



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

Museum of the American Indian/Heye
Foundation ethnographic film collection

Annie Schweikert

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National Museum of the American Indian
4220 Silver Hill Rd
Suitland 20746-2863
nmaiarchives@si.edu
<http://nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Scope and Contents note.....	3
Arrangement note.....	3
Historical Note.....	2
Names and Subjects	4
Container Listing	6
Series 1: Films Produced by the Museum of the American Indian, 1923-1927.....	6
Series 2: Films Acquired by the Museum of the American Indian, 1924-1928.....	13
Series 3: Documentation of Museum of the American Indian Activities, 1917-1938.....	15
Series 4: Paper Records of the Ethnographic Film Collection.....	18

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of the American Indian
Title:	Museum of the American Indian/Heye Foundation ethnographic film collection
Identifier:	NMAI.AC.001.001
Date:	1917-1938
Extent:	147 motion picture films 25 videocassettes (digital betacam) 58 electronic discs (dvd)
Creator:	Cadzow, Donald A., 1894-1960 Cattell, Owen Coffin, Edwin F. (Edwin Francis), b. 1883 Ford, James B., 1844-1928 Gilmore, Melvin R. (Melvin Randolph), 1868-1940 Hendricks-Hodge Expedition (1917-1923). Heye, George G. (George Gustav), 1874-1957 Landini, Louis Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation Wildschut, William
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Provenance

This collection was originally part of the MAI Archives at Audobon Terrace in New York City. Title and custody of the collections were formally transferred to NMAI in 1990. Upon completion of the NMAI Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, MD, the collection was physically transferred to the NMAI Archive Center in 1998.

The materials in Series 1: Films Produced by the Museum of the American Indian, Series 3: Documentation of Museum of the American Indian Activities, and Series 4: Paper Records of the Ethnographic Film Collection were produced by the MAI and its agents, while the material in Series 2: Films Acquired by the Museum of the American Indian was purchased from or presented as a gift by outside agents.

Location of Originals

The film reels, video, and DVDs in this collection are successive duplicates of original 35mm reels made between 1917-1938. The original nitrate reels were presumably discarded in 1961-1962, when they were found to have deteriorated beyond repair. Some 35mm prints made on other stock between 1917-1938 survive within the collection, though with (nitrate) titles removed.

Before being discarded, the original 35mm reels were transferred onto 16mm safety stock by the Museum of the American Indian with a grant from the National Science Foundation. In this process some reels were edited; thus, no full photographic record remains of those original negatives. Known edits are noted at the subseries/title level.

Processing Information

Processed by Annie Schweikert, Archives Intern in 2015.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Museum of the American Indian Ethnographic Film Collection, Call Number; National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Access to NMAI Archive Center collections is by appointment only, Monday–Thursday, 9:30 am–4:30 pm. Please contact the archives to make an appointment (phone: 301-238-1400, email: nmaiarchives@si.edu).

Ceremonial images are restricted due to cultural sensitivity. Consult the archivist for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish or broadcast materials from the collection must be requested from National Museum of the American Indian Archive Center. Please submit a written request to nmaiarchives@si.edu.

Historical Note

The Museum of the American Indian/Heye Foundation was founded by George Gustav Heye in 1908 as a repository for his extensive collection of American Indian artifacts. Through the MAI, Heye funded extensive archaeological and anthropological fieldwork throughout the Americas. This collection represents a series of ethnographic films made in the course of MAI expeditions throughout the Western and Southwestern United States, as well as similar films purchased by the museum. The films record a variety of American Indian traditions, including crafts, foodways, games, and ceremonies, and were spurred by the era's perception of Native communities as "fast-disappearing" and vulnerable to dramatic change. The activities recorded range from quotidian to highly culturally sensitive, as followed Heye's all-encompassing collecting strategy.

The MAI's motion picture expeditions took place between 1923 and 1927 and were carried out by a number of agents of the museum, usually in the course of gathering artifacts. Many of these agents were anthropologists accompanied by professional photographers, but other footage is amateur. The MAI treated the series in full as technical educational material, noting in their 1962 motion picture film catalog that "they are not suitable for general entertainment."

The moving image collection of the MAI included these self-produced films as well as similar films purchased by the museum and film shot in the course of the museum's activities, including documentation of archaeological digs, staff, and Native visitors. In 1961-1962, recognizing the educational potential of its collection, the MAI received a grant from the National Science Foundation to transfer the original

deteriorating nitrate prints to safety film, discarding film and editing prints in the process. In 2012-2014, the National Museum of the American Indian completed a transfer of the titles to Digital Betacam and DVD formats, combining footage from both original and 1961-1962-era prints to salvage as much content as possible. This work was completed with funding from the National Film Preservation Foundation, Save America's Treasures, and the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund.

Scope and Contents

This collection of films produced and acquired by the Museum of the American Indian (MAI) contains materials created by and for the MAI as ethnographic studies and as documentation of its own activities (including archaeological expeditions and cultural exchanges) between 1917 and 1938. Tribes represented include: Arikara, Crow, Navajo, Pilaga, Pueblo, Shoshone, and Zuni. Also included is footage of Hidatsa representatives and Zuni translators in Washington, D.C. and at the MAI; footage of MAI founder and director George Gustav Heye; and footage of the Hawikku (Hawikuh) and Kechipauan archaeological sites, Zuni Pueblo, New Mexico. The collection consists mainly of successive 16mm and 35mm negative film duplicates and prints of now-destroyed original 35mm nitrate negatives. Series 4 gathers paper records directly pertaining to the collection. Preservation copies of the films exist on 35mm polyester film and Digital Betacam video tape. Access copies are available on DVDs.

The first series in this collection includes film, video, and DVD duplicates of ethnographic films funded, overseen, and filmed by agents of the MAI throughout the Western and Southwestern United States. The second series includes ethnographic films acquired rather than produced by the MAI of the Navajo and Pilaga. The third series consists of film produced by the MAI documenting its own activities, including an excavation at Hawikuh and Kechipauan, New Mexico; footage of MAI founder and director George Gustav Heye; and footage of Native visitors to the MAI and to Washington, D.C.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into four series and chronologically within each series. Included are Series 1: Films Produced by the Museum of the American Indian, 1923-1927; Series 2: Films Acquired by the Museum of the American Indian, 1923-1924; Series 3: Documentation of Museum of the American Indian Activities, 1917-1938; and Series 4: Paper Records of the Ethnographic Film Collection. Titles within subseries are generally arranged alphabetically, with unrestricted titles listed before those restricted due to culturally sensitive content.

Within the collection, each unit of motion picture film (reel, videotape, or DVD) is assigned an identifying number. In this system, the final four appended numbers correspond to a title and a format. The full identifying number will appear as such: NMAI.AC.001.001.XX.YY, where XX corresponds to a numbered title and YY indicates the format of the print, as follows:

- 01: 35mm print (1917–1938, circa the original film dates)
- 02: 16mm dupe neg (made circa 1961 from XX.01 35mm)
- 03: 16mm print (from XX.02 for release, circa 1961)
- 04: 16mm print (from XX.02 for file/work or research, circa 1961)
- 05: 35mm dupe neg (preservation copy, made 2012–2014 from XX.01 and XX.02)
- 06: 35mm answer print (made 2012-2014 from XX.05)

07: Digital Betacam (preservation copy, made 2012-2014 from XX.06)

08, 09, 10 (if applicable): DVD (access copy, made 2012-2014 from XX.06)

11 and up: other copies and prints (see title-level notes for explanations)

Thus, for instance, the item with the number NMAI.AC.001.001.02.03 is the 16mm release print copy of the title "Deerskin Tanning and Wrapping the Leggings."

The content of each print or negative corresponding to the same title (XX) may be identical or similar. The content of the 1917-1938-era 35mm prints and the 1960s-era 16mm films differ. As the 35mm prints had deteriorated, damaged footage was removed prior to producing the 16mm negatives. After the 16mm negatives were produced, nitrate intertitles and additional damaged footage were also removed from the 35mm prints. The 2012-2014-era 35mm films were made by combining the existing 35mm prints with footage from the 16mm negatives in order to restore the most complete existing content to its highest possible quality. The Digital Betacam and DVD copies reproduce this restored footage.

This preservation and restoration effort was made possible by funding from the National Film Preservation Foundation, Save America's Treasures, and the Smithsonian Collections Care and Preservation Fund, as well as support from the National Museum of the American Indian.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- A:shiwi (Zuni)
- Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
- Archaeological expeditions
- Archeology -- Hawikuh -- New Mexico
- Diné (Navajo)
- Ethnological expeditions
- Excavations (Archaeology)
- Indians of North America
- Indians of North America -- Antiquities
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Indians of North America -- Rites and ceremonies
- Indians of North America -- Social life and customs
- Indians of North America -- Southwest
- Indians of South America
- Minitari (Hidatsa)
- Pilagá
- Sahnish (Arikara)
- San Ildefonso Pueblo
- Shoshone

Cultures:

- A:shiwi (Zuni)
- Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)
- Diné (Navajo)
- Indians of North America
- Minitari (Hidatsa)

Pilagá
Sahnish (Arikara)
San Ildefonso Pueblo
Shoshone

Names:

Chaves, Lorenzo
Drags Wolf
Foolish Bear
Heye, Thea
Mandan, Arthur
Waihusiwa

Container Listing

Series 1: Films Produced by the Museum of the American Indian, 1923-1927

21 videocassettes (digital betacam)

119 Film reels

47 electronic discs (dvd)

Series 1: Films Produced by the Museum of the American Indian includes film, video, and DVD duplicates of ethnographic films funded, overseen, and filmed by agents of the MAI throughout the Western and Southwestern United States. The following film subseries are represented: Ethnographic Films of the Zuni Indians, 1923, funded by James B. Ford, filmed by Owen Cattell, and assisted by Donald A. Cadzow and Lorenzo Chaves (Zuni); Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, 1923 (unattributed); Arikara Indians of North Dakota, 1924, filmed under Melvin R. Gilmore and by MAI photographer Edwin Francis Coffin; and Crow Indians of Montana and Shoshone Indians of Wyoming, both 1927, filmed under William Wildschut.

1.1: Ethnographic Films of the Zuni Indians, 1923

19 electronic discs (dvd)

66 Film reels

11 videocassettes (digital betacam)

In 1961, the 16mm negatives (XX.02) in this subseries were cut to match the approved, edited File/Work Print (XX.04) of each title; the unspliced Release Print (XX.03) was then taken from the cut negative. Thus, the salvaged 35mm print (XX.01) is the closest record to the title's original 35mm negative.

Though titles within this collection's subseries are generally arranged alphabetically (given a lack of exact dates), "The Land of the Zuni and Community Work" clearly serves as an overview of the Zuni films and was thus placed at the beginning of the subseries. Unrestricted titles are listed before those restricted due to culturally sensitive content.

Ceremonial images are restricted due to cultural sensitivity. Consult the archivist for further information.

Culture: A:shiwí (Zuni)

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Item 01.01-01.07 | The Land of the Zuni and Community Work, 1923
<i>6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)</i>
<i>1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 16 minutes, 52 seconds (at 16 frames per second))</i>
Original file call number: 3001. |
| Item 02.01-02.09 | Deerskin Tanning and Wrapping the Leggings, 1923
<i>6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)</i>
<i>1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 9 minutes, 39 seconds at 18 frames per second)</i>
<i>2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 9 minutes, 39 seconds at 18 frames per second)</i>
Original file call number: 3004. |
| Item 03.01-03.09 | Hairwashing, 1923 |

- 6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). 03.01 is particularly weak.; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 3 minutes, 48 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 3 minutes, 48 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3005.
- Item 04.01-04.09 Making Adobe Bricks and House Building, 1923
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 8 minutes, 43 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 8 minutes, 43 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3010.
- Item 05.01-05.09 Oven Building and Bread Baking, 1923
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 14 minutes, 58 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 14 minutes, 58 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3008.
- Item 06.01-06.08 Paper Bread (Hewe) Making and Corn Grinding
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 11 minutes, 53 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 11 minutes, 53 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). 06.01 is particularly weak.
Handwritten note on 06.02 original can: "Cut for release prints."; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3002.
- Item 07.02-07.04,
07.07-07.09 Pottery Making, 1923
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 26 minutes, 23 seconds at 18 frames per second)
3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm film reels)
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 26 minutes, 23 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3007.
- Item 08.01,
08.05-08.06 Pottery Making, Part I, 1923
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3007.
- Item 09.01,
09.05-09.06 Pottery Making, Part II, 1923
3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3007.
- Item 15.01-15.09 Weaving a Blanket, 1923

- 2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 7 minutes, 30 seconds at 18 frames per second)*
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 15.02 original can: "Cut for release prints."; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 7 minutes, 30 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3009.
- Item 10.02-10.04,
10.07-10.09 RESTRICTED: The Rain Ceremony, 1923
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 19 minutes, 20 seconds at 18 frames per second)
3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 16mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 19 minutes, 20 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3003.

Restricted due to cultural sensitivity.
- Item 11.01,
11.05-11.06 RESTRICTED: The Rain Ceremony, Part I, 1923
3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). 11.01 is particularly weak.; 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3003. Original can for 11.01 gives subtitle "The Pilgrimage to the Sacred Spring."

Restricted due to cultural sensitivity.
- Item 12.01,
12.05-12.06 RESTRICTED: The Rain Ceremony, Part II, 1923
3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). 12.01 is particularly weak.; 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3003.

Restricted due to cultural sensitivity.
- Item 13.01-13.09 RESTRICTED: The Salt Lake Ceremony, 1923
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 14 minutes, 13 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 13.02 original can: "Cut for release prints."; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 14 minutes, 13 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3011.

Restricted due to cultural sensitivity.
- Item 14.01-14.09 RESTRICTED: The Santo Ceremony, 1923
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 5 minutes, 37 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 14.02 original can: "Cut for release prints."; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 5 minutes, 37 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3006.

Restricted due to cultural sensitivity.

1.3: Pueblo Indians of New Mexico, 1923

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*)

2 Film reels

2 electronic discs (*cd*)

The 16mm research (file/work) prints (XX.04) in this subseries were edited in 1961; however, their corresponding negatives (XX.02) were not subsequently cut to match the research prints and remain in the continuity of the 35mm prints (XX.01) from which they were processed.

Item 17.02, 17.04,
17.07-17.09

Marie, the Pottery Maker of San Ildefonso, 1923

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*) (Duration 5 minutes, 6 seconds at 24 frames per second)

2 electronic discs (*dvd*) (Duration 5 minutes, 6 seconds at 24 frames per second)

2 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 1 print (both MOS). Handwritten note on 17.02 original can: "Cut to match research print."; 2 16mm film reels)

Original file call number: 3106.

1.4: Arikara Indians of North Dakota, 1924

5 videocassettes (*digital betacam*)

15 electronic discs (*dvd*)

24 Film reels

Gilmore, Melvin R. (Melvin Randolph), 1868-1940

Coffin, Edwin F. (Edwin Francis), b. 1883

The 16mm research (file/work) prints (XX.04) in this subseries were edited in 1961; however, their corresponding negatives (XX.02) were not subsequently cut to match the research prints and remain in the continuity of the 35mm prints (XX.01) from which they were processed.

Unrestricted titles are listed before those restricted due to culturally sensitive content.

Ceremonial images are restricted due to cultural sensitivity. Consult the archivist for further information.

Culture: Sahnish (Arikara)

Item 26.01-26.02,
26.04, 26.07-26.10

Hand Game of the Arikara Indians of North Dakota, 1924

3 Film reels (1 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 26.02 original can: "Almost matches research print."; 2 16mm and 1 35mm film reels)
3 electronic discs (*dvd*) (Duration 6 minutes, 11 seconds at 24 frames per second)

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*) (Duration 6 minutes, 11 seconds at 24 frames per second)

Original file call number: 3102.

Item 27.02, 27.04,
27.07-27.10

Twine and Moccasin Making by the Arikara Indians of North Dakota, 1924

- 3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 2 minutes, 39 seconds at 24 frames per second)*
2 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 1 print (both MOS). Handwritten note on 27.02 original can: "Scenes only. Not cut to match research print."; 2 16mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 2 minutes, 39 seconds at 24 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3109.
- Item 18.04 RESTRICTED: The Sage Dance, The Holy Cedar Tree Ceremony, The Mother Corn Ceremony, 1924
1 Film reel (1 print (MOS). Compilation reel.; 1 16mm film reel)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 19.07-19.10 RESTRICTED: The Sage Dance, 1924
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 19 minutes, 17 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 19 minutes, 17 seconds at 18 frames per second; Cassette is a preservation copy of a duplicate film reel. The original 35mm nitrate film reel has been destroyed.)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 20.01-20.02,
20.05-20.06 RESTRICTED: The Sage Dance, Part I, 1924
4 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 20.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm, 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 21.01-21.02,
21.05-21.06 RESTRICTED: The Sage Dance, Part II, 1924
4 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 21.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm, 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 22.07-22.10 RESTRICTED: The Holy Cedar Tree Ceremony, 1924
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 27 minutes, 32 seconds 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 27 minutes, 32 seconds 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 23.01-23.02,
23.05-23.06 RESTRICTED: The Holy Cedar Tree Ceremony, Part I, 1924
4 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS).; 1 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 24.01-24.02,
24.05-24.06 RESTRICTED: The Holy Cedar Tree Ceremony, Part II, 1924
4 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 24.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3101.
- Item 25.01-25.02,
25.07-25.10 RESTRICTED: The Mother Corn Ceremony, 1924

2 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 1 print (both MOS). Handwritten note on 25.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm, 1 35mm film reel)
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 16 minutes, 00 seconds at 16 frames per second)

Original file call number: 3101.

1.5: Crow Indians of Montana, 1927

3 videocassettes (digital betacam)

9 electronic discs (dvd)

15 Film reels

Wildschut, William

In 1961, the 16mm negatives (XX.02) in this subseries were cut to match the approved, edited File/Work Print (XX.04) of each title; the unspliced Release Print (XX.03) was then taken from the cut negative. Thus, the salvaged 35mm print (XX.01) is the closest record to the title's original 35mm negative.

Unrestricted titles are listed before those restricted due to culturally sensitive content.

Ceremonial images are restricted due to cultural sensitivity. Consult the archivist for further information.

Culture: Apsáalooke (Crow/Absaroke)

Item 28.01-28.10 Skin Dressing and Hide Tanning Process of the Crow Indians, 1927
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 6 minutes, 52 seconds at 18 frames per second)
6 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 28.02 original can: "Cut for making prints."; 3 16mm and 3 35mm film reels)
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 6 minutes, 52 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3013.

Item 29.02-29.04 RESTRICTED: Sweat Lodge Ceremony, Miniature Sweat Lodge Ceremony, 1927
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 29.02 original can: "Cut for release prints."; 3 16mm film reels)
Original file call number: 3012.

Item 30.01,
30.05-30.09 RESTRICTED: Sweat Lodge Ceremony, 1927
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 11 minutes, 41 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 11 minutes, 41 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3012.

Item 31.01,
31.05-31.10 RESTRICTED: Miniature Sweat Lodge Ceremony, 1927

3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 6 minutes, 13 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 6 minutes, 13 seconds at 18 frames per second)
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
 Original file call number: 3012.

1.6: Shoshone Indians of Wyoming, 1927

9 Film reels
2 electronic discs (dvd)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam)

Wildschut, William

In 1961, the 16mm negatives (XX.02) in this subseries were cut to match the approved, edited File/Work Print (XX.04) of each title; the unspliced Release Print (XX.03) was then taken from the cut negative. Thus, the salvaged 35mm print (XX.01) is the closest record to the title's original 35mm negative.

Ceremonial images are restricted due to cultural sensitivity. Consult the archivist for further information.

Culture: Shoshone

- Item 32.02-32.04 RESTRICTED: Sun Dance Ceremony of the Shoshone Indians, 1927
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 32.02 original can: "Cut for making prints."; 3 16mm film reels)
 Original file call number: 3014.
- Item 33.01,
 33.05-33.06 RESTRICTED: Sun Dance Ceremony of the Shoshone Indians, Part I, 1927
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 20 minutes, 52 seconds at 18 frames per second)
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 20 minutes, 52 seconds at 18 frames per second)
 Original file call number: 3014.
- Item 34.01,
 34.05-34.06 RESTRICTED: Sun Dance Ceremony of the Shoshone Indians, Part II, 1927
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 3 35mm film reels)
 Original file call number: 3014.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Films Acquired by the Museum of the American Indian, 1924-1928

2 videocassettes (*digital betacam*)

6 electronic discs (*dvd*)

5 Film reels

Series 2: Films Acquired by the Museum of the American Indian includes ethnographic films acquired rather than produced by the MAI. The following film subseries are represented: Navajo Indians, 1923 (unattributed); and Pilaga Indians of Argentine, sold to the Museum by Louis Landini in 1924. (*While MAI records list the date of the latter film as 1924, its unique content indicates it is likely an earlier film directed by Wilhelm Hansson during a 1920 wedish expedition to the Pilcomayo River in the Argentine Chaco, led by Gustav Emil Haeger. It is listed chronologically as received by the MAI.*)

2.1: Navajo Indians, 1923

2 Film reels

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*)

3 electronic discs (*dvd*)

The 16mm research (file/work) prints (XX.04) in this subseries were edited in 1961; however, their corresponding negatives (XX.02) were not subsequently cut to match the research prints and remain in the continuity of the 35mm prints (XX.01) from which they were processed.

Item 35.02, 35.04,
35.07-35.10

Navajo Indians at Ramah Rodeo, 1923

2 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 1 print (both MOS). Handwritten note on 35.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 2 16mm film reels)

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*) (Duration 2 minutes, 20 seconds at 24 frames per second)

3 electronic discs (*dvd*) (Duration 2 minutes, 20 seconds at 24 frames per second)

Original file call number: 3108.

2.2: Pilaga Indians of Argentine, 1924

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*)

3 Film reels

3 electronic discs (*dvd*)

The 16mm research (file/work) prints (XX.04) in this subseries were edited in 1961; however, their corresponding negatives (XX.02) were not subsequently cut to match the research prints and remain in the continuity of the 35mm prints (XX.01) from which they were processed.

Item 36.04,
36.07-36.10

Expedition at Encampment, 1924

1 Film reel (1 print (MOS).; 1 16mm film reel)

3 electronic discs (*dvd*) (Duration 20 minutes, 11 seconds at 24 frames per second)

1 videocassettes (*digital betacam*) (Duration 20 minutes, 11 seconds at 24 frames per second)

Original file call number: 3103.

Item 37.02

Expedition at Encampment, Part I, 1924

1 Film reel (1 dupe neg (MOS).; 1 16mm film reel)

Original file call number: 3103.

Item 38.02

Expedition at Encampment, Part II, 1924

1 Film reel (1 dupe neg (MOS).; 1 16mm film reel)

Original file call number: 3103.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Documentation of Museum of the American Indian Activities, 1917-1938

23 Film reels

2 videocassettes (digital betacam)

5 electronic discs (dvd)

Series 3: Documentation of Museum of the American Indian Activities includes film produced by the MAI documenting its own projects, staff, and visitors. Footage includes: an excavation at Hawikuh and Kechipauan, New Mexico, 1917-1923; incidental footage of MAI founder and director George Gustav Heye and his wife Thea, 1917-1928; brief shots of interpreters Waihusiwa and Lorenzo Chaves (both Zuni), 1923; and a record of the Water Buster Bundle Exchange, 1938, depicting Foolish Bear and Drags Wolf (both Hidatsa) at the White House and the MAI accompanied by interpreter Arthur Mandan and George Heye. Subseries 2 compiles extra titles for MAI films, attached to prints as necessary. Footage in this series is unattributed.

3.1: Documentation of MAI Activities, 1917-1938

5 electronic discs (dvd)

2 videocassettes (digital betacam)

14 Film reels

Similar sequences of footage featuring George Gustav Heye may be found in both "[George Gustav Heye Footage]" and "[Waihusiwa and Lorenzo], [George Gustav Heye Footage]." The titles were separated according to the presence of additional footage on each reel.

The 16mm research (file/work) prints (XX.04) in this subseries were edited in 1961; however, their corresponding negatives (XX.02) were not subsequently cut to match the research prints and remain in the continuity of the 35mm prints (XX.01) from which they were processed.

This series arranged by date rather than alphabetically.

Item 39.05-39.09,
39.11 Hawikuh and Kechipauan Excavation, 1917-1923
3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS).; 1 16mm and 2 35mm film reels)
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 15 minutes, 58 seconds at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 15 minutes, 58 seconds at 18 frames per second)
Original file call number: 3104.

39.11 is a 16mm print which did not clearly fall into categories XX.02-XX.04 and thus was numbered outside the usual system.

Item 40.02 Hawikuh and Kechipauan Excavation, Part I, 1917-1923
1 Film reel (1 dupe neg (MOS). Handwritten note on 40.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm film reel)
Original file call number: 3104.

Item 41.02 Hawikuh and Kechipauan Excavation, Part II, 1917-1923
1 Film reel (1 dupe neg (MOS). Handwritten note on 41.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm film reel)
Original file call number: 3104.

Item 42.02 Hawikuh and Kechipauan Excavation, Part III, 1917-1923

1 Film reel (1 dupe neg (MOS). Handwritten note on 42.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 1 16mm film reel)

Original file call number: 3104.

Item 43.11

[George Gustav Heye Footage], 1917-1928
1 Film reel (1 print (MOS).; 1 16mm film reels)

Original file call number: 3104.

43.11 is a 16mm print which did not clearly fall into categories XX.02-XX.04 and thus was numbered outside the usual system.

Item 44.02,
44.04-44.09

[Waihusiwa and Lorenzo, 1923], [George Gustav Heye Footage], 1917-1928
*4 Film reels (2 dupe negs, 2 prints (all MOS).; 2 16mm and 2 35mm film reels)
2 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 5 minutes, 1 second at 18 frames per second)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 5 minutes, 1 second at 18 frames per second)*

Original file call number: 3110.

Item 45.01-45.02,
45.04, 45.07-45.10

Hidatsa Water Buster Bundle Exchange, 1938
*3 Film reels (1 dupe neg, 2 prints (all MOS). Handwritten note on 45.02 original can: "Not cut to match research print."; 2 16mm and 1 35mm film reels)
1 videocassettes (digital betacam) (Duration 3 minutes, 49 seconds at 24 frames per second)
3 electronic discs (dvd) (Duration 3 minutes, 49 seconds at 24 frames per second)*

Original file call number: 3107.

3.2: Titles for Early MAI Films, 1920s

9 Film reels

Item 46.11-46.19

[Titles for Early MAI Films], 1920s
9 Film reels (5 dupe negs, 4 prints (all MOS).; 9 16mm film reels)

Original file call number: 3112.

Reels within this subseries are not identical. Titles include the following:

43.11-43.12: "Museum of the American Indian Presents"

43.13-43.14. [Three titles for Zuni films]

43.15. ["For Zuni ethnological films"]

43.16. ["For Zuni ethnological films"] / "Filmed in 1923 under F.W. Hodge, dir., Owen Cattell, photog."

43.17. "Ethnological Films of the Zuni Indians"

43.18. [Crow Indians of Montana]

43.19. [Miniature Sweat Lodge]

The original housing for 43.18 ("Crow Indians of Montana") was labeled as "titles" but appears to be only images (mostly lodge exteriors).

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Paper Records of the Ethnographic Film Collection

Series 4: Paper Records of the Ethnographic Film Collection includes paper records pertaining to the Museum of the American Indian's moving image expeditions, purchases, and record-keeping. Photocopied excerpts are combined with original records to provide the researcher with a comprehensive picture of the MAI's treatment of this film.

4.1: Indian Notes, 1924-1928

*6 photocopies (1 folder; photocopied excerpts from 6 issues of Indian Notes totaling 19 p.)
Box 1, Folder 1*

Indian Notes was a quarterly serial publication that described the activities of the Museum of the American Indian-Heyle Foundation and their preliminary results. This subseries gathers references to motion picture expeditions and financial records from this collection's era.

4.2: Annual Reports, 1961

*1 photocopies (1 folder; photocopied excerpt totaling 4 p.)
Box 1, Folder 2*

4.3: Motion Picture Film Catalogs, 1962

*2 Documents
Box 1, Folder 3*

Includes short descriptions of films at series and title levels, along with technical and financial details pertaining to the 1961-1962 transfer to safety film.

4.4: Information from Original Film Cans, 1923-2014

*104 photocopies (104 p.)
Box 1, Folder 4*

Information captured from film cans used for storage before 2015 processing and rehousing (photocopied in 2015 by Archive Intern Annie Schweikert). Several different numbering systems are represented, dating from various eras in the history of the MAI and NMAI.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)