

An Inventory of the James A. Michener Papers, Miscellaneous Items

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

Collection number: SC1-78

Title: An Inventory of the James A. Michener Papers, Miscellaneous Items

Author: Inventory prepared by Shirley Soenksen on 2008 May 28.

Dates: 1983-

Creator or Collector: Michener, James A. (James Albert), 1907-1997.

Size: 1.5 linear feet

Abstract:

This collection consists of items, except for photographs, where we have been unable to identify the donor.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of items, except for photographs, where we have been unable to identify the donor.

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 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.

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use: User is responsible for copyright compliance.

Preferred Citation: [Description of Item], James A. Michener papers (RG SC 1), Collection Name, Archival Services, James A. Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Acquisition Information (if applicable):

Stamps were purchased by the Archival Services Department. Other items are a gift from a variety or unknown individuals.

Documentation relating to the acquisition is on file in Archives, RG 13 S1 F11-2.

Subjects:

Michener, James A. (James Albert), 1907-1997

Inventory:

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 1 -- Student Papers	Reifschneider, Jill. "Rethinking Michener." [Greeley, CO: Jill Reifschneider], 1997. Jill Reifschneider wrote this paper while at student at the University of Northern Colorado for Dr. Michael Welsh's HIST 480 class. Dr. Welsh is a professor in the History Department at the University.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Michener, James A. "The Book That I'm Writing." <i>New York Times Book Review</i> , June 12, 1983, Section VII, p. 3.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Guttenplan, D. D., Douglas Stanglin, and Tessa Hamuth. Photocopy. "Poland: Michener's Harsh Reading." <i>Newsweek</i> , Jan. 16, 1984, p. 45. Book review of Michener's novel <i>Poland</i> .
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Mitgang, Herbert. "Publishing: Michener and 'Poland'." Photocopy. <i>The New York Times</i> , Sept. 2, 1983, n.p. Book review of Michener's novel <i>Poland</i> .
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Ford, Richard. "Michener, the American." <i>Esquire</i> , Oct. 1983, pp. 130, 132.

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
					Book review of Michener's novel <i>Poland</i> .
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Darnton, John. "Polish Romanticism." <i>The New York Times</i> , Sept. 3, 1983, p. 12. Book review of Michener's novel <i>Poland</i> .
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Romano, Carlin. "'Michener: A Writer's Journey': A life meant for the screen. (Book Review)." <i>The Philadelphia Inquirer</i> (via Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service) (Nov 23, 2005): NA. InfoTrac OneFile. Thomson Gale. University of Northern Colorado. 2 Oct. 2006 < http://0-find.galegroup.com.source.unco.edu:80/itx/infomark.do?&contentSet=IAC-Documents&type=retrieve&tabID=T004&prodId=ITOF&docId=CJ139039807&source=gale&srcprod=ITOF&userGroupName=unco&version=1.0 >. Thomson Gale Document Number:CJ139039807.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Aucoin, Don. "The Rise and Fall of Pop Culture It Now Grows so Broad and so Fast, it is no Longer the Great Connector." <i>The Boston Globe</i> , Oct. 11, 2005, n.p. Printout dated 2005 October 13. URL was not available online on 2006 October 2, 2006. Article discusses the fragmentation of pop culture and the "absence of 'middlebrow epic' by the likes of James Michener.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 2 -- Miscellaneous Articles	Dunn, Bill. "James Magnuson Talks of Michener and 'Knots Landing'." <i>Wisconsin Capital Times</i> , Oct. 7, 2005, n.p. Printout dated 2005 October 10. URL was not available online on 2006 October 2, 2006. Magnuson briefly discusses

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
					James A. Michener.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Welsh, Michael and Auriel Sandstead. "On Michener's Trail: A Writer's Journey to the Colorado Plains. Staff Development Day, University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado, May 14, 2001." Greeley, CO: University Libraries, University of Northern Colorado, 2001. Program presented to each staff member who took the bus trip to Keota, Colorado.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	<i>Weld County Past Times</i> , Aug. 21, 1999, portions of pages 3 and 9.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Welsh, Michael. "A Time of Inspiration." <i>Greeley Tribune</i> , August 21, 1999, pp. T14-T15, T19. Welsh discusses how the "environment, economy, and social dynamics" occurring in northeastern Colorado impacted James A. Michener when he arrived to study and teach at Colorado State College of Education in Greeley, Colorado.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Sinisi, Sebastian. "Michener's Legacy to be Examined." <i>Denver Post</i> , Feb. 23, 1999, pp. 5B, 8B. In a telephone conversation, Michael Welsh discusses Michener's legacy to Colorado from the 1930s to the 1970s. Welsh had an upcoming slideshow/lecture on "Michener's Colorado legacy" at the Colorado History Museum.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Cornelius, Coleman. "Relaxing Retreats, Squared." <i>Denver Post</i> , Aug. 22, 1999, 1A, 8A.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Morson, Berny. "Forging Farm Country." <i>Colorado Milestones. Rocky Mountain News</i> , July 6,

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
					1999, n.p.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 3 -- On Michener's Trail	Evaluation form
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 4 -- Walpole, New Hampshire	Machalaba, Daniel. "If You're Thinking of Retiring in...; A Gracious Village: That's How Author James Michener Described the Small (and Cold) Town of Walpole, N.H." <i>Wall Street Journal</i> (Eastern edition), Dec. 20, 2004, pp. R6, R13. One photocopy of the original newspaper; one printout from a ProQuest electronic database.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 5 -- Discovering Michener's America 1999	"Discovering Michener's America 1999, June 23 to June 25, University of Northern Colorado, Summer 1999." Brochure. Greeley, Co: University of Northern Colorado, College of Arts and Sciences, 1999. A brochure describing a three-day James A. Michener workshop being offered by the History Department at the University of Northern Colorado during Summer Semester 1999.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 6 -- Stamps, Postage -- Vanuatu, 2007	Watson, Russell. "James A. Michener Stamps, Vanuatu, 1997 -- Final Art." New Zealand: Latitude Fulfilment Limited, 2007. Scanned image available. The user is responsible for copyright compliance. The University of Northern Colorado does not retain copyright to this image. Contact Russell Watson or Latitude Fulfilment Limited.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 6 -- Stamps, Postage -- Vanuatu, 2007	Lucas Kukler, designer. <i>1907-2007 100th Anniversary Stamp Issue, James A. Michener</i> . Port Vila, Vanuatu: Vanuatu Post Limited, 2007. Scanned image available. Transferred to: James A. Michener Permanent Exhibit.

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
					Scanned image available. The user is responsible for copyright compliance. The University of Northern Colorado does not retain copyright to this image. Contact Vanuatu Post Limited <philatelic@vanuatupost.vu>.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 6 -- Stamps, Postage – Vanuatu, 2007	Kukler; Lucas, designer. "James Michener 100th Anniversary 1907-2007 Vanuatau Official First Day Cover/Envelope Officielle Premier Jour." Port Vila, Vanuatu: Vanuatu Post, 2007. Scanned image available. The user is responsible for copyright compliance. The University of Northern Colorado does not retain copyright to this image. Contact Vanuatu Post Limited <philatelic@vanuatupost.vu>.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 7 -- Stamps, United States, 2008	Sheaff; Richard, designer, and Mark Summers, creator. "James A. Michener." Postage stamp. Washington, DC: United States Postal Service, 2008. Scanned image available. The user is responsible for copyright compliance. The University of Northern Colorado does not retain copyright to this image. Contact the designer, creator, and/or the United States Postal Service.
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 7 -- Stamps, United States, 2008	Sheaff, Richard & Summers, Mark. James A. Michener First Day Cover. (United States -- Commemorative Stamp), 2008. Scanned image available. The user is responsible for copyright compliance. The University of Northern Colorado does not retain copyright to this image. Contact the designer, creator, and/or the United States Postal Service.

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
Miscellaneous Items	SC 1-78	Series	Box 1	Folder 8 -- Stamps, United States, 1984	<p>Winick, Les. "Novelist Takes His readers Inside the CSAC." Photocopy. <i>Linn Stamp News</i>, Aug. 6, 2001, n.p.</p> <p>Michener's Chesapeake Bay retriever appeared on a 1984 canine stamp issued by the United States Postal Service (Scott No. 2099). Michener served on the United States Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee from 1979 to 1986.</p>