



PennState
Dickinson Law

Penn State Dickinson Law
Dickinson Law IDEAS

Perspectives on Law School History

Law School History and Archives

11-15-2018

Native American Heritage Month: Dickinson Law's First Native American Students

Pamela G. Smith
Penn State Dickinson Law

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ideas.dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/perspectives-school-history>



Part of the [Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Smith, Pamela G., "Native American Heritage Month: Dickinson Law's First Native American Students" (2018). *Perspectives on Law School History*. 15.
<https://ideas.dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/perspectives-school-history/15>

This Law School Publication is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School History and Archives at Dickinson Law IDEAS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Perspectives on Law School History by an authorized administrator of Dickinson Law IDEAS. For more information, please contact lja10@psu.edu.



YOU ARE HERE: [HOME](#) / [185TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY](#) / [NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: DICKINSON LAW'S FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS](#)

Native American Heritage Month: Dickinson Law's First Native American Students

NOVEMBER 15, 2018 BY [PAMELA G SMITH](#)

185
YEARS
1834 | 2019

November is Native American Heritage Month. Native American Heritage Month began as a weeklong celebration in 1986 and changed to a monthlong celebration in 1990. The month of November was chosen because November signifies the end of the traditional harvest season followed by a period of thanksgiving and celebration. President Donald Trump's

Proclamation for the celebration of Native American Heritage Month in 2018 may be found [here](#).

LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES

[Dickinson Law Library](#)
[Dickinson Law IDEAS](#)
[Research - Quick Start](#)
[Law Research Guides](#)
[Law Databases A-Z](#)

SEARCH

Search this website ...

CATEGORIES

The presence of the Carlisle Indian School attracted several Native American students to Dickinson Law. The first Native American student is believed to have been Samuel Townsend, of the Pawnee Tribe, who attended the Law School in 1893. Hastings M. Robertson was another early Native American student.



Albert Exendine



William Jennings Gardner

Several early Native American Dickinson Law students also played football for the Carlisle Indian School. These students included: Ed Rogers (Chippewa), James Marston Phillips (Cherokee), Gustavus Welch (Chippewa), Albert Andrew Exendine (Delaware), Victor Murat Kelly (Choctaw) and William Jennings Gardner (Chippewa).^[1]

William Jennings Gardner also went on to become one of Eliot Ness' famous Untouchables, the group of agents who took on Al Capone during the Prohibition.

^[1] More information about these individuals may be found in *Doctors, Lawyers, Indian Chiefs* by Tom Benjey.

Share this:



FILED UNDER: 185TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY, DICKINSON LAW, LEGAL HISTORY
TAGGED WITH: AL CAPONE, ALBERT ANDREW EXENDINE, CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL, ED ROGERS, ELIOT NESS, GUSTAVUS A. WELCH, JAMES MARSTON PHILLIPS, PROHIBITION, SAMUEL TOWNSEND, UNTOUCHABLES, VICTOR MURAT KELLY, WILLIAM JENNINGS GARDNER

› [185th Year Anniversary](#)

› [Access Services Tips](#)

› [Collections](#)

› [Databases](#)

› [Dickinson Law](#)

› [Dickinson Law IDEAS](#)

› [Displays](#)

› [Events](#)

› [Legal Education](#)

› [Legal History](#)

› [Legal News](#)

› [Legal Research](#)

› [New Acquisitions](#)

› [Research Tips](#)

› [Services](#)

SUBSCRIBE BY EMAIL

Originally published at <https://sites.psu.edu/keepingitbrief/2018/11/15/native-american-heritage-month-dickinson-laws-first-native-american-students/>