Personal Ledger – Sitting Bull, 1988

*Personal Ledger – Sitting Bull*, includes leaves from ledger books on which Amiotte drew his versions of the youthful exploits of the great Lakota warrior and chief. Here Amiotte followed Lakota tradition, replicating drawings from the so-called Kimball Pictographic Record, a set of drawings by Sitting Bull’s uncle, Four Horns, in which Four Horns copied some of Sitting Bull’s own drawings of his achievements. When Four Horns copied the drawings, he added a prominent, realistic pictograph of Sitting Bull’s name – a buffalo bull raised up on his hindquarters – behind the seated horseman.

Excerpt from the essay "Giving Voice to the Ancestors Through Art: Hybridity, Memory, and Imagination in Arthur Amiotte's Collage Series" written by Janet Catherine Berlo.