

THE COST OF FREE LAND

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Consider the place in America where you grew up or where you call home. To determine what Nation or Nations once lived and hunted on that land, text the zip code of the location to 907-312-5085 or download the [Native Land](#) app on your phone. To find out if your family received a free federal homestead, visit glorerecords.blm.gov.

Once you know the Nation or Nations connected to your home in America, determine if there was a treaty signed between that Nation and the United States for the land. To find out about specific treaties you can go to arcgis.com or narf.org. To find out more information about why treaties matter, visit: nativegov.org. The National Museum of the American Indian has an incredible exhibit called *Nation to Nation* about treaties: americanindian.si.edu. And, on a related note, visit nativegov.org to learn more about Tribal sovereignty.

To learn more about specific Nations, visit guides.lib.uw.edu, a collection of geographically-organized links to primary sources compiled by the University of Washington; narf.org, a treasure trove of information from The National Indian Law Library; and Turtle Talk, turtletalk.blog, the foremost website for Indian Law, current and ongoing court cases involving Nations, and a great resource.

To research by topic, or to learn more about general federal policies that impacted Indigenous Americans at great benefit to non-Native people:

LAND TAKINGS POST-TREATY ERA

In 1871, the US passed a law ending the signing of treaties with Indigenous Nations in America. In 1903, the *Lone Wolf* Supreme Court decision gave Congress the right to make all decisions on behalf of Native Nations without their consent. Between 1887 and 1934, federal land policies stripped Nations and Native members of ninety million acres (that's the approximate size of nearly all of America's national parks combined). For more on this, see the Indian Land Tenure Fund: iltf.org

FEDERAL BOARDING SCHOOLS

Either pick a boarding school near the place you're from or consider learning about a boarding school where children from the Nation where you were from were sent. Most children were sent far away from home to discourage visits with their families. I'd suggest starting with heard.org from the Heard Museum, and narf.org from the Native American Rights Fund.

Additional resources:

Bureau of Indian Affairs

genoaindianschool.org

IMPACTS OF HYDROPOWER

americanindian.si.edu

indiancountrytoday.com

ncal.org

ATTACKS on the INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT

[*The Nation*, "A Right-Wing Think Tank Is Trying to Bring Down the Indian Child Welfare Act. Why?"](#)

[*This Land*, podcast](#)

LAND GRANT UNIVERSITIES

hcn.org

REPRESENTATION AND STEREOTYPES

illuminatives.org

Before contacting a Nation or Native organization to learn more about how to support their work, consider reading this information about being culturally-sensitive: store.samhsa.gov.

