



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Floyd Henry Wells films, 1958-1977

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Floyd Henry Wells films
Date:	1958-1977
Identifier:	HSFA.1998.21
Creator:	Wells, Floyd Henry
Extent:	27 Film reels (color silent; 26,398 feet; 16mm)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by David McCuiston in 1998.

Processing Information

Titles are supplied by the archivist for untitled films.

Preferred Citation

Floyd Henry Wells 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.

Biographical / Historical

Floyd Henry Wells was a retired insurance salesman and a member of Wally Byam Caravan Club of Airstream trailers.

Scope and Contents

Collection consists of amateur travel film shot in the 1950s-1970s by Floyd Henry Wells.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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

- Automobile travel
- Tourism
- Travel

Types of Materials:

- silent films

Places:

- Australasia
- Caribbean Area
- Central America
- Europe
- Middle East
- North America
- Oceania

Container Listing

Canada: Land of Charm and Beauty, 1958

1 Film reel (color silent; 1787 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island and Cape Breton. Film includes scenic landscapes (Langdale/Bowen Island, Queen Elizabeth Arboretum, Yoho National Park, Yoho Glacier, Twin Falls, Bow Lake, Columbia icefield, Athabasca Falls, Banff, Gaspe, Cape Breton Highlands National Park), urban scenes, fishermen, outdoor garden of religious statuary, light houses, bag pipe players, Canadian Royal Mounted Police and the Lovat Scots, a boag and drum corp.

Legacy Keywords: Recreation ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Fishing ; Parks Canada ; Lighthouses ; Musical instruments ; North America ; Canada ; Nova Scotia

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.7

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: British Columbia, 1958

1 Film reel (color silent; 788 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travels in British Columbia, Canada. Captured are coastal scenic views and landscapes, waterfall and fishing trips.

Legacy Keywords: Recreation ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Fishing ; North America ; Canada ; British Columbia

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.1

Landfalls of the Caribbean and Primitive Surinam, circa 1960

2 Film reels (52 minutes; color silent; 1889 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through the Caribbean including scenic landscapes, cities and villages, dance, local markets and fishing. Wells travelled on the M/s Stella Maris II. Locations filmed include Puerto Rico, Saba St. Kits, Gaudelupe, St. Lucia, Barbados, Paramaribo, Tobago, Trinidad, Grenada, St. Vincent, Dominica, Martinique, Fortress of San Felikpe Del Morrow (San Juan), For Christianvaern, Fort Fleur depee XVIII siecle, and Sam Lord's Castle.

Legacy Keywords: Dance ; Tourism ; Islands ; Monuments ; Landscapes ; Markets ; Fishing ; Caribbean ; Surinam ; Puerto Rico ; Trinidad and Tobago

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.17

Baja Peninsula! The Final Frontier!, circa 1960

1 Film reel (42 minutes; color silent; 1519 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicles travel with a Wally Byam club down the Baja Peninsula. Film documents scenic landscapes, road signs and natural wonders along the Baja Pen and scenes of cities, town, churches and markets in Mexico. Film also captures local peoples including Mexican bands and dancers and a bakery

with an outdoor stone oven. Some identified locations include Ensenada, Rancho Santa Ynez, El Presidente (motor lodges), Santa Rosalia, Tropic of Cancer, La Paz, Alamos, El Caracol and the Hotel los Portales. Film is narrated by his wife, Ruth Wells, who identifies many of the locations and events depicted with some historic comments or trivia. Wells also comments on various issues of importance to travelling by an Airstream trailer such as water sources and etiquette.

Legacy Keywords: Recreation ; Tourism ; Architecture Religious ; Music Mexico ; Dance ; Food preparation Mexico ; Landscapes ; Dance ; Central America ; Mexico ; Baja California (Mexico : Peninsula)

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.22

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Hawaii, 1960

2 Film reels (37 minutes; color silent; 1334 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Travel film footage of Hawaii. (There are no Airstream trailers in this film footage.) Ship arrives at Honolulu Harbor, Oahu, (tourists on ship wearing leis waving, band and singer welcoming visitors to pier nine, and Aloha Clock Tower); various Hawaiian dances performed for tourists; Pan Am prop plane taking off at airport; various views of Honolulu from above and at street level, ocean beach scenes; Kamehameha Day parade (military marching, military band, women dressed in black; floats Mamalahoa Kanawai, the Law of the Splintered Paddle, speed boat, and island floats with Hawaiian dancers, each led by royal pa'u riders). On the Big Island travelers view devastation of a natural disaster (homes crushed, furniture scattered outside homes and stores, cars and boats upended and crushed, and damaged Catholic Church St. Peter Kahaluu). Footage then concentrates on volcanic activity with a visit to 1950 Kaapuna Flow (black beach, holding piece of soft pumice like lava, and volcano with steam from the crater) and Byron Ledge, the rim between Kilauea and Kilauea Iki Volcanoes. Wells included three purchased films of volcanic eruptions: "Pele Comes Back to Puna, Phase 1," "Kilauea Iki's Rebirth and Fountains, Phase 2," and "Pele On a Rampage at Puna, Phase 3." Each film includes much nighttime footage of erupting fountains, gigantic steam blasts, lava rivers, lava flow reaching the ocean, and some daytime footage capturing the smoke and burning lava flows of the 1960 Puna area volcanic eruptions. Also shown is the nearby town of Kapoho which was evacuated. Film ends with travel to Kauai Island visiting such sites as Hanapepe Valley; Waimea Canyon; and Spouting Horn, a blow hole, with filming of lovely landscapes along the way (falls, plowed fields, river, and beach) and brief view of a sugar cane processing plant. Film footage contains aerial views of Hawaii.

Legacy Keywords: Lava ; Parade floats ; Dance Hula Hawaiian ; Mountains Hawaii ; Formations (Geology) Hawaii ; Honolulu (Hawaii) ; United States ; Kilauea Volcano (Hawaii.) ; Oceania

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.2

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Australia, 1960
2 Film reels (color silent; 1076 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travels through Australia: scenic and aerial views, animals (birds, platypus, kangaroos, wallabies, wallaroos, Taronga Zoological Park), Queen Elizabeth Look-out, air field, King's College, Hayman Island, resort, beaches, trolley, open air cooking and buffet, fishing boat, recreation, Australian War Memorial, Canberra Olympic pool, Princes Bridge, R.S.L. Park War Veterans Home and Canberra.

Legacy Keywords: Tourism ; Recreation ; Landscapes ; Aerial views ; Coastlines ; Animals ; Zoos ; Cities and towns ; Oceania ; Australia

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.3

South Sea Islands, 1960
2 Film reels (39 minutes; color silent; 1411 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travels through Tahiti, Fiji and Samoa including scenic views, dance and martial arts displays, cruise ship Mariposa, shipboard activities, underwater photography, collecting sponge or coral, lagoon, market, harbor scenes, outriggers and urban scenes.

Legacy Keywords: Dance ; Tourism ; Recreation ; Cruise ships ; Landscapes ; Martial arts ; Dance ; Leisure ; Coral ; Oceania ; Tahiti ; Fiji ; Samoa

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.4

New Zealand Holiday, 1960
1 Film reel (19 minutes; color silent; 700 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through New Zealand including scenic views, urban scenes, beaches, Puhoi Hotel, Lyttelton and Diamond Harbors, marina, fishing, Wairakei Geyser Valley, geysers, Teohowhiti-atu archway, Maori Reserve and indigenous peoples, and motor camping (Rainbow Springs Motor Camp).

Legacy Keywords: Camping ; Outdoor recreation ; Cities and towns ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Geysers New Zealand ; Fishing ; Oceania ; New Zealand ; Maori (New Zealand people)

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.5

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Canadian Coast, 1961
1 Film reel (20 minutes; color silent; 732 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel along the Redwood Highway including coastal scenic landscapes, forests, Fraser Canyon, bridges (Capilano Suspension bridge), boats, crafts and totem poles.

Legacy Keywords: Tourism ; Landscapes ; Totem poles ; Highways ; Bridges ; Forests Canada ; Canyons Canada ; North America ; Canada

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.6

Floyd H. Wells Travel Footage: Mexico, 1962
2 Film reels (color silent; 1590 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Travel footage of Mexico.

Legacy Keywords: Archaeology Mexico ; Churches Catholic Mexico ; Central America ; Mexico ; Taxco (Guerrero, Mexico) ; Acapulco (Mexico)

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.8

Highroaders Caravan to Central America, circa 1962

3 Film reels (1 hour 39 minutes; color silent; 3570 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling an airstream caravan through Central America (Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Costa Rica). Film includes many views of scenic landscapes, mountain roads, cities and villages, ruins (Kabah, Uxmal, Dzibichaltun, Chichen Itza) and historic landmarks and airstream trailers travelling or in recreational vehicle parks. In Guatemala they visit the villages Solola and Panajachel near Lake Atitlan and the town of Antigua. Scenes also include marketplaces, churches and church-life, a woman weaving, local crafts, washing clothing at public fountains.

Legacy Keywords: Outdoor recreation ; Tourism ; Archaeology Mexico ; Mountains ; Landscapes ; Markets Mexico ; Central America ; Mexico ; Guatemala ; El Salvador ; Costa Rica ; Panama

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.13

The Panama Canal, circa 1966

1 Film reel (color silent; 1030 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film produced by Bay State Film Productions Incorporated, Springfield, Boston. Film documents the Panama Canal.

Legacy Keywords: Shipping ; Ships ; Locks Panama ; Canals ; Transportation ; Ports Panama ; Central America ; Panama ; Panama Canal (Panama)

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.12

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Norway and Denmark, 1966

1 Film reel (color silent; 1734 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through Norway and Denmark including scenic landscapes, architecture, monuments, markets and shops. They also film Laplanders, traditional tent-like nomadic tents and reindeer and a Norwegian traditional dance. Locations film in Norway include monument to Hamlet, the Little Mermaid monument, Fantoft Stavkiree, Tyin Hotel, Valdries Folkmuseum, Hammerfest and in Denmark locations include Rebild Nationalpark, Lincoln Log cabin, Priviligeret KRO Hvidsten, Rosenholm Brohuset, Gamle Biler Paaegestkov and Marienlyst.

Legacy Keywords: Reindeer ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Markets ; Shops ; Dance ; Europe ; Norway ; Denmark ; ; Sami (European people)

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.14

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Sweden and Finland, 1966

1 Film reel (color silent; 1381 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travels in Sweden and Finland including scenic landscapes, architecture, monuments, outdoor fruit and food markets, an ancient Roman site, sculpture garden, large stadium complex, local farms and castles. Film also includes artisans, potter, Swedish musicians and dancers, and Finnish traditional costume.

Legacy Keywords: Dance ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Farms ; Gardens ; Markets ; Ruins ; Clothing and dress ; Europe ; Sweden ; Finland

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.15

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Austria, Italy, Portugal, 1966

1 Film reel (color silent; 970 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through Austria, Italy and Portugal including scenic landscapes and historic monuments.

Legacy Keywords: Historic sites ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Europe ; Austria ; Italy ; Portugal

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.16

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Maui, 1971

1 Film reel (color silent; 497 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through Maui, Hawaii, including scenic landscapes, natural wonders, and local monuments. Locations and landmarks filmed include Hale Pau Hana Resort, Lahaina, Pioneer Inn, Bark Carthaginian Whaling Museum, IAO Valley state park, IAO Needle, Kaahumanu church, Haleakala Crater/Summit in Haleakala National Park, Leleiwi Overlook, Hookipa Park, Kaulanapueo church, Keanais Church, Seven Sacred Pools and Hana Beach Park.

Legacy Keywords: Recreation ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Parks ; Monuments Hawaii ; Oceania ; Maui (Hawaii) ; Hawaii

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.18

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Great Britain, 1973

2 Film reels (67 minutes; color silent; 2411 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling trailer travels through Great Britain including scenic landscapes, cities and towns, historic sites, ruins and monuments. Locations filmed include London (Big Ben, Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, Picadilly), Salisbury Cathedral, Stonehenge, Lions of Longleat (African animal park), Bath, Bourton on the Water, Stratford Upon Avon, Warwick castle, North Wales, Gaer Hyfryd (caravan club site), Ruthin Castle, Chester, the Lake District, Bowness,

Stock Lake Car Park, Grasmere Village, Northfield Hotel, Hadrian's Wall, Mary Queen of Scott's House, Abbots Ford, Sir Walter Scott Burial Ground, Edinburgh Castle, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Blair Castle, Queens View, Falls of Dochart, Meadowbank Sports Centre, Lindisfarne Castle, Richmond Castle, York, St. Leonards Hospital and Shambles.

Legacy Keywords: Historic sites ; Tourism ; Ruins England ; Castles England ; Cathedrals England ; Landscapes ; Europe ; Great Britain

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.19

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Israel, 1977

1 Film reel (29 minutes; color silent; 1069 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through Israel including landmarks of interest to Judeo-Christian and Islamic traditions, ruins and scenic landscapes. Locations filmed include Dagon Museum, Bahai Holy Place, Beth'shearim, tierias, Capharnaum, and Mizpe gadot.

Legacy Keywords: Architecture Religious ; Tourism ; Ruins ; Architecture Religious ; Landscapes ; Middle East ; Israel

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.20

Floyd Henry Wells Travel Film: Greek Islands, 1977

1 Film reel (25 minutes; color silent; 910 feet; 16mm)

Notes: Edited film chronicling travel through the Greek Islands including scenic views, ancient ruins and landmarks. Locations filmed include Hadrian's Arch, Temple of Zeus, Acropolis, Parthenon.

Legacy Keywords: Architecture, Greek ; Ruins Greece ; Tourism ; Landscapes ; Archaeology ; Europe ; Greece

Local Number: HSFA 1998.21.21