



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the William Vitarelli films of the Western Caroline Islands, 1951-1974

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	William Vitarelli films of the Western Caroline Islands
Identifier:	HSFA.1980.02
Date:	1951-1974
Creator:	Vitarelli, William V.
Extent:	Film reels (3 hours 58 minutes; color silent; 8300 feet)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from William V. Vitarelli in 1980.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

William Vitarelli films of the Western Caroline Islands, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

Silent footage taken by Vitarelli in Micronesia from 1951-1974. Cut and uncut footage. 3,300' is footage of the Modekngai people building their own school (Belau Modekngai School) on Babelthaup Island, Palau Group, Western Caroline Islands in 1974. Other footage includes the Vitarelli family in Micronesia, Saipan, Ponape, Palau, Grotto Marpi, old Abai, new Abai, Yap Day on Yap, Melekiak and Ngersul, Guam, outriggers, dancing, saw mill, Rota, Japan, Ulithi, Falalop, etc. Sync sound annotation made by Vitarelli.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Yapese (Micronesian people)

Cultures:

Yapese (Micronesian people)

Types of Materials:

silent films

Places:

Guam
Micronesia
Oceania
Palau

Container Listing

Footage of the Western Caroline Islands, 1951-1974

Film reels (2 hours 28 minutes; color silent; 5000 feet)

Notes: Footage shot on various atolls and islands by an American who lived in Micronesia for over 20 years. Footage includes scenes of a United Nations Day Fair on Guam, mission schools, bamboo constructions, amphibious aircraft used for supplies and transportation, turtle fishing and turtle egg harvesting, throw-net fishing, tattoo designs, weaving and fabrication of grass skirts, dance, aerial shots of the islands, and construction and operation of a saw mill.

High Commissioner of the Trust Territory: Midkiff ; District Administrator of Palau: Godinez ; Spiritual leader of the Modekngai School: Ngerikabafabg ; High Chief of Palau: Ibedul ; Chief of Eastern Villages of Palau: Reklai ; Dancer: Anna Didil ; Burnet

Legacy Keywords: Dance Kara Kima Nai Matgamatong Ngasar ; Amateur films; Ponape (Federated States of Micronesia) ; Ibobang ; Koror (Palau) ; Peleliu ; Angaur School ; Ngeremglengui (Palau) school ; Molakau Harbor ; Saipan ; Yap (Micronesia) ; Rota (Japan) ; Ulithi (Micronesia) ; Falalop ; Melekiak ; Ngersul ; Abai ; Grotto Marpi ; Oceania ; Micronesia
HSFA 1980.2.1

Building the Belau Modekngai School, 1974

Film reels (90 minutes; color silent; 3300 feet)

Notes: Footage shot of the Modekngai people building a community school on Babelthaup Island, Palau Group, Western Caroline Islands, Micronesia.

HSFA 1980.2.2