

Flaherty, Robert Joseph, 1884-1951.  
Papers, 1884-1970.  
ca. 30,000 items (80 boxes, 16 v.)

Microfilm available.

Film producer and director, pioneer in the documentary film. Robert Joseph Flaherty was married to Frances Hubbard Flaherty. His brother was the documentary film-maker David Flaherty.

The Robert Flaherty Foundation, later absorbed by International Film Seminars, Inc., was established after Flaherty's death to encourage study of "the Flaherty method" of film-making, to advise young directors, and to ensure the continued availability of the Flaherty films.

Summary: Professional and personal papers of Robert J. Flaherty and of his associates Frances Hubbard Flaherty and David Flaherty, concerning his career as an explorer in the Hudson Bay area, and as a film-maker from 1913 until 1951. The collection includes correspondence, diaries, financial records, scripts, publicity materials, his books, short stories, and articles and stills from his films including NANOOK OF THE NORTH (1922), MOANA (1925), MAN OF ARAN (1934), ELEPHANT BOY (1937), THE LAND (1941), and LOUISIANA STORY (1948). Also, files of the Robert Flaherty Foundation, including the later personal papers of Mrs. Flaherty.

On permanent deposit from International Film Seminars, Inc., 1966, 1979.

Photographs by Robert J. Flaherty, Frances H. Flaherty, and others are on extended loan to the Flaherty Study Center, School of Theology, Claremont College, Claremont, CA 91711.

Reader must use microfilm.

- 1) No original materials may be removed from the library at any time.
- 2) Requests for photoduplication must be made in writing to one of the officers of International Film Seminars.

Finding aids: Contents list.

Location: Columbia University. Rare Book and Manuscript Library, New York, NY.

1. Flaherty, David. 2. Flaherty, Frances Hubbard. 3. Flaherty family. 4. International Film Seminars (Firm) 5. Robert Flaherty Foundation. 6. Motion picture industry. 7. Documentary films--Production and direction. 8. Hudson Bay--Description and travel. 9. Diaries. 10. Scripts. 11. Explorers. 12. Motion picture producers and directors.

RGPN: Ms Coll\Flaherty  
ID: NYC89-A291

CC: 9554

DCF: a

PROC: b

Boxes	1-3, part 1	MN #	1901
Boxes	3, part 2 & 4-6	MN #	1902
Boxes	7 & 8, part 1	MN #	1903
Boxes	8 to 9, part 1	MN #	1904
Boxes	9, part 2 & 10	MN #	1905
Box	11	MN #	1906
Box	12	MN #	1907
Boxes	13 & 14, part 1	MN #	1908
Box	14, part 2	MN #	1909
Boxes	15 & 16	NM #	1910
Boxes	17 & 18	MN #	1911
Boxes	19 & 20	MN #	1912
Boxes	21 & 22	MN #	1913
Boxes	23 & 24	MN #	1914
Boxes	25 & 26	MN #	1915
Boxes	27 & 28	MN #	1916
Boxes	29 & 30	MN #	1917
Scrapbooks		MN #	1918
Boxes	31 & 32, part 1	MN #	1919
Boxes	32, part 2 & 33 Scrapbook I	MN #	1920

Box	34 & 35 Scrapbook	MN #	1921
Boxes	36- & 37A	MN #	1922
Boxes	37A - 40	MN #	1923
Boxes	41 & 42	MN #	1924
Boxes	43 & 44	MN #	1925
Boxes	45 & 46	MN #	1926
Boxes	47 & 47	MN #	1927
Boxes	49 & 50	MN #	1928
Boxes	51 - 53	MN #	1929
Boxes	54 & 55	MN #	1930
Boxes	56 & 57	MN #	1931
Boxes	58 & 59	MN #	1932
Boxes	60 & 61	MN #	1933
Boxes	62 & 63	MN #	1934
Boxes	64 & 65	MN #	1935
Boxes	66 & 67	MN #	1936
Boxes	68 & 69	MN #	1937
Boxes	70 & 71	MN #	1938
Boxes	72 & 73	MN #	1939
Boxes	74 & 75	MN #	1940
Boxes	76 & 77	MN #	1941

Boxes 78 & 80

MN# 1942

THE ROBERT J. FLAHERTY PAPERS (Revised 1-26-79 Brc/Pmw)

## I General correspondence:

BOXES 1 - 33: **MICROFILM**  
READER MUST USE Reels

Cataloged correspondence: A - Z

Boxes 1 - 6 1, 2

General correspondence (uncataloged): 1916 - 1937 &amp; n.d.

Box 7 3

1938 - 1942

Box 8 3, 4

1943 - 1949

Box 9 4, 5

1950 - 1951 & letters  
of condolence at the  
death of R.J.F.

Box 10 5

Family correspondence: Frances Hubbard Flaherty (Mrs Robert J.)

Box 11 6

May be used only with  
the written permission  
of Mrs. FrassettoBarbara Lee Flaherty  
and her family (van Ingen)

Box 12 7

Frances Farnham Flaherty  
and her family (Burns)

Box 13 8

Monica Lambard Flaherty  
and her husband (Frassetto)  
Misc. family members

Box 14 8, 9

## II Canadian explorations: A - M

Box 15 10

correspondence

Coleman, A.P.: Northeastern part of Labrador, and New Quebec.

Cree legends

Cree legend of the flood

Eskimo collection of R.J.F.

Eskimo drawings (4)

Eskimo language

Eskimo religion

Eskimo sculpture

Eskimo stories

Kindle, E.M.: Geography and geology of Lake Melville District ...Leith, C.K.: "An Algonkian basin in Hudson Bay."Low & Bell: Report on an exploration of the east coast of Hudson Bay ...: Reports on explorations of the coasts of Hudson Strait ...

McGregor Expedition, 1908

MacKenzie Expedition, 1910-1911

MacKenzie Expedition, 1911-1912

Canadian explorations: M - Z

Box 16 10

MacKenzie Expedition, 1913-1914 (4)

MacKenzie Expedition, 1914-1915

MacKenzie Expedition, 1915-1916

**MICROFILM**

Canadian explorations: M - Z (cont.)

Box 16 (cont.)

Maps

Moore, E.S.: The iron-formation on Belcher Islands ...

Printed misc., clippings, etc., 1913-1936 (8)

Sullivan, Alan: "In Baffin Land."

Young, G.A.: Iron-bearing rocks of Belcher Islands ...

miscellaneous

Reels  
10

Canadian explorations: R.J. Flaherty's writings

Box 17 11

-autobiographical account of travels in the north:  
Raffinland.

The Belcher Islands of Hudson Bay ...

Down river to the bay.

The island exploration in Hudson Bay ...

river travel, etc.

Two cross sections by sledge and canoe across the peninsula of  
northern Ungava.

Two traverses across Ungava Peninsula, Labrador.

Wetalltook's islands. (3)

Winter on Wetalltook's island.

Two reviews of his articles.

Canadian explorations: Diaries (kept by R.J.F. and by others, ships' logs, etc.):

11

1846 - 1911

1911 - 1913

Box 19 12

1913 - 1916

Box 20 12

Canadian explorations: Photographs (with an index to the photographs)  
(STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS)

III Films:

Nanook of the North 1922: A - M

Box 21 13

correspondence (4)

captions

contracts (2)

film fragments (See Box 81)

Flaherty, Frances H.: Diary

Flaherty, R.J.: Diaries (3)

\_\_\_\_\_ : early account of the film

\_\_\_\_\_ : "Filming in the frozen north."

\_\_\_\_\_ : "Life among the Eskimos."

McCracken, Harold: script - sound version

music

Nanook of the North: N - Z

Box 22 13

Patterson, F.T.: "Screened snow and Esquimaux."

Printed materials (misc.) 1922-1951 (7)

Publicity materials (4)

Reviews (typescript copies)

Serial: La Nacion (Santiago, Chile) July 1948

## Films:

## MICROFILM

Nanook of the North: N - Z (cont.)  
 Teacher's guide for school versions  
 Theater programs  
 miscellaneous  
 Box 22 (cont.)  
 Reels  
 13

Nanook of the North: Stills (SEE Box 81)

Moana of the South Seas 1925: correspondence  
 Box 23 14

Moana of the South Seas:  
 Journals, diaries, accounts, and articles by the Flaherty family  
 Box 24 14

Moana of the South Seas:  
 articles  
 Box 25 15  
 Bridle, Augustus: "Film by Canadian called greatest yet."  
 captions - notes  
 contract  
 Dexter, Gayne: article  
 expenditures  
 Gurr, E.W.: Temple of the fe'e.  
 Hall, C.E.: "Samoa approves of Moana."  
 : The snare fence.  
 photographs (SEE Box 81)  
 reviews (2)  
 royalties  
 Samoa - background notes  
 Samoa - maps  
 Samoan collection at the American Museum of Natural History  
Samoan highlights.  
 Samoan songs  
The Story of Mr. Flaherty (O le tala a Misi Falati)  
 Tatooing designs  
 White, W.A.: "Are the movies a mess or a menace?"

Moana of the South Seas: Printed materials (except reviews) misc.  
 Box 26 15

Moana of the South Seas:  
 Three scrapbooks of clippings, letters, and publicity materials  
 Moana - 3 vols.  
 15

The Twenty-four Dollar Island 1927  
 Box 27 16

White Shadows on the South Seas 1928 *photographs (STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS)*

Acoma 1929:  
 clippings & correspondence  
 contract  
 Flaherty, F.H.: Polacca diary.  
 photographs (*STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS*)  
 scenarios  
 synopses

**MICROFILM**

## Films:

Tabu 1929:

correspondence  
 Colorart vs. Flaherty & Murnau  
 contracts  
 diaries  
 maps  
 photographs (*STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS*)  
 printed materials  
 synopses  
 miscellaneous

Box 27 (cont.)

Reels

16

Industrial Britain 1933:

Flaherty, R.J.: Report - 1931  
 printed materials  
 scenario  
 Seabury, W.M.: Report - 1931

Man of Aran 1934: correspondence

Box 28 16

Man of Aran: Articles, background materials, etc.

Box 29 17

Aran Islands - history  
 Cinema 16, 1958  
 contracts - 1949-1950  
 curach  
 dialogue, prologue, script  
 Dublin Gate Theatre - Storm song.  
 Flaherty - alien registration  
 Flaherty, F.H.: account of storm scene.  
       : "Making Man of Aran."  
 Flaherty, R.J.: account of making the film.  
 Flaherty, R.J.: "Maggie."  
 Fordam University - The Gaelic Ram, 1958  
 interviews (3)  
 inventory  
 Irish Folk Tale  
 Liverpool essay contest  
 maps  
 Mullen, Pat: Man of Aran - reviews  
 premier invitation  
 press releases  
 publicity  
 reviews (2)  
 shark - notes on the basking shark  
 Sheffield campaign

Man of Aran: Misc. printed materials

Box 30 17

Man of Aran: Photographs & stillsMan of Aran: Stills

} SEE Box 80

Man of Aran:

Nine workbooks of clippings, letters, and publicity materials

Aran 9 vols.

18



## Films:

[MICROFILM]

REELS

Elephant Boy 1937:

Box 31

19

correspondence  
accounts  
call sheets  
continuity  
continuity - notes

Elephant Boy:

Box 32 19-20

continuity - revised  
continuity - treatments  
continuity - typescript  
cost sheet  
dialogue  
first script  
Flaherty vs. London Film Production, Ltd., 1937-1938  
Flaherty, D.T. - contract  
Flaherty, R.J. - interview  
Flaherty, R.J. - newspaper articles  
Fremlin, Ralph W.  
Mandu  
Outlines  
outline - draft a.ms.  
outline - Biro notes  
outline - by Zoltan Korda  
outline - de Silva  
outline - "Mysore"  
outline - notes  
outline - second half (3)

Elephant Boy:

Box 33 20

Padripet  
progress reports  
properties  
publicity (7)  
reviews (2)  
schedules  
MISCELLANEOUS

Elephant Boy:

stills & photographs (STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS)

Elephant Boy:

scrapbook of clippings

Elephant Boy 20Elephant Boy:

F.H. Flaherty's books:  
Der Elefant-Boy. 1938.  
Elephant Dance. 1937.  
Sabu the Elephant Boy. 1937.  
correspondence, reviews, & copies of her books

Box 34 21

Elephant Boy:

F.H. Flaherty's books:  
scrapbook-draft of Elephant Dance

Elephant Dance

## Films:

The Land 1941:

correspondence (5)  
 Bromfield, Louis: review  
 film clips (*STRIP FILM IN PROCESS*)  
 Flaherty, F.H.: soil erosion article - notes  
 Flaherty, R.J.: account of film  
 Griffith, Richard: "The Land." - review  
 Lord, Russell: memoranda  
 \_\_\_\_\_: "Soil and man."  
 \_\_\_\_\_: "Why farmers are poor." - review  
 maps  
 memoranda  
 printed misc. (2)  
 publicity (3)  
 review  
 scripts (10)  
 U.S. Dept. of Agriculture - pamphlets  
 Wallace, Henry A.: "The American choice."  
 \_\_\_\_\_: introduction to The Land  
 \_\_\_\_\_: statements

MICROFILM

Box 35

REBS

21

Louisiana Story 1948:

correspondence  
 financial records

Box 36

22

Louisiana Story:

Academy Award - nomination  
 advertising (2)  
 Arriflex camera  
 Authors League of America  
 Bonded Film Storage  
 book mock-up  
 Bondraux, J.C. - sketch, etc.  
 British Film Academy  
 contracts & agreements  
 cutting continuity  
 distribution  
 Edinburgh Festival - certificate  
 equipment  
 film clips (*STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS*)  
 Flaherty, F.H.: diary notes  
 Flaherty, R.J.: account of film  
 \_\_\_\_\_: Louisiana-Legende  
 \_\_\_\_\_: "The story behind Louisiana Story!"  
Let Freedom Ring - ABC 30 November 1948  
 music (5)  
 National Board of Review of Motion Pictures  
 oil  
 oil survey  
 opening titles (2)  
 publicity  
 Screen Directors Guild - January 1951  
 Standard Oil Co.  
 Standard Oil Co. - film proposal  
 Van Dongen, Helen: Louisiana Story study film  
 \_\_\_\_\_: notes for book on editing  
 \_\_\_\_\_: script for BBC, June 1949

Box 37 22-23

## Films:

MICROFILM *etc*Louisiana Story (cont.):

Van Dongen, Helen: "350 cans of film." from: The Cinema 1951.  
misc.

Box 37(cont.) 23

Louisiana Story:

scripts

Box 38

Louisiana Story:

printed materials - U.S.

Box 39

Louisiana Story:

printed materials - foreign

Box 40

Louisiana Story:

stills &amp; photographs

(STRIP FILM IN PROCESS)

Louisiana Story:

Leica Film Strip Catalog (STRIP FILM IN PROCESS)

Guernica 1949:

clipping

notes by Alfred Barr

scenario

Box 41 24

The Titan 1950

correspondence

distribution

Edinburgh Festival

National Gallery of Art - preview invitation

photographs

press release

printed (6)

St. Matthew Passion 1951

correspondence

opening titles

outline

printed materials (3)

scenario

Proposed films: outlines, correspondence, budgets, etc. for films  
which were planned but not made.

Box 42

Hawaii (6)Iviuk, son of Nanook.Machines and the world beyond war.Pit Boy. (Collier story or Pony Boy)A singer of the south seas.South American film.Soviet Union.Turia.York Penna..

## IV General writings by R.J. Flaherty - books:

MICROFILM *REALS*The Captain's Chair

Box 43 25

correspondence (6)  
 corrections  
 dust-jacket (Hodder & Stoughton edition)  
 registration & synopsis  
 reviews (2)  
 serial: The Elks Magazine, 1928-1929 (2)  
The Captain's Chair; a story of the north. New York, Charles Scribner's  
 Sons, 1938. 315 p. one copy.

The Captain's Chair

Box 44

"The last voyage of Captain Grant." (3 t.ms. copies)  
 draft  
 radio scripts 1 - 6  
 television scripts (3)  
 "The story of Comock."  
 correspondence  
 BBC broadcasts (4)  
 drafts (2)  
Readers' Digest (Selecciones)  
 typescripts - 5 versions

My Eskimo friends "Nanook of the north".

Box 45 26

correspondence  
 contract  
 drafts  
 introduction by R.J. Flaherty (not used)  
 introduction by Charles Hanson Towne (not used)  
 outline  
 reviews  
My Eskimo friends "Nanook of the north". New York, Doubleday, Page & Co.,  
 1924. 170 p. two copies; one inscribed by R.J. Flaherty to F.H. Flaherty.

Samoa.

{correspondence  
 {contract  
Samoa. Berlin, Reimar Hobbing c1932. 179 p. one copy.

White Master.

correspondence  
 corrections & additions  
 drafts (a.ms.)

White Master.

Box 46

drafts (t.ms.)  
 reviews  
 typescripts (2)  
White master; a story of the north. London, George Routledge & Sons,  
 Ltd. c1939. 304 p. four proof copies, with corrections.

MICROFILM REELS  
Box 47 27

## General writings by R.J. Flaherty - short stories:

The bear.  
Bonito the bull.  
Captain Allen.  
The 'Cercle Bougainville'.  
I.C. Nelson.  
Jungle story.  
. Une histoire de la jungle.  
Lady Wolsey.  
Matches. (The last match.)  
Poi, the story of a boy of the south seas.  
Precious (!) stones.  
Purgatories of the sea.  
Red-nose Jones.  
Sketches & stories.  
Snakes!  
Sorine.  
South sea customs.  
Thalberg's sister.  
Tomorrow's movies.  
misc.

## Autobiographical writings:

Box 48

autobiography, (2)  
diary ca. 1950,  
diary 1951  
Film: the language of the eye. (2)  
The islands that were not there. (3)  
The story of Robert J. Flaherty. (2)  
Wander no more.  
Untitles: on English films  
on motion pictures  
on the Readers' Digest  
Misc.

## V Other materials (pre-1952):

Biographical manuscripts (20)  
Interviews (10)  
Misc.: address books  
check stubs  
wallets  
will - probate documents  
Misc. manuscripts

Box 49 28

## German Tour - 1950:

(STRIP FILMS IN PROCESS)  
correspondence, clippings, photographs, etc. re. R.J.F.'s tour  
for the Cultural Exchange Program of the State Department.

Box 50

## Printed materials re. R.J.F., 1923 - 1951.

Box 51 29

## Obituaries of R.J.F.

Box 52

**MICROFILM**Reas  
29

## Other materials (pre-1952):

Photographs: R.J. Flaherty

~~(S. J. Flaherty)~~

F.H. Flaherty and others

~~(S. J. Flaherty)~~

Awards, medals, etc.

Box 53

Inscribed books &amp; misc. printed materials

Box 54 30

## VI General writings by F.H. Flaherty:

The odyssey of a film-maker; Robert Flaherty's story. Urbana,  
Ill.: Beta Phi Mu, 1960. 45 p.  
drafts, proofs, 3 copies, etc.

Box 55

F.H. Flaherty's articles, short stories, etc.

Box 56 31

## VII Paul Rotha's biography of R.J. Flaherty (unpublished)

" "

F.H. Flaherty Memorial Service (printed) 1972.

" "

VIII The Robert Flaherty Foundation (later absorbed by  
International Film Seminars, Inc.):

Lectures given by F.H. Flaherty

Box 57

Organizations, subjects, states, etc.:

A - Bon

Box 58 32

Bos - Can

Box 59

Car - Contemporary Films, Inc. (1)

Box 60 33

Contemporary Films, Inc. (2) - Film N ...

Box 61

Film P ... - Fo

Box 62 34

Fr - Ge

Box 63

Cr - In

Box 64 35

Ir - Museum of Modern Art (1)

Box 65

Museum of Modern Art (2) - N

Box 66 36

O - T

Box 67

U. - U.K.

Box 68 37

U.N. - Z

Box 69

## Personal names:

A - B

Box 70 38

C - D

Box 71

E - J

Box 72 39

K - R

Box 73

S - Z

Box 74 40

## Schools:

A - L

Box 75

M - Z

Box 76 41

## Seminars

Box 77

Study film of Louisiana story. correspondence, scripts, etc.

Box 78 42

Miscellaneous: minutes, by-laws, etc.

Box 79

A Visual Index to the Flaherty Still Photographs

Box 80

Press Book I: Reviews of the films (scrapbook)

Press Book I

Press Book II: General (scrapbook)

Press Book II