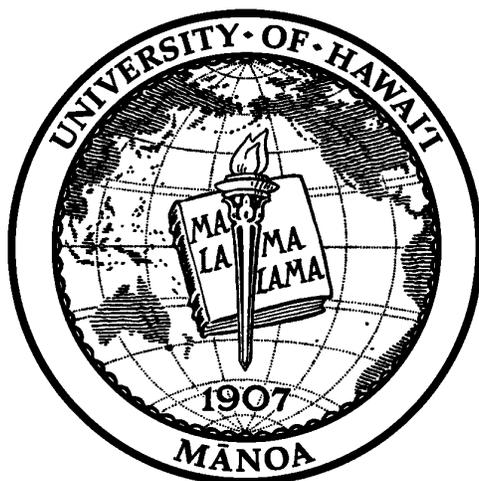


UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

Miyamoto Photograph Collection

Finding Aid



A1991:003

Archives & Manuscripts Department
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library

May 2006

Table of Contents

Introductory Information	1
Administrative Information	2
Biographical Sketch	3
Scope & Content Note	4
Series Descriptions	5

Inventory Table of Contents

SERIES:

Faculty.....	Tab 1 (pp. 1-124)
A-Events.....	Tab 2 (pp. 1-111)
B-Events.....	Tab 3 (pp. 1-32)
C-Events.....	Tab 4 (pp. 1-109)
Miscellaneous.....	Tab 5 (p. 1)

Introductory Information

Collection Name: Miyamoto Photograph Collection

Collection Number: A1991:003

Inclusive / Bulk Dates: 1939-1982 (bulk 1955-1978)

Size of Collection: 100 linear feet

Creator of Papers: Masao Miyamoto, Official Photographer for the University of Hawaii

Abstract:

Masao Miyamoto (1913-1995) served as the official photographer for the University of Hawaii for over 41 years. After retirement, he continued to volunteer his talents on a part-time basis for another 14 years.

The extensive collection consists of approximately 70,000 negatives and numerous contact prints. It presents a visual record of the University of Hawaii's growth and development, student life, and campus events over most of the past century. The negatives and prints are arranged by the format size of the film and grouped into four main categories: The "Faculty" series (1948-1980) and the three "Events" series A, B, and C (early 1900 undated negatives to 1982), plus a small fifth series, Miscellaneous.

Administrative Information

- Repository Information:** Archives & Manuscripts Department
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library
2550 McCarthy Mall
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
Phone: (808) 956-6047
Fax: (808) 956-5968
Email: archives@hawaii.edu
URL: <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/archives/>
- Processing Archivist:** Patricia Ogburn, CA
- Completion Date:** May 2006
- Restrictions:** None
- Provenance:** Transferred by University of Hawaii Office of External Affairs & University Relations to the Archives & Manuscripts Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library.
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Biographical Sketch

Masao Miyamoto (1913-1995) was born in Kona, Hawaii, to coffee farmers. He was the youngest of five children. When he was six years old his parents moved to the Kaimuki area of Honolulu.¹

He had two lifelong commitments outside his home: scouting and photography. He joined Boy Scout Troup 10 at the age of 12 in 1925 and completed the requirements for Eagle Scout in 1932. About the same time he became the Assistant Scoutmaster of the troop. When the founding scoutmaster retired in 1945, Miyamoto became the second Scoutmaster of Troop 10. He continued in this position until April 12, 1992.²

Scouting led Miyamoto to his life-long career in photography. After initially learning photography in the Scouts, he pursued it as a hobby during his high school years. At McKinley High School, he was president of the Photography Club and photographer for the *Daily Pinion*. After graduating in 1932, he took a job with the silent movie library at the University of Hawaii. He eventually persuaded university officials that they should hire him as a photographer.³

Masao Miyamoto began his career as official photographer for the university on April 1, 1936. In the course of the next 41 years, he photographed four presidents of the United States and 11 presidents of the University of Hawaii. He captured the images of numerous foreign dignitaries and national leaders who visited the university. Among these were President Sukarno of Indonesia, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Professor Daisetsu Suzuki, Mr. Ralph Bunch and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His extensive collection of negatives and prints present a visual record of the University of Hawaii's growth and development, its faculty and student life, as well as campus events over most of the 20th century.

Though he officially retired on the last day of June 1977, he continued to work as a volunteer from 1977 to 1991. In February 1991, the collection of negatives and photographs came to the University Archives.

Masao Miyamoto died Nov. 19, 1995, at his home in Manoa. One of his former scouts said, "If anyone ever wonders whether or not a single person can make a difference in this world, they need only look at Masao Miyamoto and his life of service."⁴

¹ "Masao Miyamoto," *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, 22 November 1995, p. A9.

² "Masao Miyamoto," *Honolulu Advertiser*, 12 April 1992, p. E1.

³ *Honolulu Star Bulletin*, *ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

Scope & Content Note

The photographs have been organized into four main series: Faculty, A-Events, B-Events and C-Events, plus a small fifth series, Miscellaneous.

The Faculty series runs from the 1940s to the early 1980s and documents teaching, administrative and support personnel at the University of Hawaii. It is further divided into four subseries by date and arranged alphabetically from A-Z within the subseries. Most of the prints have been separated from the negatives and are housed in a 4x6x12-inch card box.

The A-, B- and C-Events series document campus activities including groundbreaking ceremonies, building construction, mural painting, visits by presidents and dignitaries, campus protests, fashion shows, and ceremonies such as graduations, awards and dedications. It is arranged by film format size and then chronologically within each format. It spans the years 1939 to 1980 with some overlap of dates in each series. A-Events are 4x5-inch negatives; B-Events are 120mm negatives; C-Events are 35mm negatives. It should be noted that the dates in all the series overlap and that the same subjects might be covered by two or more series. The researcher should consult each of the series for a specific topic or time period.

The material is generally in good condition. Negatives were rehoused into polymer sleeves and acid-free preservation envelopes. Most of the prints have been separated from the negatives and rehoused in archival sleeves. They are stored in 4x6-inch card boxes and three large binders.

The prints are coded by size under the "Print" column in the Inventory as follows:

- P = 4"x3" print housed in a card file box
- CP = 35mm contact print strip housed in large binders
- OP = oversize prints housed in folders in a document case

A small group of miscellaneous prints and Masao Miyamoto's four subject file boxes were added at the end of the C-Events series. These subject files are a cross reference to the MM# and are available to the researcher upon request.

Series Descriptions

Series Name:	Faculty
Dates:	1940-1987 (bulk 1947-1980)
Size of Series:	25 linear feet
Physical Format:	4x5-inch negatives and contact prints
Arrangement:	Chronological, then alphabetical by name

Description of Contents:

The Faculty series was arranged by Masao Miyamoto in three different alphabetical sequences. A numbering system was imposed during processing in order to differentiate these into separate subseries. The Inventory notes the assigned negative number, surname, first name and middle initial, title, department, date, negative size, prints, notes and Masao Miyamoto's number, the "MM#." Miyamoto assigned a number to each *individual* rather than a separate number to each image he created of a faculty member. This number corresponds to numbers noted in his Subject Card File boxes.

Some of the prints were separated from the negatives and filed in the Faculty print card box. These are noted with P or CP in the print column of the Faculty Inventory list. The 30001-32541 subseries was processed at an earlier date and the prints were not separated from the negatives, so even though the Inventory does not specifically note P or CP, there may be one with the negative. In the Student & Others subseries (40001-40293), the prints were kept with the negatives and noted "w/print."

The subseries are as follows:

10001-10290 A-Z:	1940s & 1950s (bulk 1947-1956)
20001-20441 A-Z:	1950s & 1960s (bulk 1955-1965)
30001-32541 A-Z:	1950s-1980s (bulk 1960-1980)
40001-40293 A-Z:	Students & Others (various dates/prints kept with negative)

Series 2: **A-Events**

Dates: 19??-1982 (bulk 1948-1967)

Size of Series: 43 linear feet

Physical Format: 4x5-inch negatives and contact prints

Arrangement: Chronological

Description of Contents:

A-Events series consists of 4x5-inch negatives. Although a numbering system was created for storage and retrieval purposes, Miyamoto's "MM#" numbering system was recorded with the images for future reference. Similar to his treatment of faculty photographs, Miyamoto assigned a number to each *event* rather than to the individual images. This number corresponds to numbers noted in his Subject Card File boxes. Thus an event number may refer to only one image or as many as 100 (it usually encompasses numerous images). Prints were separated from the negatives and stored in one card file box.

The Inventory includes the assigned negative number, date, event, location, personnel, notes, number of frames, prints and MM#. It was divided into three subseries because several groups of negatives were not identified by date.

The subseries are as follows:

- A00-00001 to A00-00010 [appear to be early photos]
- A01-00001 to A01-00085 [possibly 1960s]
- A39-00001 to A82-00001 [first two numbers note the year]

The A-Events series is rich in documentation of the first buildings on campus such as Hawaii Hall. It also documents the construction of new buildings. Various programs are represented in this series, such as the agricultural extension services, teachers' college, dental hygiene, home economics and the marine laboratory at Coconut Island. It also illustrates the strong ROTC program during the 1950s and President Lyndon Johnson's visit in 1966.

Series 3: **B-Events**

Dates: 1954-1975 (bulk 1958-1966)

Size of Series: 9 linear feet

Physical Format: 120mm negatives and prints

Arrangement: Chronological

Description of Contents:

The B-Events series consists of 120mm negatives. Again, the numbering system was devised for storage and retrieval purposes. The Inventory includes the same information as listed in A-Events.

This series is the smallest. It illustrates more construction on campus such as the music and math buildings, faculty housing, Sinclair Library, Hamilton Library and Gateway House among others. It includes the dedication of the Japanese Garden and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Hilo branch of the University of Hawaii.

Also covered are commencements, receptions, convocations, fashion shows, beauty pageants, musical performances and dance programs with Carl Wolz and Lois Ginandes. It includes the installation of the IBM computer in Keller Hall, a Church of the Crossroads luau, and Francis Haar's photo exhibit reception. It captures the changes taking place in all areas of campus life during the tumultuous 1960s.

The prints are stored in one file card box and one black binder.

Series 4: C-Events

Dates: 1959-1982 (bulk 1966-1976)

Size of Series: 21 linear feet

Physical Format: 35mm negatives and prints

Arrangement: Chronological

Description of Contents:

The C-Events series consists of 35mm negatives and prints. Again, the numbering system was devised for storage and retrieval purposes. The Inventory includes the same information mentioned in A-Events.

C-Events for the years 1959 through 1978 are numbered C59-00001 to C78-00042 and stored in file drawers. Negatives for the years 1979 through 1982 were previously processed and stored in archival sheets in two blue binders (these are listed without a “C” in front of the negative number on the inventory list).

This series documents various aspects of campus life: the Vietnam War Rally, visits by President Lyndon Johnson and Martin Luther King, Jr., a student sit-in, a budget protest rally at the State Capitol, a Peace Corps swearing-in ceremony, “Up With People” singers, demonstrations and marches, which all reflect the temper of the 1960s. This series also documents many individuals and groups such as civil service employees, football players, dental hygiene students, an old-timers party in Bachman Hall, visiting composers, conference attendees, and the astronaut Gordon Cooper among others. Community College activities are also represented.

The prints are stored in two file card boxes and two black binders.

Series 5: **Miscellaneous**

Dates: Various

Size of Series: 2 linear feet

Physical Format: Prints and cards

Arrangement: None

Description of Contents:

A small group of miscellaneous negatives and prints were given the numbers D-01 to D-04 because these items did not appear to be part of any sequence. These include 4x5-inch prints of former University of Hawaii presidents, photos taken by Francis Haar around campus, Victory Gardens in Kaimuki, etc. These items are stored in the Oversize Print box.

Misao Miyamoto also had four card file boxes arranged by subject to assist in locating photographs on various topics. These are included with the materials and are available to researchers upon request.