

19 Nov 52

Dear Laura Gilpin:

What troubles you get into. Just saw the December issue of Arizona Hiwys - the quick glance showed one of you photos - it is quite wonderful. I sometimes think that is the best country to photograph there is.

Had same trouble at MUseum of Modern Art copying thier photo collection on 35 mm. My first suggestion is to try the photo school at Tuscon, Alfred A. Cohn / Rt. #5, Box # 258. They might be willing to do it at rates you can afford and without damage to the negatives. I fear that if Dr. Inverarity wants special handling, he will have to pay special prices. And it might save wear and tear on everybody for you do to it as you are.

The method I used at MMA was to print in strips of five (cut the rolls in lengths of five), print so that most of them were right and print the whole strip again for the one or two that were completely off. We did not need perfect prints because they were used only for recognition purposes in the library and in the shipping department. The actual prints were cut apart and pasted on file cards.

I used an 8 x 10 printing frame with a mask to fit the 35mm width and length. Then flipped it over under a ^{bulb}light hanging over the bench. At school we print on 8 x 10 sheets of paper this way and do about a roll at a time. Since the majority are about the same density and contrast, two printings will take care of all the individual frames - not magnificent prints, of course, but useable ones.

If I were doing the job again I would adopt the method we are using at school. Printing boxes are dandy, but limiting. A simple 8 x 16 printing frame and a bulb (or the enlarger for a light source) is much more adaptable. One can see to dodge for one thing. Then too about 40 frames can be accommodated at one time.

Hope the above info will be of help to you.

Looking forward to seeing your report on Aspen - I think that maybe the report can do some real service to photography.

Ohm and a delightful Thanksgiving.

Cheerio,

Myron White