

James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films (SC 1-54), detailed. 11/18/2008. sjs.

An Inventory of the James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films

Repository: University of Northern Colorado, James A. Michener Library, Archival Services

Collection number: SC 1-54

Title: An Inventory of the James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films

Author: Inventory prepared by Shirley Soenksen on 2006 August 7.

Dates: 1977-2001

Creator or Collector: Michener, James A. (James Albert), 1907-1997; Pizek, Edward J., 1916-2004; Pizek, Bill (Pizek, William P.); Emlen House Productions, Inc.; Copernicus Society

Size: 85 linear feet

Abstract:

This collection contains documentation, newsclippings, photographs, 16 mm films, two inch tapes, and VHS video tapes.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains documentation, newsclippings, photographs, 111-16mm films in metal or plastics canisters, 2 reels in plastic video tape shippers, 60 two inch tapes, VHS video tapes (copies of the 16mm films), and 33 boxes of films (copies of the 16mm films) in storage in California.

Researchers may want to consult: Pizek Family Collection (SC 1-0)

Biography of James A. Michener:

James Albert Michener was born in 1907 to unknown parents and raised as an orphan in the care of widow Mabel Michener of Doylestown, Pennsylvania. By the time he graduated from high school in 1925, he had visited 45 out of the 48 states. He was given a scholarship to Swarthmore, and after graduating summa cum laude in 1929, he traveled and continued his education at nine universities inside and outside the United States. During this time, he also taught in Pennsylvania, Colorado, and at the Harvard School of Education.

When he was not teaching, Michener worked as a textbook editor in New York, and he joined the British Merchant Marines. During WWII, he joined the Navy, making use of his experience in the British Merchant Marines to climb through the ranks to lieutenant and his knowledge of history to carry out sensitive assignments in the South Pacific. It was this experience that brought about *Tales of the South Pacific* in 1947, which won a Pulitzer Prize. Michener used this novel as the cornerstone of his writing career, publishing almost 50 books in the next 50 years, including *Sayonara*, *Hawaii*, *The Source*, *Iberia*, *Caravans*, *The Covenant*, *Sports in America*, and *Poland*.

In 1977, a four-part public television series called *The World of Michener* covered Israel, Hawaii, Spain, and Poland, just a few of the countries upon which his books have been based. Several other books have been turned into movies or miniseries, and two of his novels have been turned into musicals (most notably *South Pacific*, which won its own Pulitzer Prize).

During the time that he was publishing, however, Michener did not ignore the world around him. He ran for Congress in 1962 and held positions on several committees, including the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention, the U.S. Postal Service stamp committee, and an

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advisory position on a council for NASA. He also spoke often at congressional hearings and at functions of those organizations in which he held particular interest.

James A. Michener died at the age of 90 on October 16, 1997 in Texas, three years after his third wife, Mari Yoriko Sabusawa. He had no children.

Biography of Ed and William Piszek:

[Edward J. Piszek](#) was President of the Copernicus Society and a close personal friend of James A. Michener. Website accessed: 2006 August 9.

William Piszek is the son of Edward J. Piszek.

Sources:

Edward J. Piszek: http://www.polamjournal.com/Library/Biographies/Piszek_E/piszek_e.html

Biography of Stan Musial:

[Stan 'The Man' Musial](#) < <http://www.stan-the-man.com/> > a close personal friend of James A. Michener was inducted in to the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in 1969. Stan Musial, James A. Michener, and Edward J. Piszek were known as "the three boys." Website accessed: 2006 July 20.

Biography of the Photographers:

[John Blake](#) is a commercial photographer who lives in Greeley, Colorado. Since 1985 he has had his own business. Prior to that, he worked as a photographer for the Greeley Tribune.

[Kalen May](#) is an Administrative Assistant in the Administration Office at the University of Northern Colorado Libraries.

[Matthew Staver](#) is the owner of Matthew Staver Photography in Littleton, Colorado.

Sources:

John Blake: <http://www.johnblakephotography.com/>

Kalen May: <http://www.unco.edu/library/personnel/may.htm>

Greeley Tribune: <http://www.greeleytrib.com/>

Matthew Staver: <http://www.matthewstaver.com/>

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use: User is responsible for copyright compliance, including any copyrighted photographs and slides .

Copyright on the photographs in Box 3, Folders 1-2 and the slides in Box 3, Folder 6 reside with photographer John Blake.

Contact information:

John Blake Photography
720 14th Street
Greeley, Colorado 80631
970/346-9400

Preferred Citation: [Description of Item], James A. Michener papers (SC 1-54), Emlen House Films, Archival Services, James A. Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Locations of Originals (if applicable):

Acquisition Information (if applicable):

Gift of Edward J. Piszek, Bill Piszek, and VAL from 1998 to 2001.

Documentation relating to the acquisition is on file in Archives, RG 13 S1 F11-.

Subjects:

Michener, James A. (James Albert), 1907-1997
Piszek, Edward J., 1916-2004
Piszek, Bill (Piszek, William P.)
Emlen House Productions, Inc.
Copernicus Society
Blake, John
May, Kalen
Staver, Matthew
Pitkin, Gary M., 1947-
Brown, Hank, 1940-

Inventory:

Box 1

Folder 1 -- Donor Agreement - Emlen House

Letter dated 1999 June 1 from Gary M. Pitkin, Ed.D, Dean of University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado, to Bill Piszek, Copernicus Society of America, enclosing a "draft agreement between the Copernicus Society and the University of Northern Colorado concerning the donation of the Emlen House films to the James A. Michener Special Collection." Draft agreement attached.

"Emlen House Production Films." 3 copies.

A list of Emlen House films that includes films format availability in ¾" video, ½" video, 16mm print, and if the negative is in CA. vault.

Folder 2 -- Acquisitions Memos 1998, 1999

Acquisitions Memo dated 10/98. Donor: Ed Piszek.

- 1). Five copies of Pilgrimage. -- 1 autographed.
- 2). Poster/print JAM portraits -- several copies
- 3). JAM Writing Series 3 audio cassette tapes -- 6 ½ hr interviews.
- 4). 2 videos -- Emlen House productions. 1). *Spain: The Land and the Legend*. 2). *Israel: A Search for Faith*.

"Acquisitions Memo Required," 2/15/99. Note.

Attachments:

- 1). Acquisitions Memo dated 2-15-99. Bill Piszek, Donor. 6 videos. Michener's U.S.A. (5 videos) and Lowell Thomas / James A. Michener – A Dialogue (1 video).
- 2). Letter dated 1999 February 9 from William P. Piszek, Vice President, Copernicus Society of America, to Gary M. Pitkin, Ed.D, Dean of University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado, regarding six V.H.S. copies of Michener films: Michener's U.S.A. (5 videos) and Lowell Thomas / James A. Michener – A Dialogue (1 video).
- 3). Acquisitions Memo dated 2-15-99. Bill Piszek, Donor. 6 videos. Michener's U.S.A. (5 videos) and Lowell Thomas / James A. Michener – A Dialogue (1 video).
- 4). Letter dated 1999 February 9 from William P. Piszek, Vice President, Copernicus Society of America, to Gary M. Pitkin, Ed.D, Dean of University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado,

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regarding six V.H.S. copies of Michener films: Michener's U.S.A. (5 videos) and Lowell Thomas / James A. Michener – A Dialogue (1 video).

5). Letter dated 1999 February 16 from Gary M. Pitkin, Ed.D, Dean of University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado, to William P. Piszek, Vice President, Copernicus Society of America, thanking Piszek for six videos.

(Xeroxed copies from SC 1-06, Folder 1 -- Piszek Family Collection)

Folder 3 -- Edward J. Piszek Biography, 1998.

"Biography: Edward J. Piszek." Faxed copy from Emlen House Ent. dated 1998 August 7. 4 pages. (Transferred from Piszek Family/Emlen House Small Collection, 090903-01, Box 1, Folder 10).

Folder 4 -- Promotional Material: "Hawaii Revisited," 1977. Emlen House Films.

Folder 5 -- Promotional Material: "Spain: The Land and the Legend," 1978. Emlen House Films.

Folder 6 -- Promotional Material: "Sports in America," 1980. Emlen House Films.

Folder 7 -- Emlen House Films/E J Piszek Donation "Thank You," April 2001

Folder 8 -- Photos: UNC, Coors Field, 2001

The photographs of UNC were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 1 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Banquet, 2001 April 4.

The photographs of Coors Field were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 2 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Coors Field, 2001 April 5.

Folder 9 -- Photos: UNC, Coors Field, 2001

The photographs of UNC were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 1 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Banquet, 2001 April 4.

The photographs of Coors Field were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 2 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Coors Field, 2001 April 5.

Folder 10 -- Photos: Coors Field, 2001

Contents of this folder were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 3 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Kalen May Photographs, Coors Field, 2001 April 5

Folder 11 -- Piszek Banquet Collage Pieces, 2001

Folder 12 -- Photos: Piszek and Musial, 2001

Contents of this folder were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 5 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Matthew Staver Photographs, Banquet, 2001 April 4

Folder 13 -- 35mm, Color Slides, © John Blake, Coors Field, April 2001

Contents of this folder were transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 3, Folder 6 Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake 35mm Color Slides, Banquet & Coors Filed, 2001 April 4 & April 5.

Folder 14 -- Newsclippings, 2001

These are all photocopies.

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Folder 15 -- Newsclippings: Scanned, 2001

These are scanned images of the newsclippings found in Folder 14 -- Newsclippings, 2001.

Folder 15 A -- Thank You, Edward Piszek. Video, 2001.

This video was transferred to: James A. Michener Papers, Emlen House Films, Box 2, Folder 1 -
- "Thank You, Edward Piszek." Video, 2001

Folder 16 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Planning Committee

Folder 17 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Program

Box 2 -- Videos

Folder 1 -- "Thank You, Edward Piszek." Video, 2001

"Thank You, Edward Piszek." An Honorary Evening at the Greeley Country Club: April 4, 2001.
V.H.S. video. Duplicate. 1 copy.

James A. Michener Special Collection. "Emlen House Film Collection Highlights." 3/28/01.
Emlen House Productions, 2001. V.H.S. video. 2 copies.

Clips from Emlen House Productions with James A. Michener as narrator: Pope John Paul II,
Lowell Thomas, Jerusalem, Poland, the five part series on the United States, and Spain.

Contents of this folder were transferred from: Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folder 15A
-- "Thank You, Edward Piszek." Video, 2001)

Box 3 -- Photographs and Slides

Folder 1 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Banquet, 2001 April 4

113 photographs taken by John Blake at a banquet held at the Greeley Country Club on
Wednesday, 2001 April 4 to honor Edward Piszek for donating the Emlen House films to the
University of Northern Colorado Libraries. The Emlen House films were shown on PBS in the late
1970s.

NOTE: Copyright on the photographs in this folder reside with photographer John Blake.

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection,
Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folders 8 & 9 – Photos, UNC & Coors Field, 2001)

Folder 2 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake Photographs, Coors Field, 2001 April 5.

48 color photographs taken by John Blake during a baseball game between the [Colorado Rockies](#) and [St. Louis Cardinals](#) at [Coors Field](#) in Denver, Colorado on Thursday, 2001 April 5.
As part of the "Thank You, Edward Piszek" event, guests were invited to attend the baseball
game at Coors Field in Denver, Colorado on Thursday, 2001 April 5 and watch [Stan Musial](#) throw
out the first baseball.

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection,
Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folders 8 & 9 – Photos, UNC & Coors Field, 2001).

Sources:

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Colorado Rockies: http://colorado.rockies.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=col
St. Louis Cardinals: http://stlouis.cardinals.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=stl
Coors Field: http://rockies.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/col/ballpark/col_ballpark_history.jsp
Stan Musial: <http://www.stan-the-man.com/>

Folder 3 – Thank You, Edward Piszek: Kalen May Photographs, Coors Field, 2001 April 5

18 photographs taken by Kalen May during a baseball game between the [Colorado Rockies](#) and [St. Louis Cardinals](#) at [Coors Field](#) in Denver, Colorado on Thursday, 2001 April 5. As part of the “Thank You, Edward Piszek,” event guests were invited to attend the baseball game at Coors Field in Denver, Colorado on Thursday, 2001 April 5 and watch Stan Musial throw out the first baseball.

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection, Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folder 10 – Photos, Coors Field, 2001).

Sources:

Colorado Rockies: http://colorado.rockies.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=col
St. Louis Cardinals: http://stlouis.cardinals.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/index.jsp?c_id=stl
Coors Field: http://rockies.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/col/ballpark/col_ballpark_history.jsp
Stan Musial: <http://www.stan-the-man.com/>

Folder 4 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Unidentified Photographer, Banquet & Coors Field, 2001 April 4 & 5

3 photographs taken by an unidentified photographer at a banquet held at the Greeley Country Club on Wednesday, 2001 April 4 to honor Edward Piszek for donating the Emlen House films to the University of Northern Colorado Libraries. The Emlen House films were shown on PBS in the late 1970s. As part of the “Thank You, Edward Piszek,” event guests were invited to attend the baseball game at Coors Field in Denver, Colorado on Thursday, 2001 April 5 and watch Stan Musial throw out the first baseball.

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection, Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folder 8 -- Photos: UNC, Coors Field, 2001).

Folder 5 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: Matthew Staver Photographs, Banquet, 2001 April 4

6 10"x8" color photographs of Edward J. Piszek and Stan Musial at a banquet held at the Greeley Country Club on Wednesday, 2001 April 4 to honor Edward Piszek for donating the Emlen House films to the University of Northern Colorado Libraries. The Emlen House films were shown on PBS in the late 1970s.

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection, Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folder 12 -- Photos: Piszek and Musial, 2001).

Folder 6 -- Thank You, Edward Piszek: John Blake 35mm Color Slides, Banquet & Coors Filed, 2001 April 4 & April 5

(Contents of this folder were transferred from: James A. Michener Special Collection, Piszek/Emlen House Collection, Box 1, Folder 13 -- 35mm, Color Slides, © John Blake, Coors Field, April 2001).

Emlen House Film List

The following items, unless noted elsewhere, are part of the Emlen House Film Productions films housed at the University of Northern Colorado Libraries. They are included in SC 1-54, Emlen House Films, James A. Michener Papers, James A. Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Note: The Items with two asterisks (**) were listed on information we received from Emlen House. They may be in storage in California as they are not with the rest of the Emlen House Film Collection.

Title	Format
Afghanistan **	
Emlen House Film Collection Highlights (Master)	Video Tape
Government As It Is: Executive **	
Government As It Is: Executive (Short Version) **	
Government As It Is: Judicial **	
Government As It Is: Judicial (Short Version) **	
Government As It Is: Legislative **	
Government As It Is: Legislative (English) **	
Government As It Is: Legislative (French) **	
Government As It Is: Legislative (Short Version) **	
Government As It Is: Legislative (Spanish) **	
Hawaii Revisited	16mm & Video Tape
Hawaii Revisited (Short Version)	16mm
Hawaii Revisited (Spanish version)	16mm & Video Tape
In the Beginning **	
In the Beginning (Short Version) **	
Israel: A Search for Faith	16mm & Video Tape
Israel: A Search for Faith (Short Version)	16mm & Video Tape
Israel: A Search for Faith (Spanish version)	16mm & Video Tape
Japan **	
John Paul II: Pope From Poland	Video Tape
Kosciuszko: An American Portrait **	
Kosciuszko: An American Portrait (Short Version) **	
Lowell Thomas/James Michener: A Dialogue	Video Tape
Michener's USA: Far West	Video Tape
Michener's USA: Midwest	Video Tape
Michener's USA: New South	Video Tape
Michener's USA: Northeast	Video Tape
Michener's USA: Southwest	Video Tape
Poland: The Will To Be	16mm & Video Tape
Poland: The Will To Be (Master -- in green mailer)	16mm
Poland: The Will To Be (Short Version)	16mm
Poland: The Will To Be (Spanish version)	16mm & Video Tape

Title	Format
South Pacific: End of Eden?	16mm & Video Tape
South Pacific: End of Eden? (Short Version)	16mm
South Pacific: End of Eden? (Spanish version)	16mm & Video Tape
Spain: The Land & The Legend	16mm & Video Tape
Spain: The Land & The Legend (Short Version)	16mm
Spain: The Land & The Legend (Spanish version)	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: Children and Sports	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: Children and Sports (Short Version)	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: The Black Athlete	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: The Black Athlete (Short Version)	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: Women in Sports	16mm & Video Tape
Sports in America: Women in Sports (Short Version)	16mm & Video Tape
The Church in Poland **	
The Enduring Tradition: Art in Poland	16mm & Video Tape
The Enduring Tradition: Dance in Poland	16mm & Video Tape
The Enduring Tradition: Film in Poland	16mm & Video Tape
The Enduring Tradition: Music in Poland	16mm & Video Tape
The Enduring Tradition: Theater in Poland	16mm & Video Tape
Turkey **	
U.S.A. Highlights	Video Tape