



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to the Clement Meighan films, circa 1961-1969

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Human Studies Film Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Clement Meighan films
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1961-1969
<b>Identifier:</b>	HSFA.1998.10
<b>Creator:</b>	Meighan, Clement W. (Clement Woodward), 1925-1997
<b>Extent:</b>	Film reels (16mm)
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Received from Joan Meighan in 1998.

### Preferred Citation

Clement Meighan films, 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.

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## Scope and Contents

Edited and unedited film and outtakes documenting the archeological work of Clement Meighan in Mexico, Peru, Chile, Egypt and Sudan, shot primarily by Joan Meighan. Includes edited films, ROCK ART OF BAJA CALIFORNIA, MOCHICA: MASTERS OF PREHISTORIC CERAMIC ART, and LITTLE HORSES OF THE SEA.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Archaeology  
Excavations (Archaeology)

Types of Materials:

Sound films

Places:

California  
Chile  
North America  
South America

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## Container Listing

Clement Meighan Interview with S.A. Barrett, 1961

2 Film reels (43 minutes; black-and-white sound; 1,549 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Footage of an interview of anthropologist Dr. S.A Barrett (1879-1965), first student to receive his degree under Dr. Alfred Kroeber, by anthropologist Dr. Clement Meighan discussing Barrett's career. Barrett recalls his store-owner father who was the first to allow American Indians to trade inside a store; collecting baskets from these American Indians as a youth to sell to tourists, keeping those that were of particular interest for study; his growing interest in studying American Indians systematically; his opportunity to be Dr. Kroeber's first PhD student in the newly formed anthropology department at the University of California, Berkeley; establishment of the museum at Berkeley (based on Phoebe Hearst's private collection) and the impact of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire on the collections; working under Franz Boas; his research on the Pomo Indians; collecting American Indian artifacts for John Wanamaker; the importance of material culture studies; job opportunities for newly graduated PhDs in anthropology; his research in South America; the National Science Foundation funded project to film the material culture of California Indians; using motion pictures in field work; and collecting older films to document lost arts and crafts. Barrett shows two Pomo baskets that he had given to his mother 65 years earlier. The interview ends as sound only. Film footage shot by Joan Meighan.

HSFA 1998.10.1

Footage of Excavations at Guatacondo, Chile, circa 1969

7 Film reels (2 hours 6 minutes; color silent; 4,538 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Footage of archaeological expedition to the Atacama Desert led by Clement W. Meighan in 1969. Guatacondo lies approximately 90 miles southeast of Iquique in northern Chile. In addition to the Meighans, participants included Dr. Grete Mostny and Patricio Nunez of the National Museum of Natural History in Santiago, Chile; Dr. Christopher Donnan; and Leonard Foote. Assistance on the dig came from the small village of Oficina Victoria, approximately 25 miles west of the site. The film footage, shot by Joan Meighan, focuses mainly on the excavations and artifacts being uncovered.

HSFA 1998.10.2

Footage of Excavations at Arica, Chile, circa 1965

2 Film reels (25 minutes; color silent; 900 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Footage of "pot-hunting" (cemetery looting) in Arica, Chile shot by Joan Meighan.

HSFA 1998.10.7

Rock Paintings of Baja California, 1968

1 Film reel (color sound; 900 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film examines rock paintings at a site in Baja ,California, discoverd in 1975. Film gives a brief introduction to representative rock paintings--petroglyphs and pictographs--throughout the world (Africa, Europe and North America), comparing the style of the Baja paintings with those elsewhere. Paintings are shown in great detail (possibly in Gardner cave) as well as demonstrating a replication of the mixing of pigments used. Narration speculates on the significance of these paintings to the American Indians who painted them.

HSFA 1998.10.8