



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries Audiovisual Collection

NMAH.AC.1348

Analiese Oetting

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries Audiovisual Collection
Date:	1938-1994, undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1348
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries (source)
Extent:	3.5 Cubic feet (2 boxes, 32 films)
Language:	English
Summary:	The collection contains films (8mm and 16mm), videocassettes, and audio recordings on diverse subjects related to agriculture and extractive industries

Administrative Information

Processing Information

Processed by Analiese Oetting (audiovisual archives specialist contractor) in 2023.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Viewing audiovisual portion of collection requires special appointment. See repository for details.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains films, videocassettes and audio recordings on diverse subjects related to agriculture and extractive industries. Films include amateur footage shot in and around Mississippi in the years between 1939-1951 depicting cotton picking, farm equipment, and rural life. Other subjects found in the collection include: beekeeping, milling, mining, events related to agriculture or extractive industries (World Dairy Expo, Helium Centennial), and advertisements or promotional films created by farming equipment companies (Caterpillar, Minneapolis-Moline).

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into three series.

Series 1: Motion Picture Film Motion Picture Film, 1938-1991

Series 2: Videocassettes Videocassettes, 1991-1994, undated

Series 3: Sound Recordings Sound Recordings, 1963-1978

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Agriculture
- Amateur films
- Cotton farming
- Dairy farms
- Farm equipment
- Motion pictures
- Petroleum
- Sawmills
- Tractors
- United States Department of Agriculture

Types of Materials:

- 16mm films
- 8mm films
- Advertisements -- 20th century
- Audiotapes
- Home movies
- Videocassettes

Names:

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries

Container Listing

Series 1: Motion Picture Film, 1938-1991

Reel OF1348.1 James Hand, Jr. Farming Footage, 1938-1949
1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 8mm; 300 feet)
Notes: Compilation reel of amateur footage shot in and around Rolling Fork, Mississippi in the late 1930s and 1940s:

1. Aldridge Tractors 2. Planter Graduation, 1940 3. Flying Farming, 1940 4. Dusting - Cotton Picker Pokey , 1941 5. MPHS Tractor Demonstration, 1949 6. Fitler Planting Co. 7. Cotton Film
Descriptive titles were devised using labels on original housing.

Reel OF1348.2 James Hand - Cotton, 1949
1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 8mm, 200 feet)

S.L. Deavenport Farming and Travel Footage, 1951
Notes: Includes amateur footage shot in and around Leland, Mississippi and a trip to Mexico.

Reel OF1348.3 Parade/Trip to Mexico, 1951
1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm, 100 feet)

Reel OF1348.4 Trip to Mexico/Cotton Picking, 1951
1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm, 100 feet)

Mississippi Cotton, 1991, undated
Notes: Amateur shot footage depicting operations at a cotton plantation in Mississippi in the 1940s. Comprises six camera original reels as well as compilation film prints created by an outside vendor for the former Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries from the original footage in the early 1990s. Descriptive titles for the original footage were devised from labels on original housing which was consistently labeled "Cotton Plantation" with roll numbers indicated on original leader. The compilation reels appear to have been formally titled "Mississippi Cotton" at the time of their creation by the former Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries. The name "Frank Mitchener" appears on much of the original leader but labeling is unclear and the source of the original footage has not been definitively determined by the Archives Center. Corresponding video copies can be found in series 2.

The original motion picture film elements are in poor condition and cannot be viewed or reproduced.

Reel OF1348.5 Cotton Plantation, Roll #1

1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 300 feet)

Reel OF1348.6	Cotton Plantation, Roll #2 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 800 feet)
Reel OF1348.7	Cotton Plantation, Roll #3 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 300 feet)
Reel OF1348.8	Cotton Plantation, Roll #4 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 300 feet)
Reel OF1348.9	Cotton Plantation, Roll #7 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 300 feet)
Reel OF1348.10	Cotton Plantation, Roll #9 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, original reversal; 16mm; 300 feet)
Reel OF1348.11; Reel OF1348.12	Mississippi Cotton Part I & Part II, 1991 2 Motion picture film (color, silent, print; 16mm; 1100 feet and 1060 feet) Notes: Reel 1 appears to have been struck from original "Cotton Plantation" rolls #1, #4, and #7. Reel 2 appears to have been struck from original "Cotton Plantation" rolls #2 and #9.
Reel OF1348.13	Dumont TV Spot - Then and Now, 1952 1 Motion picture film (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 50 feet)
Reel OF1348.14	The Big Track, 1958 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 1000 feet) Notes: Presented by Caterpillar Tractor Co.
Reel OF1348.15	Born in the West, 1958 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 725 feet) Notes: Presented by Caterpillar Tractor Co.
Reel OF1348.16	Mr. Doll Interview, 1965 1 Motion picture film (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 393 feet)
Reel OF1348.17	The Miners' Story, 1965 1 Motion picture film (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 1800 feet)
Reel OF1348.18	High Speed Farming, 1967 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 720 feet) Notes: At picture start: "Minneapolis-Moline presents High Speed Farming with the 97 horsepower G900"

Produced by Robert C. Bruce Productions.

Reel OF1348.19	Ransburg Electrostatic Spray, 1967 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 865 feet)
Reel OF1348.20	Minneapolis-Moline commercials, 1968 7 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack; 16mm; each reel runs 30-60 seconds) Notes: Commercial reels for various Minneapolis-Moline farming equipment. Titles (transcribed from original housing) include: "MPLS Moline G1000 4-Wheel Drive" "G1000 Combine" "G900 Tractors" "G900 Hi Speed Farm" "G1000 Vista" "High Speed Tractors" "MPLS Moline (Implements) High Speed Farming"
Reel OF1348.21	Le Mort, 1969 1 Motion picture film (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 360 feet) Language: French
Reel OF1348.22	The Sawyer and His Mill, 1969 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm, 236 feet)
Reel OF1348.23	World Dairy Expo, 1970 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 748 feet)
Reel OF1348.24	The Wonderful World of Brother Buzz, 1971 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 800 feet) Notes: Beekeeping film. At picture start: "The Latham Foundation for the promotion of humane education presents The Wonderful World of Brother Buzz"
Reel OF1348.25	Society of Bees, 1972 1 Motion picture film (color, silent, work print; 16mm; 200 feet)
Reel OF1348.26	Roots of Our Nation, 1975 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 1071 feet)
Reel OF1348.27	Images of America, 1976 1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 576 feet)
Reel OF1348.28	A Wildcat Goes Wild, 1978

1 Motion picture film (color, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 550 feet)

Reel OF1348.29

Conserve Our Heritage, undated

1 Motion picture film (sound element: optical soundtrack negative; 35mm; 600 feet)

Notes: Original housing indicated this element as "Reel 4." There are no other corresponding reels or elements present in the collection.

Reel OF1348.30

Old Mason Sawmill, undated

1 Motion picture film (black and white; silent; reversal; 16mm; 200 feet)

Notes: Footage of Gurley-Mason Sawmill in Mansfield, Connecticut.

Reel OF1348.31

Old Red Cotton Picker, undated

1 Motion picture film (black and white, silent, print; 16mm, 79 feet)

Notes: Produced by Gordon News Films.

Reel OF1348.32

Strike, undated

1 Motion picture film (black and white, silent, original reversal; 8mm, 220 feet)

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Series 2: Videocassettes, 1991-1994, undated

Rural Life in Mississippi

2 Videocassette (total running time: 20 minutes, 25 seconds)

2 copies

Notes: Appears to be a compilation of the original James Hand footage, transferred to VHS in the 1990s by the former Division of Agriculture and Extractive Industries.

Box 1 Threshing Demonstration, 1991
5 Videocassette (BetacamSP)

Box 1 Mississippi Cotton Videocassettes, 1992-1994

4 Videocassette (VHS)

4 Videocassette (BetacamSP)

Notes: Two VHS copies labeled "Rolls 1, 4, 7, 2, 9" (transferred from the original "Cotton Plantation" reels in September 1993).

Two VHS copies labeled "Mississippi Cotton Parts 1 and 2" (transferred from the "Mississippi Cotton" compilation print in May 1994)

Two BetacamSP tapes labeled "Rolls 1, 4, 7" and "Rolls 2 and 9" (transferred from the original "Cotton Plantation" reels in July 1992).

Two BetacamSP tapes labeled "Mississippi Cotton Item 1 and 11" and "Mississippi Cotton" Item 2, 4, 6, 8" (it is not clear which original footage these correspond to).

Box 1 The Fire Ant on Trial, undated
1 Videocassette (U-matic) (total running time: 28 minutes, 13 seconds)
Notes: Presented by the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

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Series 3: Sound Recordings, 1963-1978, undated

Box 2	Burton-Humphries Still Dedication, 1963 1 Open reel audiotape (7")
Box 2	Synchrotron Sounds from Dr. MacMillan, 1968-04-10 1 Open reel audiotape (7")
Box 2	Helium Centennial, 1968 1 Open reel audiotape (7")
Box 2	KODE interview, Radio Joplin, 1970 1 Open reel audiotape (5")
Box 2	Unidentified Audio Reel, 1978-10-20 1 Open reel audiotape (7") Notes: Inscription on original housing: "ASAE"
Box 2	Kermac, undated 1 Open reel audiotape (7")
Box 2	Perkin Elmer Conference, undated 1 Open reel audiotape (7") Notes: Inscription on original housing: "Subject: Roberts"
Box 2	Squibb Machine, undated 1 Cassette tape
Box 2	Unidentified Coal Tape, undated 1 Cassette tape Notes: Subjects include: dangers of coal mining, the United Mine Workers of America, and coal history of the 20th century.
Box 2	Hoffman, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, undated 1 Open reel audiotape (7")
Box 2	Minneapolis-Moline M-6 Tractors, undated 1 Vinyl record (12")
Box 2	Unidentified 8-Track Tapes, undated 2 Audio cartridge (8-track)

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