1910 Census Instructions to Enumerators

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The below text is excerpted on pages 20-27 from the Instructions to The Decennial Census From 1790 to 1940.

Instructions to Enumerators

Section 1—General Population

[20] A", all persons on one space, space for 10 persons on each side, reverse side blanked except for one numbered, then blank for next numbered, a premium was paid concerning the "number longest" of the foreign born. The responses were to be "Number of years in the United States" and "Is the naturalization papers" "Nativity and Mother Tongue".

Instructions to Enumerators

SC Column 1—Number of dwelling house in order of visitation. In cities the first dwelling house you visit must be numbered as "1" the second as "2"and so forth, the numbering to be continued in each ward, completed. The number should always be in order of visitation. In the country, the number should be in each dwelling house, and should be repeated in these persons or other families living in same dwelling house.

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SC Dwelling house defined—A dwelling house, for census purposes, is a place in which or at the side of the census, one or more persons regularly sleep. If more than one family lives in the place, it is still a dwelling house. It is not a factory, store, or office building, or a hotel, or a place of business, but it may be a house in which a boarding or a lodging house is maintained. In counting dwelling houses, or in numbering them, it makes no difference whether a dwelling is occupied or unoccupied, whether it is a tent, a house boat, or a house. In cities the dwellings are numbered in the order in which they are visited, but in the country the dwellings are numbered in each dwelling house, and should be repeated in these persons or other families living in same dwelling house.

Ownership of Home

186. Column 26. Home owned or rented.—This question is to be answered only opposite the name of the head of each family. If a dwelling is occupied by more than one family it is the home of each of them, and the question should be answered with reference to each family in the dwelling. If the home is *owned,* write opposite the name of the head of the family "O." If the home is *rented,* write "R." Make no entries in this column for the other members of the family.

187. Owned homes.—A home is to be classed as *owned* if it is owned wholly or in part by the head of the family living in the home, or by the wife of the head, or by a son, or a daughter, or other *relative* living in the same house with the head of the family. It is not necessary that full payment for the property should have been made or that the family should be the sole owner.

188. Rented homes.—Every home not owned, either wholly or in part, by the family living in it should be classed as *rented,* whether rent is actually paid or not.

189. Column 27. Home owned free or mortgaged.—This question applies only to those homes classed in column 26 as owned homes and not to rented homes. Write "M" for mortgaged and "F" for owned free. These entries should be made opposite the name of the head of the family. All owned homes which are not fully paid for, or upon which there is any encumbrance in the form either of a mortgage or of a lien upon which judgment has been had in a court, are to be reported as mortgaged.

190. Column 28. Farm or house.— This column is intended merely to distinguish farm homes from other homes. If the home is a farm home, write "F" (for farm) opposite the name of the head of the family. If it is not a farm home, write "H" (for house). A farm home is a home located on a farm, for which a farm schedule should be secured. Any other home is to be reported simply as a house.

191. Column 29. Number of farm schedule.—This question applies only to farm homes. If the home is a farm home, enter in this column simply the number of the agricultural schedule filled out for this farm. Make this entry opposite the name of the member of the family operating the farm. Usually this will be the head of the family.

Survivors of the Civil War

192. Column 30. Whether a survivor of the Union or Confederate Army or Navy.—This question should be asked as to all males over 50 years of age who were born in the United States and all foreign born males who immigrated to this country before 1865. Write "UA" if a survivor of the Union Army; "UN" if a survivor of the Union Navy; "CA" if a survivor of the Confederate Army; and "CN" if a survivor of the Confederate Navy. For all other persons leave the column blank.

Blind and Deaf and Dumb Persons

193. Column 31. Whether blind (both eyes).—If a person is either totally or partially blind, in both eyes, so as not to be able to read even with the help of glasses, write "Bl." For all other persons leave the column blank.

194. Columns 32. Whether deaf and dumb.—If a person is *both* deaf and dumb, write "DD." For all other persons leave the column blank. Persons who are deaf but not dumb, or persons who are dumb but not deaf, are not to be reported.

Special Indian Schedule

195. When to be used.—This schedule (Form 8 1857) is a modified form of the general population schedule; it is to be used principally for the enumeration of Indians living on reservations or in tribal relations, and also by the enumerators in certain counties containing a considerable number of Indians.

196. If any copies of this schedule are enclosed in the portfolio for your district, you are required to enumerate thereon all Indian families living in your district, in accordance with the instructions printed upon the schedule itself.

1910 Questionnaire - Indian Population

(23" X 16", printed on two sides, space for 20 entries on each side, reverse side contained continuation of instructions. The top of the questionnaire contained questions 1-28 which were identical with those on the general schedule.)

Instruction for Enumerators: Instructions for Filing this Schedule

This modified form of the general schedule for population is to be used in making the enumeration of Indians, both those on reservations and those living in family groups outside of reservations.

Detached Indians living either in white or negro families outside of reservations should be enumerated on the general population schedule (Form 8-1589) as members of the families in which they are found; but detached whites or negroes living in Indian families should be enumerated on this special Indian schedule as members of the Indian families in which they are found. In other words, every family composed mainly of Indians should be reported *entirely* on this special schedule, and every family composed mainly of persons not Indians should be reported *entirely* on the general population schedule.

Spaces are provided for entries for 20 persons on each side (A and B) of the sheet, the entries for each person running twice to the page. Columns 1 to 46 are to be filled for each individual case, if applicable, according to the instructions.

Columns 1 to 32.—These columns are identical with those on the general population schedule. Fill each column, so far as the inquiry applies, in accordance with the instructions for filling the corresponding column in the general population schedule, but note the following additional instructions in relation to filling columns 1 and 2, column 7, and columns 18 and 19.

Columns 1 and 2. Visitation numbers.—If, in canvassing a given territory, you are using both the general population schedule (Form 8-1589) and this schedule for Indian population, make two independent series of numbers for these columns, one series in each kind of schedule, so that the last number in column 1 on this schedule added to the last number in column 1 on the general population schedule will give the whole number of dwellings visited, and, likewise, the last number in column 2 on this schedule added to the last number in column 2 on the general population schedule will give the whole number of families visited and enumerated in your district.

Column 7. Age at last birthday.—Some difficulty may be met in ascertaining the exact ages of Indians, as they frequently reckon their ages from notable events occurring in the history of the respective tribes. Endeavor to ascertain the years in which these notable events occurred, and with a little calculation on your part you should be able to ascertain the exact age of each Indian.

Columns 18 and 19. Occupation. If the Indian is wholly self-supporting, enter his or her occupation in columns 18 and 19 in accordance with the general instructions for returning occupations. If the Indian—man, woman, or child—has no occupation and is wholly dependent on the Government for support, write "Ration Indian" in column 18. If the Indian is partly self-supporting and partly dependent up the Government, write the occupation in columns 18 and 19, and then the letter "R" (for ration).

Instructions Continued on "B" Side of Sheet. Instructions for Filling this Schedule Continued from "A" Side of Sheet

The following instructions apply to columns 33 to 46:

Columns 33, 34, and 35. Tribal relations. If the Indian was born in this country answers should be obtained, if possible, to inquiries 12, 13, and 14, relating to the state or territory of birth of the person and of his or her parents. In any event, take particular pains to secure the name of the tribe with which the person is connected and the name of the tribe of each of his or her parents, and enter the same in columns 33, 34, and 35.

Columns 36, 37, and 38. Proportions of Indian and other blood.—If the Indian is a full-blood, write "full" in column 36, and leave columns 37 and 38 blank. If the Indian is of mixed blood, write in column 36, 37, and 38 the fractions which show the proportions of Indian and other blood, as (column 36, Indian) 3/4, (column 37, white) 1/4, and (column 38, negro) 0. For Indians of mixed blood all three columns should be filled, and the sum, in each case, should equal 1, as 1/2, 0, 1/2; 3/4, 1/4, 0; 3/4, 1/8, 1/8; etc. Wherever possible, the statement that an Indian is of full blood should be verified by inquiry of the older men of the tribe, as an Indian is sometimes of mixed blood without knowing it.

Column 39. Number of times married.—If the Indian is married, enter in this column the number of times he or she has been married.

Column 40. Whether now living in polygamy.—If the Indian man is living with more than one wife, write "Yes" in this column; otherwise, write "No."

Column 41. If living in polygamy, whether the wives are sisters.—If the Indian man is living with more than one wife, and if his wives are sisters, write "Yes" in this column. If his wives are not sisters, write "No."

Column 42. Graduated from what educational institution.—If the Indian is a graduate of any educational institution, give the name and location of such institution.

Column 43. Is this Indian taxed?—An Indian is to be considered "taxed" if he or she is detached from his or her tribe and is living among white people as an individual, and as such is subject to taxation (whether he or she actually pays taxes or not); or if he or she is living with his or her tribe but has received an allotment of land, and thereby has acquired citizenship. In either of these two cases write "Yes" in this column.

An Indian on a reservation, without an allotment, or roaming over unsettled territory, is considered "not taxed," and for such Indians the answer to this inquiry is "No."

Column 44. If Indian has received allotment, give year of allotment.—If the Indian has received an allotment of land, enter, in column 44, the year in which the allotment was made.

Column 45. Residing on his own lands.—If the Indian lives on his or her own land, write "Yes" in this column; if the Indian lives elsewhere, write "No."

Column 46. Living in civilized or aboriginal dwelling.—If the Indian is living in a house of civilized designs, as a log, frame, brick, or stone house, write "Civ." (for civilized) in this column; but if the Indian is living in a dwelling of aboriginal design, as a tent, tepee, cliff dwelling, etc., write "Abor." (for aboriginal).

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