

# Guide to the Margaret Mead Christmas card collection C0216

Margaret Mead Christmas card collection

1962 - 1977



## Title Statement

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**Subtitle:** Margaret Mead Christmas card collection

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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

C0216

**Unit ID**

/repositories/2/resources/333

**Unit Date**

1962 - 1977

**Mixed Materials**

1 (box)

**Language**

English

**Abstract**

A collection of 11 Christmas cards from anthropologist Margaret Mead with five cards signed with holiday greetings.

**Creator**

Mead, Margaret, 1901-1978

**Extent**

.01 Linear Feet 1 folder

**Physical Location**

R 44, C 1, S 2

**Repository**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

There are no access restrictions.

**Use Restrictions**

The copyright and related rights status of this collection have not been evaluated (See <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/CNE/1.0/>)

**Acquisition Information**

Purchased in 2012.

**Processing Information**

Processed in August 2012 by Jordan Patty. EAD markup completed in August 2012 by Jordan Patty. Finding aid updated by Amanda Menjivar in January 2023.

**Preferred Citation**

Margaret Mead Christmas card photograph collection, C0216, Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.

## Historical Information

Margaret Mead was a prominent twentieth-century educator, writer, and lecturer. An anthropologist by occupation, she studied the lives of natives of Samoa, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea. Her first book, "Coming of Age in Samoa: A Psychological Study of Primitive Youth for Western Civilization" (New York: Morrow, 1928), which compared the seemingly care-free adolescent years in Samoan culture to this stressful period of development for American teenagers, catapulted her to instant fame. As she went on to research and write about other cultures, she used her anthropological studies as a framework to discuss and analyze American society.

## Scope and Content

A collection of 11 Christmas cards from anthropologist Margaret Mead with five cards signed and with holiday greetings. The collection includes 10 original photographic prints, with one in color, and one printed card, many taken by friends and contributors to her work, such as visual anthropologist Paul Byers and cinematographer Richard Leiterman. Four of the card images include Mead's granddaughter, Sevanne "Vanni" Kassanjian, with one also showing her daughter, Mary Catherine Bateson (herself a well-respected anthropologist). Three other Christmas cards picture Mead with indigenous people of New Guinea and Bali, often surrounded by children, with one lone color image of her being filmed on Manus Island for the 1968 documentary "Margaret Mead's New Guinea Journal." Other cards show artwork, a choir, and various children.

## Related Material

The Special Collections Research Center holds the [George Mason University photograph collection](#) that includes several photographs of Mary Catherine Bateson, Mead's daughter and a former professor of

Anthropology at GMU.

The Library of Congress holds the [Margaret Mead papers](#).

## Keywords

Photographs

Correspondence

Christmas cards

Mead, Margaret, 1901-1978

## Arrangement

Arranged by size.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Margaret Mead Christmas card collection**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85461

**Unit Date** 1962-1977

#### **Two children watching television by Mead with a holiday greeting**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85462

**Unit Date** 1962

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

#### **Scope and Content**

3" x 5"

#### **Mead on Manus Island with native children,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85463

**Unit Date** 1964

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

#### **Scope and Content**

Inscribed by Mead with a holiday greeting. 3" x 4"

#### **Mead being filmed on Manus Island for the 1968 documentary "Margaret Mead's New Guinea Journal,"**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85464

**Unit Date** 1967

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Language** English

#### **Scope and Content**

Signed by Mead with a holiday greeting. Photograph by Leiterman. 3" x 7"

#### **Choir of boys singing at the Petralia Soprana commune in Italy,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85465

**Unit Date** 1968

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

#### **Scope and Contents**

3" x 7"

**Stone sculpture by William K. Roberts,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85466

**Unit Date** 1969

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

3" x 7"

**Mead's granddaughter in a college classroom,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85467

**Unit Date** 1970

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

3" x 6"

**Baby in a sling**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85468

**Unit Date** 1972

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Photograph by Peter Gordon. 3" x 7"

**Mead's granddaughter holding cymbals by Mead with a holiday greeting,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85469

**Unit Date** 1973

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Holiday greeting from Mead. 3" x 6"

**Margaret Mead and her granddaughter in Tehran**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85470

**Unit Date** 1975

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Photograph by Robert Levin. Signed by Mead. 3" x 5"

**Mead with her daughter, Mary Catherine Bateson, and granddaughter,**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85471

**Unit Date** 1976

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Photograph by Polyxane Cobb. 3" x 5"

**Mead in Bali with children all around**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/85472

**Unit Date** 1977

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

3" x 5"