

Finding Aid

Kathryn Hulme

Photograph Albums

Kaua'i Historical Society

Lihue, Kaua'i

MS 80

2 photograph albums
6 Kodak photos

Kathryn Hulme was born in San Francisco in 1909, the daughter of John Page and Julia Frances (Cavarly) Hulme. She attended the University of California, followed by Columbia University, and Hunter College which is now part of the City University of New York. Her first job was with the *Daily Californian* as a reporter. In the 1930s Hulme was living in Paris but returned at the outbreak of the war to the United States, where she worked as a welder in the Kaiser Shipyards. 1945-1947 found Hulme serving with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in occupied Germany.

As a author, her books included: How's the Road in 1928; Arab Interlude in 1930; Desert Night 1932; We Lived as Children published in 1938; The Wild Place 1953; The Nun's Story in 1956; Annie's Captain 1961; The Undiscovered Country: A Spiritual Adventure in 1966, and Look a Lion in the Eye: on Safari Through Africa released in 1974.

Hulme is best known as the author of the book The Nun's Story, published in 1956, which became the basis for the movie by the same name starring Audrey Hepburn and Peter Finch. The Wild Place was based on her experiences as the Director of the Polish Displaced Persons for the United Nations in Wildflecken, Germany after WWII, won the Atlantic Non-Fiction Award in 1952.

The Nun's Story is Hulme's biography of Marie-Louise Habets, fictionalized. They became life-long companions after meeting during WWII. Habets was a nun in the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary, where she served in a mental health facility in the Belgian Congo. Shortly thereafter, she left the Sisters, and joined the Belgian Resistance. In 1944 Habets was living in Antwerp after it was liberated and became part of a British First Aid unit helping wounded soldiers after the Battle of the Bulge. At the end of the war she cared for Belgians who were released from camps in Germany. From 1948 – 1951 she served as Area Chief Nurse for the International Refugee Organization of the United Nations.

Hulme and Habets moved to Arizona, then later on to California – where Habets nursed Audrey Hepburn who was recovering from a fall from a horse.

In 1960 the final location – Kaua'i, became their home where they pursued a gentle life of gardening, breeding dogs, and of enjoying the local environment and social life. Kathryn died in 1981, followed by Habets in 1986.

Scope of the collection:

Kathryn Hulme's scrapbooks contain a variety of photographs taken on Kaua'i during the years she resided here with her companion of many years.

Many of the photographs are of the Kokee area and taken from a helicopter, one shows her home from above; others are scenic mountain views.

6 Kodak prints – 3 prints are of Bob Schleck and Harold Rosa; 2 of the other 3 photographs show a young lady with a German Sheppard, the 3rd print includes Kathryn Hulme.

Additional information about Ms. Hulme is located in the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library at Yale University.

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Album 1 -- All photographs are black & white

Leaf 1 – 6 photos -- groups in rocky area, second row final photo identified person on far right as John Plews

2 – photo of Holo-Holo-Ku Heiau

3 – photo of building

4 – 3 photographs of homes

5 – 3 photographs of homes

6 – 2 photo of wall, and ceiling

7 – tropical foliage under deck

8 – 3 photos, identified as Faye house, Hanalei

9 – 3 additional photographs of Faye property

10 – 6 photographs – Kekaha wooden Catholic Church which burned in the 1970s; church bell, 2 other structures

11—4 photographs of the St. Raphael's Catholic Church, Koloa

12 --5 photographs overlooking the ocean cliffside, with fisherman

13 – 4 photographs – 3 overlooking the ocean from cliffside; 2 hikers

14 – 6 photographs: Albert Wilcox Hanalei House

15 – Hanapepe Store

16 – 4 photos – 3 scenic clouds, 1 structure unidentified

17 – 3 photos; 2 of Hikina A Ka La, and a photo of lei

Album 2 – most photographs are in color

Leaf 1 & 2 – 13 photographs – 11 of Alakai Swamp from helicopter; note indicates “with Juliet Wichman”; 2 photos of helicopter – 1 each inside/outside

4 & 5 – 12 photographs, continuation of views from helicopter

6 5 photographs – landscapes of sugar cane area, clouds, ravine, and a photo showing man, woman and dog near a ditch

7 2 photographs – a pump station and water ditch

8 4 photos – sugar cane field, equipment, and building

9 1 photo, large brick structure, possibly a early sugar mill

12 5 views: 2 folks looking for shells on a sandy beach; 3 scenic views

15 3 color photographs of Kalalau – 2 of trees, one of sign

16 3 color photos of the trees at Grove Farm, (M.I. Wilcox house)

17 & 18 – 4 black and white photographs of same trees

19 3 color photographs of the Historical Society visit to Poaku Heiau