



TITLE: The Robert Markow Photography Collection

DATE RANGE: 1940s - 1990s

CALL NUMBER: PP-PC 244

LOCATION: Arizona Heritage Center, 1300 N College Ave, Tempe, AZ 85288

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 122 linear feet, 367 boxes

PROVENANCE: Donated by Paul Markow, November 2021

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PREFERRED CITATION: Arizona Historical Society Tempe, Robert Markow Photography Collection, PP-PC 244

PROCESSED BY: Victoria Clark, December 2022; Finding aid edited by Isabel Cazares

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Photographer Robert “Bob” Markow was born on November 5th, 1914 and grew up in Bronx, New York City, New York. Originally trained in commercial art, Markow was drafted into the U.S Air Force when the United States joined World War II in 1941. He was relocated to Thunderbird Field in Glendale, Arizona and, after being deemed too big to fit in a cockpit, was assigned to be base photographer.

Markow was eventually moved to Luke Airforce Base where many important visitors to Arizona flew through, such as Phil Harris and Kay Kaiser. He continued to take photographs for the base until he was discharged at the end of World War II. He then opened a photography business out of his home in Scottsdale, Arizona for a number of years before establishing his first studio in Phoenix. Eventually he acquired three other businesses in Tempe, Glendale, and Mesa. After these acquisitions, Markow handed the commercial side of the business over to his son, Paul.

Nicknamed the “Dean of Arizona Photographers,” Markow was involved in various aspects of the business and photography community in Arizona. He was a part of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the Phoenix Rotary 100 as well as the Arizona and Phoenix Professional Photographers Associations.

Robert passed away on June 11, 2009.

HISTORICAL NOTE: In 1956 Robert Markow opened Bob Markow Photo Photography at 741 E. McDowell Road. The business eventually expanded into providing colored photography (Colormark), photography supplies (Photomark), and making photo IDs (AI-Cor Identification Solutions). Colormark, Photomark, and AI-Cor Identification Solutions were sold to Liska Imaging in 2006. When Markow retired, the business was passed to his son, Paul Markow, who ran it until changes in the industries led to the decision to close the studio in 2017.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The collection is arranged in seven series. Series I: Black and White; Series II: Color; Series III: Aerial; Series IV: Aerial Contacts; Series V: Stock; Series VI: Portraiture; and Series VII: Business Content. A majority of the content is photo negatives but some series include prints. If otherwise unmarked, the photographer was Markow himself. Photo sleeves indicate other photographers, if applicable.

SUBJECT TERMS: aerial, architecture, bank, Bisbee, business, Carl Hayden, Chandler, charity, citizenship, department store, General Electric, Grady Gammage, hotel, Jewish, John F. Kennedy, KOOL TV, passport, people, photography, Phoenix, politician, Porter’s Western Wear Store, portrait, school, Tempe, Thunderbirds Charities, U-Haul, Valley National Bank, wedding, Westward Ho

RELATED MATERIALS: PP-OH 1, Box 15, Folder 28: Robert “Bob” Markow Oral History

CONTAINER LIST:

Series I: Black and White

Box	Description	Dates
1a	1 - 274	September 1942 - July 1950
1b	275 - 424	March 1946 - March 1947
2	425 - 589	March 1947 - May 1948
3	590 - 848	June 1948 - July 1949
4	851 - 1147	July 1949 - September 1950
5	1148 - 1447	September 1950 - October 1951
6	1448 - 1779	October 1951 - July 1952
7	1781- 1980	July - December 1952
8	1981 - 2141	December 1952 - April 1953

9	2142 -2381	April - October 1953
10	2383 -2629	October 1953 - February 1954
11	2631 -2885	February - June 1954
12	2886 - 3126	June - October 1954
13	3127 - 3325	October - December 1954
14	3326 - 3520	December 1954 - February 1955
15	3521 - 3838	February - June 1955
16	3837 - 4160	June - October 1955
17	4161 - 4444	November 1955 - January 1956
18	4445 - 4771	January - May 1956
19	4772 - 5149	May - September 1946
20	5150 - 5465	September - November 1956
21	5466 - 5786	November 1956 - February 1957
22	5767 - 6177	February - May 1957
23	6178 - 6489	May - August 1957
24	6490 - 6878	August - November 1957
25	6879 - 7248	November 1957 - February 1958
26	7252 - 2625	February - April 1958
27	7626 - 8056	April - August 1958
28	8057 - 8438	August - November 1958
29	8439 - 8799	November 1958 - January 1959
30	8800 - 9000	January - February 1959
31	9001 - 9400	February - May 1959
32	9401 - 9770	May - August 1959
33	9771 - 10140	August - October 1959

34	10141 - 10450	October - December 1959
35	10451 -10780	December 1959 - February 1960
36	10781 - 11100	February - April 1960
37	11101 - 11480	April - July 1960
38	11481 - 11820	July - September 1960
39	11821 -12180	September - November 1960
40	12181 - 12510	November 1960 - February 1961
41	12511 -12880	February - April 1961
42	12881 -13200	April - June 1961
43	13201 - 13550	June - September 1961
44	13551 - 13900	September - November 1961
45	13901 - 14230	December 1961 - February 1962
46	14231 - 14600	February - April 1962
47	14601 - 15050	April - August 1962
48	15051 -15800	September - November 1962
49	15519 - 15940	November 1962 - February 1963
50	15941 - 16370	February - May 1963
51	16371 -16820	May - September 1963
52	16821 - 17250	September - November 1963
53	17251 -17680	November 1963 - February 1964
54	17681 - 19513	February - June 1964
55	10151 - 18600	June - September 1964
56	18601 - 19050	September - December 1964
57	19514 - 19513	December 1964 - April 1965
58	19514 - 19999	April - August 1965

59	20001 - 20450	July - December 1965
60	20451 - 20929	November 1965 - May 1966
61	20930 - 21468	March - August 1966
62	21469 - 21962	August - November 1966
63	21963 - 22449	November 1966 - March 1967
64	22450 - 22899	March - June 1967
65	22900 - 23319	June - October 1967
66	23329 - 23809	October 1967 - January 1968
67	23810 - 24299	January - May 1968
68	24300 - 24809	May - September 1968
69	24810 - 25279	September 1968 - January 1969
70	25280 - 25730	January - March 1969
71	25731 - 26089	March May 1969
72	26090 - 26580	May - July 1969
73	26581 - 27070	July - September 1969
74	27071 - 27620	September - December 1969
75	27621 - 28130	December 1969 - February 1970
76	28131 -28640	February - April 1970
77	28641 - 29150	April - June 1970
78	29151 - 29650	June - September 1970
79	29651 - 30100	September - November 1970
80	30101 - 30500	November 1970 - January 1971
81	30501 - 30980	January - March 1971
82	30981 - 31400	March - June 1971
83	31401 - 31850	June - August 1971

84	31814 - 32251	August - October 1971
85	32252 - 32534	October - December 1971
86	32535 - 32930	November 1971 - February 1972
87	32931 - 33294	February - March 1972
88	33297 - 33574	March - May 1972
89	33575 - 33940	May - August 1972
90	33411 - 34290	August - October 1972
91	34291 - 34659	October - December 1972
92	34660 - 35055	December 1972 - March 1973
93	35056 - 35453	March - June 1973
94	35454 - 35821	June - August 1973
95	35822 - 36114	August - November 1973
96	36115 - 36404	November 1973 - January 1974
97	36405 - 36677	January - March 1974
98	36678 - 36919	March - April 1974
99	36923 - 37129	April - June 1974
100	37130 - 37349	June - July 1974
101	37130 - 37349	July - September 1974
102	37560 - 37744	September - November 1974
103	37745 - 37938	November - December 1974
104	37939 - 38130	December 1974 - January 1975
105	38131 - 38338	January - March 1975
106	38339 - 38521	March - April 1975
107	38522 - 38704	April - June 1975
108	38705 - 38909	May - August 1975

109	38910 - 39089	August - September 1975
110	39090 - 39279	September - November 1975
111	39280 - 39499	November 1975 - January 1976
112	39500 - 39679	January - March 1976
113	39680 - 39859	February - June 1976
114	39860 - 40039	May - June 1976
115	40040 - 40185	June - August 1976
116	40220 - 40398	August - September 1976
117	40399 - 40554	September - October 1976
118	40555 - 40754	October - December 1976
119	40755 - 40924	December 1976 - February 1977
120	40925 - 41099	February - April 1977
121	41100 - 41377	April - June 1977
122	41278 - 41446	May - July 1977
123	41447 - 41631	July - September 1977
124	41632 - 41815	September - November 1977
125	41816 - 41989	November - December 1977
126	41990 - 42149	December 1977 - January 1978
127	42150 - 42319	January - March 1978
128	42320 - 42452	March - May 1978
129	42453 - 42611	May - July 1978
130	42612 - 42799	July - August 1978
131	42780 - 42959	August - December 1978
132	42960 - 43159	October - December 1978
133	43160 - 43314	December 1978 - January 1979

134	43315 - 43488	January - March 1979
135	43489 - 43654	March - May 1979
136	43655 - 43854	May - June 1979
137	43855 - 44025	June - August 1979
138	44026 - 44194	August - October 1979
139	44195 - 44379	October - December 1979
140	44380 - 44536	December 1979 - January 1980
141	44537 - 44834	January - March 1980
142	44835 - 45004	March - May 1980
143	45005 - 45211	May - August 1980
144	45212 - 45377	August - September 1980
145	45378 - 45588	September - December 1980
146	45589 - 45765	November 1980 - February 1981
147	45766 - 45994	February - March 1981
148	45995 - 46131	March - May 1981
149	46132 - 46363	May - September 1981
150	46364 - 46653	September 1981 - June 1982
151	46654 - 46934	June 1982 - October 1983
152	46935 - 47139	November 1983 - May 1984
153	47140 - 47341	May - November 1984
154	47342 - 47550	November 1984 - May 1985
155	47551 - 47700	May - October 1985
156	47701 - 47879	October 1985 - April 1986
157	47880 - 48015	April - August 1986
158	48016 - 48156	August - December 1986

159	48157 - 48302	December 1986 - May 1987
160	48303 - 48499	May - October 1987
161	48500 - 48663	October 1987 - February 1988
162	48664 - 48808	April - August 1988
163	48809 - 48995	August 1988 - April 1989
164	48996 - 49173	April - December 1989
165	49174 - 49329	December 1989 - August 1990
166	49330 - 49418	August 1990 - February 1991
OV1	559 - 12403	
OV2	10012 - 27553	
OV3	12480 - 20942	
OV4	23101 - 25883	

Series II: Color

Note: Black and white photos with color versions have numbers written on the envelope. This is a preliminary inventory of the color photography. In this series date ranges may overlap due to the job numbering system.

Box	Description	Dates
1	C0 - C290	1957 - September 1959
2	C291 - C530	October 1959 - April 1961
3	C531 - C800	April 1961 - Summer 1962
4	C801 -C1115	September 1962 - April 1964
5	C1116 - C1350	April 1964 - May 1965
6	C1351 - C1570	May 1965 - April 1966
7	C1571 - C1809	April 1966 - January 1967
8	C1810 - C2024	January 1967 - September 1967

9	C2025 - C2240	September 1967 - March 1968
10	C2241 - C2430	March 1968 - October 1968
11	C2431 - C2659	October 1968 - April 1969
12	C2660 - C2889	March 1969 - August 1969
13	C2890 - C3109	August 1969 - December 1969
14	C3110 - C3329	December 1969 - March 1970
15	C3330 - C3529	May 1970 - September 1970
16	C3530 - C3750	September 1970 - December 1970
17	C3751 - C4020	January 1971 - June 1971
18	C4021 - C4250	June 1971 - October 1971
19	C4251 - C4500	October 1971 - December 1971
20	C4501 - C4710	December 1971 - March 1972
21	C4711 - C 4910	April 1972 - July 1972
22	C4911 - C5120	June 1972 - October 1972
23	C5121 - C5300	October 1972 - January 1973
24	C5301 - C5470	January 1973 - April 1973
25	C5491 - C5622	April 1973 - July 1973
26	C5623 - C5729	August 1973 - September 1973
27	C5730 - C5889	September 1973 - November 1973
28	C5890 - C6011	November 1973 - January 1974
29	C6012 - C6199	January 1974 - April 1974
30	C6200 - C6320	April 1974 - June 1974
31	C6321 - C3425	June 1974 - August 1974
32	C6426 - C6534	August 1974 - April 1975
33	C6535 - C6662	1974 - 1975

34	C6663 - C6799	January 1975 - April 1975
35	C6800 - C6883	April 1975 - June 1975
36	C6884 - C6979	June 1975 - January 1976
37	C6980 - C7074	September 1975 - January 1976
38	C7075 - C7174	October 1975 - February 1976
39	C7180 - C7306	December 1975 - April 1976
40	C7307 - C7380	April 1976 - June 1976
41	C7381 - C7478	June 1976 - September 1976
42	C7479 - C7580	June 1976 - October 1976
43	C7581 - C7611	October 1976 - November 1976
44	C7612 - C7763	December 1976 - April 1977
45	C7764 - C7862	March 1977 - June 1977
46	C7863 - C7454	June 1977 - September 1977
47	C7960 - C8078	September 1977 - November 1977
48	C8079 - C8195	November 1977 - January 1978
49	C8194 - C8294	January 1978 - April 1978
50	C8295 - C8364	March 1978 - June 1978
51	C8365 - C8453	June 1978 - August 1978
52	C8454 - C8587	August 1978 - September 1978
53	C8588 - C8718	September 1978
54	C8725 - C8823	September 1978 - November 1978
55	C8824 - C8866	November 1978 - January 1979
56	C8867 - C8975	January 1979 - June 1979
57	C9110 - C9287	June 1979 - October 1979
58	C9288 - C9569	November 1979 - December 1979

59	C9470 - C9620	January 1980 - March 1980
60a	C9621 - C9874	March 1980 - May 1980
60b	C9878 - C9994	June 1980 - August 1980
61	C9995 - C10143	August 1980 - October 1980
62	C10144 - C10239	October 1980 - November 1980
63	C10241 - C10333	December 1980
64	C10334 - C10425	December 1980 - March 1981
65	C10427 - C10498	March 1981 - May 1981
66	C10499 - C10555	May 1981 - June 1981
67	C10556 - C10623	June 1981 - August 1981
68	C10633 - C10697	August 1981 - October 1981
69	C10698 - C10761	September 1981 - October 1981
70	C10762 - C10903	October 1981 - November 1981
71	C10856 - C10903	November 1981 - December 1981
72	C10904 - C10908	December 1981
73	C10929 - C11051	December 1981 - January 1982
74	C11052 - C11132	January 1982 - February 1982
75	C11133 - C11209	February 1982 - March 1982
76	C11210 - C11266	March 1982 - April 1982
77	C11267 - C11329	April 1982 - May 1982
78	C11330 - C11366	May 1982 - June 1982
79	C11367 - C11429	June 1982 - July 1982
80	C11430 - C11500	July 1982 - August 1982
81	C11501 - C11564	August 1982 - September 1982
82	C11565 - C11613	September 1982

83	C11614 - C11664	September 1982 - October 1982
84	C11665 - C11716	October 1982
85	C11717 - C11761	October 1982 - November 1982
86	C11762 - C11815	November 1982 - December 1982
87	C11816 - C11877	December 1982 - January 1983
88	C11878 - C11946	January 1983 - February 1983
89	C11947 - C12007	February 1983 - March 1983
90	C12008 - C12073	March 1983 - April 1983
91	C12074 - C12139	April 1983 - May 1983
92	C12140 - C12196	May 1983 - June 1983
93	C12197 - C12215	June 1983 - July 1983
94	C12216 - C12319	July 1983 - September 1983
95a	C12320 - C12422	September 1983 - October 1983
95b	C12423 - C12505	October 1983 - December 1983
96	C12506 - C12575	December 1983 - January 1984
97	C12576 - C12660	January 1984 - February 1984
98	C12661 - C12734	February 1984 - May 1984
99	C12735 - C12801	May 1984 - June 1984
100	C12802 - C12872	June 1984 - August 1984
101	C12873 - C12949	August 1984 - October 1984
102	C12950 - C13024	October 1984 - January 1985
103	C13025 - C13098	December 1984 - February 1985
104	C13099 - C13161	February 1985 - April 1985
105	C13162 - C13214	March 1985
106	C13215 - C13265	May 1985 - July 1985

107	C13260 - C13330	July 1985 - October 1985
108	C13331 - C13388	October 1985 - November 1985
109	C13389 - C13544	October 1985 - December 1985
110	C13545 - C13544	December 1985 - February 1986
111	C13545 - C13609	February 1986 - May 1986
112	C13667 - C13724	May 1986 - August 1986
113	C13725 - C13775	June 1986 - October 1986
114	C13776 - C13821	October 1986 - June 1986
115	C13822 - C13881	June 1986 - January 1987
116	C13882 - C13922	January 1987 - March 1987
117	C13923 - C13971	March 1987 - April 1987
118	C13972 - C14028	April 1987 - June 1987
119	C14029 - C14096	June 1987 - September 1987
120	C14097 - C14144	September 1987 - October 1987
121	C14145 - C14189	October 1987 - November 1987
122	C14190 - C14246	November 1987 - February 1988
123	C14247 - C14300	February 1988 - May 1988
124	C14307 - C14365	May 1988 - September 1988
125	C14366 - C14421	September 1988 - November 1988
126	C14422 - C14489	November 1988 - January 1989
127	C14490 - C14539	January 1989 - April 1989
128	C14540 - C14576	April 1989 - May 1989
129	C14577 - C14626	June 1989 - October 1989
130	C14627 - C14663	November 1989 - December 1989
131	C14666 - C14729	December 1989 - March 1990

132	C14730 - C14784	March 1990 - August 1990
133	C14785 - C14858	August 1990 - February 1991
134	C5118 - C9240 (unsorted)	October 1972 - September 1979 (Mostly 1979)
135	C9241 - C9988 (unsorted)	September 1979 - July 1980
136	C9989 - C10552 (unsorted)	July 1980 - June 1981

Series III: Aerial Negatives

Box	Folder Range	Description	Dates
1	331 -2645	APS, Arizona Brewing Co., Coolidge, Phoenix	August 1946 - February 1954
2	2713 - 4933	Del Monte, Glendale, Westward Ho Area	March 1954 - June 1956
3	3715 - 9211	Phoenix, Scottsdale, Shamrock Dairy	May 1955 - November 1958
4	9404 - 14361	Maryvale, Park Central, Phoenix, Scottsdale	Mary 1959 - March 1963
5	13346 - 18861	ASU, Guadalupe, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale	March 1962 - November 1964
6	19018 - 25191	ASU, Arizona Biltmore, Glendale, Paradise Valley, Sun City, Tempe	December 1964 - December 1968
7	24346 - 36734	Cave Creek, Hydroculture, Lake Havasu City, Litchfield Park, Phoenix, Sun City, Yuma	February 1969 - March 1974

Below is a list of large canisters containing aerial negatives in an unknown order, plus 8 that are unnumbered.

- Large Canisters: 8, 10, 106, 118, 119, 120, 123, 124, 126, 125, 126, 132, 133, 134-135, 136-137, 138-139, 141, 142, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160 (2), 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 168, 169, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 1547, 1722, 1733-1970, 3130-3230, 8505-8667, 9487-9550

Below is a list of small canisters containing aerial negatives in an unknown order, plus 4 that are unnumbered.

- Small Canisters: 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 80, 42280

Series IV: Aerial Contacts

Note: This series contains mostly prints.

Box	Description	Dates
A - D	Arizona Biltmore, APS, Beth Israel, Blyth, Black Canyon, Churches, Deer Valley, Cottonwood, Ducan	nd
E - L	Ellis, Freeway, Florence, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Glendale, Hoover Dame, Kyrene, Lake Pleasant	nd
M - R	Mesa, Maricopa County, Nuclear Corp, Park Central, Revlon,	nd
S	Sun City, Scottsdale, Sedona, Sky Harbor Airport, Sierra Vista, Seligman, Show Low	nd
T - Z	Tempe, Tolleson, Tucson, Valley Ho, Verde River, Veterans Hospital, Winslow, Yuma	nd
Phoenix I	Northwest, Maryvale, South, Downtown	nd
Phoenix II	Northeast, Central Area, Noth, Camelback Mountain Area	nd

Series V: Stock

Note: This series contains mostly prints. Does not include prints listed in Business series. Alphabet labels have been copied as they appeared on original containers.

Box	Folder Range	Description	Date
1	A - G	ASU, Buildings, Deer Valley, Financial Center, Flagstaff, Football	nd
2	D - M	Baseball, Honeywell, Irrigation, Scenic, Sedona, Phoenix	nd
3	K - M	Hotels - Local, Local Lakes, Mesa, Phoenix Skyline, Scenic	nd

This set has its own numbering system that is not attached to the job card catalog. There is a mix of portraits and general shots in this series as well.

Box	Description	Date
Com 1	Ad Club, Hotel Westward Ho, Snell & Wilmer, Paul Fannin, Phoenix Jaycees	1960
Com 2	Standard Oil, Fox Theater, Cavanaugh & O'Connor, Paddock Pools	1961 & 1968
Com 3	Phoenix Jr. Chamber of Commerce, Senior Girl Scout Mounted Troop 82, Turf Paradise	1961
Com 4	Safeway Stores, Sacks, Myers, & Associates, Rudolph Chervolet	1962, 1965 - 1967
Com 5	Western Airlines, Georgia-Pacific, Vista Theater, Geottl Brothers	1962 - 1963
Com 6	Phoenix Real Estate Board, AZ Association of Banking Women, US Brewer Association, AZBCBS	1963 - 1964
Com 7	Jennings & Thompson, First National Bank of Arizona, Joan Hale, Roland Ptak	1965 - 1967
Com 8	Fox Christown Theater, Carling Brewing Co. , Butler Homes, AZ Messenger Printing	1962-1969
Com 9	Phoenix Musical Theater Guild, Don Thompson, Stanford Alumni	1966
Com 10	American Credit Bureau, Sky Chefs Inc. , Cotton Wives, Home Insurance Co.	1966 - 1968
Com 11	Standard Oil, Phoenix Typographical Union, Montgomery Elevator Co., Bill Zorn	1967
Com 12	United Fruit Grower/FMC, Joe Klempt, Getz & Sandborg, Pioneer Bank of Arizona	1964 - 1965

Series VI: Portraiture

This series has its own numbering system outside of the job card catalog and contains a few business and general shots at the beginning of the boxes. The majority of the content is portraits and wedding scenes.

Note: Wedding photographs can be found throughout his collection as he continued to shoot them throughout his career.

Box	Folder Range	Description	Date
1	A - B	Portraits	1960s
2	C - D	Portraits	1960s
3	E - G	Portraits	1960s
4	H - J	Portraits	1958 - 1967
5	K - L	Portraits	1960s
6	M - O	Portraits	1960s
7	P - R	Portraits	1960s
8	S	Portraits	1960s
9	T - Z	Portraits	1960s
10	General	Portraits	1962 - 1964
11	A - E	Wedding Candids	1958 - 1968
12	F - L	Wedding Candids	1961 - 1968
13	M - P	Wedding Candids	1960 - 1968
14	P - Z	Wedding Candids	1961 - 1968
15	A - Z	Wedding Formals	1962 - 1968
16		W.R. Schulz	nd
17		Color Slides	nd
18		Color Slides	nd
19		Color Slides	nd

Series VII: Business Content

This series includes promotional/stock photographs and various framed portraits and awards.

Box	Description
1	Negatives with their own catalog system.
2	Canceled Checks
3	Financial Records
4	Financial Records
5	Financial Records
6	Financial Records
7	Financial Records
8	Financial Records
9	Financial Records
10	Financial Records
11	Financial Records
12	Financial Records
13	Financial Records
14	Financial Records
15	Financial Records
16	Financial Records
17	Promotional/Stock Photos
18	Promotional/Stock Photos
19	Promotional/Stock Photos
20	Log Books (14) & Receipt Books (5)
Oversized	Various Portraits and Awards