arrived at the school.

For What Period: The government established rules for how long a student was obligated to attend CIS. Depending on the time in the school's history and on the circumstances, it could have been as little as one year (very rare), three years, or five years (most common).

Date Discharged: This is the date that the student was removed from the school enrollment lists, referred to as the school rolls. This is not necessarily the same day that a student physically left the school campus, though that is one possibility. If a student went home for a summer vacation and did not come back in the fall, or if they left without permission (running away), the school sometimes kept them on the rolls for weeks or even months, expecting that the student might return to the school. Beginning in 1911, the school superintendent was directed to remove a student from the rolls after 30 days.

As an example, this card for Joseph Ross says that he went "on leave" on May 11, 1911, but his date of discharge is June 11, 1911. His cause of discharge is that he "failed to return," so after 30 days, his name was removed from the school rolls.

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL									
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT									
NUMBER 5075		ENGLISH NAME Joseph Ross			AGENCY		NATION Pueblo.		
BAND Siamla Saguna		INDIAN NAME Josiali		HOME ADDRESS Jose Ross Cubero, N. Mex.					
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD F		AGE 24	HEIGHT 5' 7 3/4"	WEIGHT 126	FORCED INSP. 35	FORCED EPXM. 32"	SEX M.
FATHER L		MOTHER L		ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Sept. 18, 1909		FOR WHAT PERIOD Three Years		DATE DISCHARGED June 11, 1911	
TO COUNTRY		PATRON'S NAME AND ADDRESS						FROM COUNTRY	
7-1-'10		Battle field Photo Co., Gettysburg, Pa.						8-19-'10	
10-4-'10		"						11-'10-'10	
5-11-'11		On leave							
THE SHAW-WALKER CO., MUSKOGEE, 79104									

Cause of Discharge: There are a number of different terms that school staff used as shorthand to indicate why a person departed and was removed from the school rolls. Below are the most common examples:

Time Out or Expiration of Term: For many students, the cause of discharge was because their term at the school had ended. In that case, there is a note along the lines of “time out” or “time up” or “time exp” (time expired).

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.									
NUMBER 3307	ENGLISH NAME 1493 Benjamin Seonia Laguna, N. Mex. Pueblo			AGENCY			NATION (over)		
BAND Paquate	INDIAN NAME Sha-yai-eea		HOME ADDRESS Jose Angel Seonia Paquate, N.M.						
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.	
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	F.	16	5-5	130	36	32	M
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Oct. 23, 1904		FOR WHAT PERIOD Five years.		DATE DISCHARGED 6-23-'09		CAUSE OF DISCHARGE Time out.			
TO COUNTRY		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS					FROM COUNTRY		

Benjamin Seonia 1328 Card

Ill health or Sick: One of the other common reasons for leaving was because the student was sick. For at least a portion of the school’s history, if school staff believed that the student might die from the illness but were well enough to make the days long journey home, the student was sent home.

Deserter or Runaway: This is how the school administration described those who left the school without staff permission.

Died or Death: School records indicate that 232 students died while enrolled at the school, and 186 of them were buried onsite in the school cemetery. Occasionally the card will also indicate the cause of death.

Graduated: Roughly 10% of the enrolled students graduated from the school and received a diploma. Most students departed the school shortly after graduating, but not all.

Mother’s Request or Dept. Order: Over 200 students left the school at the request of some member of their family, at their own request, or by direction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Failed to return: This is seen most often in the last decade of the school’s history. By that point, students could request to go “on leave” (go home for the summer), but sometimes those students did not return to the school in the fall as expected. (See Joseph Ross’ card above.)

Transferred: At a few points in the school’s history, students were transferred to other boarding schools, particularly when Carlisle closed in 1918.

Expelled or Unsatisfactory or Incurable: Students could be expelled from the school for breaking a variety of rules, or they might simply have been considered lazy or disobedient by school staff.

Self supporting or To become an employee: Many students were hired by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, so they may have departed Carlisle to go work at a different boarding school, or they have been hired to work at CIS. For example, Mary Bailey became an assistant teacher at the school in 1896.

NUMBER	ENGLISH NAME	AGENCY	NATION					
876	Mary Bailey		Pueblo					
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS						
	Ki-as-se-ta	Socoma						
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	Full	20				7.
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL		FOR WHAT PERIOD		DATE DISCHARGED		CAUSE OF DISCHARGE		
Aug. 4, 1893				Aug. 20, 1896		To become an employee.		
TO COUNTRY		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS				FROM COUNTRY		

Box is left blank: A small number of students have no departure date or reason for departure given. In these cases, there are sometimes clues written elsewhere on the card, either in the lower right or on the back.

To Country: Indicates the day when the student left the school to go on outing.

Patrons Name and Address: This reflects the name of the person hosting the student outing, as well as town, railroad stop, county, and/or state where the outing took place.

While most outings involved students working in a household or on the farm of the patron, there are other cases where students were being sent “out” from the school for a period of time, but they were still formally enrolled at the school. Sometimes they were studying at another institution, like a normal school or a university. Other times, they might be traveling with a school group. A card for Joseph Ross shows that he went with the school band to Long Branch, NJ for a 10-week residency, and also briefly travelled to Philadelphia in October 1908. (See next page)

2904 CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT.									
NUMBER 1162	ENGLISH NAME Howice Seonia	AGENCY Laguna, N. M.	NATION Pueblo						
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS Seonia (Prim.)							
PARENTS LIVING OR DEAD		BLOOD	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	FORCED INSP.	FORCED EXPR.	SEX.	
FATHER, Living		MOTHER, Living	Full	12	4-6	70	28	26	F.
ARRIVED AT SCHOOL Aug. 26, 1896		FOR WHAT PERIOD 5 years -		DATE DISCHARGED Sept. 16 - 1902		CAUSE OF DISCHARGE None up			
TO COUNTRY		PATRONS NAME AND ADDRESS						FROM COUNTRY	
Aug 26, 97		Dr. D. Collins Phil, Pa.						Oct. 19, 99	
June 14, 00		Susanna Sharpless, West Chester, Pa.						Tr.	
Sept. 13, 00		Jos. Lincoln, Rising Sun, Cecil Co., Md.						Apr. 4, '02	
June 14, 02		Jos. J. Currie, Bushtong, N. J.						9-14-02	
SHAW-WALKER MUSKOGON 5178									

That covers the front of the card. On the back of many cards, school staff stamped another set of categories of information. (If there is no image of the back of the card on the CISDRC, assume it was completely blank.) While not always filled in, these include:

Months in School Before Carlisle: Students, especially in the second half of the school's existence, went to other schools before they enrolled at Carlisle. (Mary Seonia is an early example of this.)

Grade Entered at Carlisle: Indicates what grade the student was in when they first enrolled at the school.

Grade at date of Discharge: Indicates what grade the student was in when they departed from Carlisle. If you want to know what their final grade level was, then make sure you are looking at the latest card (if they re-enrolled).

Trade or Industry: Tells us what trade shop or section they worked in. May have changed over time.

Church: Sometimes this reflected the student's general Christian denomination and sometimes it reflected the specific church they went to in the town of Carlisle. (For instance, two Presbyterian churches existed.)

Miles to School: This refers to how far the closest public school was from the student's home. The administration preferred to take people who could not go to public school because it was too far to travel to each day.

Conduct: This is not commonly filled in but seems to reflect the school administration's general opinion of the student's behavior.

As an example of the above description of the backs of 1328 cards, here are Joseph Ross' cards (his first term on the left and his second term on the right):

"Granulated eyelids, lungs weak."
Dr. Diven.

Months in school before Carlisle,

Grade entered at Carlisle,..... 3rd

Grade at date of Discharge,..... 6th

Trade or Industry, *Photographer*

Church, *2nd Presbyterian*

Conduct _____

Brought here by Wm Paisano.

Months in school before Carlisle, *18*

Grade entered at Carlisle, *7th on Read*

Grade at date of Discharge,

Trade or Industry,

Church,..... *2nd Presbyterian*
was photographer
weak lungs. Granu-
lated eyelids.
Miles to sch.

Ed. Ad. Letter 2-9-10.

If we look at both of these cards we can figure out that Ross had 18 months of schooling before he came to CIS, that he entered the school in the 3rd grade initially then left when he was in 6th grade. When he re-enrolled, he placed into 7th grade. We do not know what grade he was in when he left for the final time. Both cards indicate that he was a photographer, though the card on the right does so with an extra note rather than filling out the "Trade or Industry" line. In both terms at the school, Ross was affiliated with the 2nd Presbyterian Church in the town of Carlisle. Neither card gives us information about how school staff rated Ross' conduct, nor do we know how far away Ross' home address was from a public school. There are a few extra comments about his physical health and the note "brought here by Wm Paisano" likely means that Paisano escorted Ross to the school from New Mexico (possibly after recruiting him to attend).

Things Not in a Box—the Marginalia

School staff sometimes wrote extra notes about the student in the margins of the card. Here are a few of the common ones:

Readmitted: If the student had a new card made for their readmission to the school, staff often wrote this in red ink in the upper left corner.

CARLISLE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL			
DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL RECORD OF STUDENT			
NUMBER	ENGLISH NAME	AGENCY	NATION
5075	Joseph Ross		Pueblo.
BAND	INDIAN NAME	HOME ADDRESS	
Shamba		Jose Ross	

Readmitted 3512

Number: In addition to the number field mentioned earlier, there are also sometimes numbers written at the top of the card. We believe that most of the time this refers to the filing system at the National Archives (after the school closed).

“Dead”: Some students have the word “dead” or “Died” written in the top right corner of the card (often in red ink). This indicates that the student either died while they were enrolled or that the school was informed of the person’s death some years after they left the school. If they died while enrolled at the school, that information should also appear in the cause of discharge field.



Pratt 1904 Commentary: As we understand it, around the time Superintendent Pratt left the school he shared information about some former students. We do not know the source of this information so it cannot always be corroborated.

Seeing an Original Card (at the National Archives)

If you are interested in seeing one of these cards in-person, keep track of the location information on the website page on which you found the file.

For instance, if you wanted to see Howice Seonia’s 1328 card, you’ll look at the Repository and Location fields (highlighted in below image).

Search

Search

Find

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Howice Seonia Student File

Student file of Howice Seonia, a member of the Pueblo Nation, who entered the school on August 26, 1896, and departed on September 16, 1902. The file contains a student information card, and a report after leaving indicating Seonia was a housewife living in New Mexico in 1910.

In school documentation Howice Seonia's married name is Howice Marmon (Mrs. R. Marmon or Mrs. Robert G. Marmon).

To view a PDF file of this document, click below. To find more documentation about this person, click on the name after the "People" heading below:

Read Documents: [Howice Seonia Student File](#) 2.85 MB

People:

[Seonia, Howice](#) [Seonia](#) [Collins, Dr. D.](#) [Sharpless, Susanna](#) [Lincoln, Joseph](#)
[Carrie, Joseph J.](#)

Nation: [Pueblo](#) [Pueblo \(Laguna\)](#)

Agency/Reservation of Origin: [Pueblo](#)

Year of Entry: [1896](#)

Document Types in this File: [Report After Leaving](#) [Student Information Card](#)

Repository: National Archives and Records Administration

Location: RG 75, Series 1327, box 58, folder 2904