



## Unless our history is preserved, it will not be remembered

Everyone has a story to tell, and everyone's story is important. Archives collect these stories, preserve them, and share them with people for generations to come. For this reason, Archives play an essential role in shaping how society remembers and learns from the past, because what is collected and preserved is what becomes history.

### What is the Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection?

The University of Hawaii Library established the Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection (HCPC) in the Archives & Manuscripts Department to document the rich heritage of Hawaii's members of Congress. In spite of their small number—Hawaii has only been a state since 1959—their contributions in the arena of American democracy are significant. Cornerstones of the Collection were laid with the gifts of three members, Sen. Spark Matsunaga, Sen. Hiram Fong, and Rep. Tom Gill. The papers of other past and present members are also being sought; Sen. Daniel K.

Inouye and Rep. Neil Abercrombie have both pledged their papers upon retirement.

The HCPC will help ensure that this vital part of Hawaii's history is preserved and passed on to future generations. Processing is supported in part by endowment and expendable funds provided by the donors.

### What's in the Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection?

The HCPC is made up of collections documenting the lives and work of Hawaii's members of Congress, sometimes including material from before or after Congressional service. The papers include correspondence, reports, photographs, scrapbooks, audio-visual items, publications, and memorabilia. All of these formats contain important historical information worth preserving.

**Fong, Hiram L. (R)**, U.S. Senate 1959-1977. The bulk of the papers are from his years in Congress, and reflect his concern for immigration and naturalization laws as well as service on the Post Office and Civil Service Committee. (660 cubic ft.)

**Gill, Thomas P. (D)**, U.S. House 1963-1964. The material is from his years in Congress as well as his devotion to labor activism and party politics in Hawaii. (86 cubic ft.)

**Matsunaga, Spark M. (D)**, U.S. House 1963-1976 and U.S. Senate 1977-1990. Most of the collection concerns his Congress years and special interest in peace and civil rights, with much personal material prior to that. (900 cubic ft.)

### How does the Archives care for its collections?

The University of Hawaii Archives is dedicated to preserving its collections and making them available to researchers. Experienced archival staff organize collections according to professional archival standards, and they create research guides—called “finding aids”—that are available in print, as well as on the World Wide Web. Collections are housed in acid-free containers that are stored in the library's environmentally controlled, secure storage area. When collections contain fragile or damaged materials, archivists consult with the library's Preservation Department to determine the best method to safely repair the items.



### Who can use the Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection?

*Anyone* can do archival research! The HCPC is open to all researchers, including donors and their families, scholars, teachers, students, and any individual interested in using primary source materials to learn about the unique experience of Hawaii's members of Congress.

## Archival research is different

Since doing research in the Archives is different from finding books in a library, we encourage researchers to make an appointment with an archivist who will guide them through the process of using primary source materials.

First-time researchers are asked to fill out a registration form, and all researchers must use collections in our supervised reading room. In order to safeguard these unique materials for future generations, the Archives requests that all researchers follow specific usage policies which prohibit food, drinks, and the use of ink pens when using materials. Researchers needing copies of originals should consult with an archivist about the library's duplication policies.

The HCPC website (<http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/congressional/index.htm>) includes research guides to the collections, bibliographies and other research tools, as well as digital images of selected materials.



## How can I learn more?

To learn more, please contact:

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Honolulu, HI 96822

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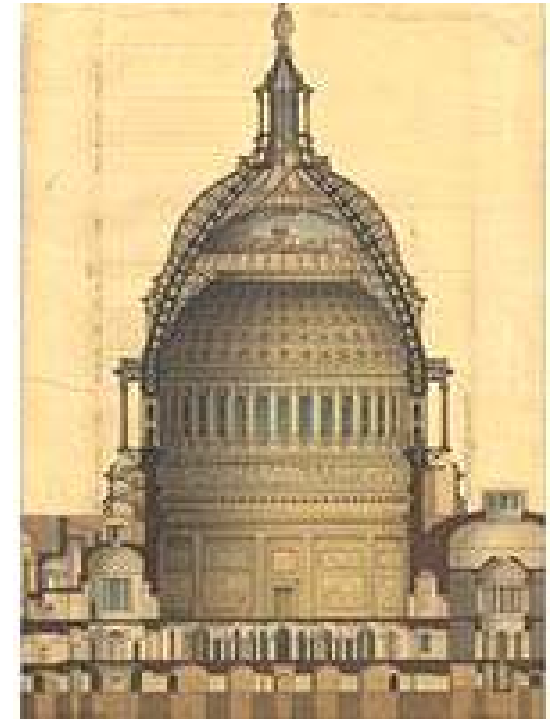
**Email:** [archives@hawaii.edu](mailto:archives@hawaii.edu)

**Website:** <http://libweb.hawaii.edu/libdept/congressional/index.htm>



**Rep. Thomas P. Gill**

# The Hawaii Congressional Papers Collection



## University of Hawaii Library

The stories contained in these papers are the stories of the people Hawaii