



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Dennis McCarthy photographs of Seri people and artifacts, 1970-1983

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National Anthropological Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Dennis McCarthy photographs of Seri people and artifacts
<b>Date:</b>	1970-1983
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.PhotoLot.86-27
<b>Creator:</b>	McCarthy, Dennis
<b>Extent:</b>	28 Color prints
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Donated by Dennis McCarthy, 1983.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs of Seri people can be found in the National Anthropological Archives in Photo Lot 87-38, Photo Lot 89, Photo Lot 24, and the BAE historical negatives.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs of Seri people can be found in the National Museum of the American Indian Archives in the Edward Harvey Davis Photograph Collection, Alanson Buck Skinner Photograph Collection, and George W. Avery photographs and negatives.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

The Department of Anthropology holds examples of Seri basketry.

### Preferred Citation

Photo Lot 86-27, Dennis McCarthy photographs of Seri people and artifacts, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

## Biographical Note

Dennis McCarthy was a public service officer in Arizona, where he worked as State Parks Director, Historic Preservation Officer, and Natural and Cultural Resources and Urban Lands Planner for the State Land Department. He started visiting Seri fishing camps on Tiburon Island in 1968 and later made contact with the Seri at Punta Chueca. In his personal reflections, he reports having "become captivated" with their artwork, particularly wood carvings and basketry.

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## Scope and Contents

Photographs of Seri artifacts and craftspeople, probably made by Dennis McCarthy. They include images of wood carvings, baskets, a violin and bow, rasp and scraper, toy cradle, and necklace, as well as a man, probably Dennis McCarthy, with a basket maker, violin maker, and a saleswoman. The prints are mounted on unbound album pages, which also include a note on McCarthy's interest in the Seri, a resume, and a bibliography.

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## Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 86-27

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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:

- Baskets
- Comcaac (Seri)
- Indians of Mexico
- Musical instruments
- Wood-carving

### Cultures:

- Comcaac (Seri)
- Indians of Mexico