



Professor Melville Jacobs recording Annie Peterson with a battery operated disc recorder in Charleston, Oregon, July 1934. Melville Jacobs papers, #1693-001.

Photo: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections, UW23239z

The Protocols for Native American Archival Materials—A Commentary (see page 3)

President's Message

Although it is still four months away, I'm already looking forward to our 2009 meeting in Portland. With the Pacific Northwest Historians, the Northwest Oral Historians and the Oregon Heritage Commission joining together, this rendezvous extravaganza will undoubtedly be a terrific conference. Do consider submitting a proposal to present at the conference. I read an email from Kyle Jansson, Coordinator for the Oregon Heritage Commission and tireless rendezvous extravaganza organizer, that the hotel for the meeting, the Holiday Inn at the Portland International Airport, has a 1970s feel to it. So to make our NWA business meeting even more festive than usual, this year we will have a 1970s costume contest. Be sure to pack those bell bottoms. I plan to find my brown felt jacket with the mushroom arm band. In addition to the usual fun, we do have some serious topics to consider.

At the last few board meetings, we've discussed the need for the Northwest Archivists to bring in more revenue to support our traditional activities. These include our NWA scholarships, the annual conference, and *Easy Access*. It has been many years since we have had a dues increase. Regardless, we are at the point where the NWA needs more resources if we are to continue to flourish. We anticipate slightly higher administrative costs in the coming years.

We are planning to move to a web provider geared for clubs, associations, and nonprofit organizations – Wild Apricot—to host our membership list, track memberships, and also allow payment by credit card. This Wild Apricot service will greatly aid our treasurer and membership coordinator and make their volunteer duties less onerous. Our current accounting and membership system is labor intensive and requires mailing batches of checks and membership cards between Montana and Oregon.

As matters stand, if an unexpected expense were to arise, say a cost overrun from a conference, the NWA might go bankrupt. Erika Castano looked into the fees

(Continued on page 18)

EASY ACCESS

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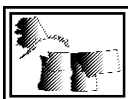
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The Protocols for Native American Archival Materials : Considerations and Concerns from the Perspective of a Non-Tribal Archivist

—John Bolcer, University of Washington

Northwest Archivists and the Society of American Archivists have both committed to a multi-year series of discussions prompted by the release of the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials. This paper (lightly edited for Easy Access) was one of three given at the Northwest Archivists' annual meeting in Anchorage in May 2008. Other presenters were Monique Lloyd (Oregon State University) who discussed the content of the Protocols from a Native American perspective, and Linda Wynne (Sealaska Corporation) who discussed the importance of the Protocols to Native American communities. It is hoped that additional articles will follow which will add to the discussions of the Protocols. The current article presumes familiarity with the content of the Protocols, the text of which can be found here: www2.nau.edu/libnap-p/protocols.html

My first reading of the Protocols provoked in me a rather negative reaction. To be honest, if I hadn't been asked to participate in the NWA 2008 session on the Protocols, I likely wouldn't have given them any further readings, and would have forgotten all about them. In this article, I'll discuss just what it is about the Protocols that rubs me the wrong way, identify those portions of the Protocols with which I find myself in agreement, and to try to suggest some ways in which the guidelines might be re-cast so that, at least from the perspective of this non-tribal archivist, they might be more effective in influencing non-tribal archival institutions.

I came away from the Protocols not with the impression that I had just read a set of guidelines for how non-tribal archives could be culturally responsive to Native American communities. Rather, the Protocols struck me quite strongly as guidelines for non-tribal archives to operate as though they were agencies or extensions of Native American governments. The guidelines repeatedly seek to insert tribal agents into the management and operations of non-tribal

archives, despite the fact that non-tribal archives are, by their very definition, "non-tribal".

In addition to challenging the autonomy of non-tribal archives, the Protocols seem to take no account of the tremendous workload that is being proposed. This stems both from guidelines based on simplified assumptions and from a lack of acknowledgement of the institutional contexts in which such work would need to be done. At my own institution, following the guidelines as they are laid out in the Protocols would require at least one if not more full time staff doing nothing but working to meet the Protocols. I suspect that few archives are so well endowed with staff that they could contemplate devoting so much staff time to something that is likely not part of their primary mission. Calls for consultation and approval by relevant Native American communities might be feasible if an archives has material relevant to only one or two communities. However, I can point to the Melville Jacobs collection in my repository that, as one example, by itself contains substantial material from approximately 50 different language groups. Trying to manage such a collection, not to mention a repository with multiple such collections, by consultation with all of the possibly interested tribes would be effectively impossible.

Many of the guidelines offered are so vague or sweeping that they defy application. This is particularly true of the guidelines for what constitutes "culturally sensitive" material, which even include published texts. The guidelines here are so sweeping and general that archivists in non-tribal institutions are left with little option but to treat everything having to do with Native Americans in any way as culturally sensitive.

In addition to such operational issues, I find myself in strong disagreement with many of the philosophical assumptions made by the Protocols. At a very

(Continued on page 4)





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(Continued from page 3) *Protocols:*

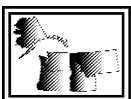
basic level, I disagree that Native American communities necessarily have primary rights to all materials that are culturally affiliated with them, at least in the broad sense of cultural affiliation that seems to be implied. Compelling interests, certainly, but those do not equate to rights. The Protocols do not distinguish between records created by Native American communities and those which are about, but not created by, Native American communities. In the latter case (I suspect the majority of those found in non-tribal archives), the primary rights concerning the disposition of the collection belong to the creator of the collection. Similarly, I disagree with the notion of "repatriation" of records based on content, rather than creation, of the records. Records creators and donors have rights and archives have contractual obligations to them, and it would be professionally remiss to disregard them. I also object to the automatic privileging of Native American interests and concerns over those of all other constituencies or stake-

holders of an archives, including other racial, ethnic, and religious groups.

The Protocols call for sweeping power to control what is studied and written about Native American communities, which I find incompatible with our basic professional tenets of open and equitable access to information, and the practice of free and open inquiry upon which my own institution depends. The notion of ownership and control of knowledge, as opposed to specific expressions of knowledge, is very troubling, particularly to someone working in an academic setting. Similarly, the call to supply disclaimers to collections of records, and to sanitize them of potentially offensive language, are incompatible with professional standards of presenting authentic information to researchers in as objective and neutral a manner as possible.

I also find troubling the automatic assumption that

(Continued on page 5)



EASY ACCESS Newsletter of the Northwest Archivists, Inc.

(Continued from page 4) Protocols:

Native American related collections were created by unethical or illicit means unless proven otherwise by the archives holding the collections. Certainly the attitudes and practices of scholars and other collectors have evolved over time, but the automatic presumption of guilt seems to me unfair and more likely to obscure cases of true concern.

Along with operational and philosophical problems, I think a number of issues in the guidelines for non-tribal archives are misdirected. Most notable is the call for archives to reconsider their approach to intellectual property law. Non-tribal archives exist in an environment of federal and state laws, and aren't free to add to or to pick and choose from those laws. Repeated emphasis of the issue of tribal sovereignty really seems to me to be a red herring, since U.S. non-tribal archives are subject to U.S. and not tribal authority. Any changes to intellectual property law would need to take place at a governmental level, not at the level of individual archival institutions.

The call to revise and enhance indexing vocabulary for Native American materials is something best addressed by a body of experts, not by non-tribal archives in general. Likewise, guidelines for research protocols are best addressed to the relevant research communities since non-tribal archives typically become involved "downstream" of records-creating activities.

Clearly I have a number of concerns about the Protocols, and quite honestly going through the guidelines item by item would raise even more. Rather than be relentlessly negative, I want to shift gears and see what's in the Protocols of which I can be supportive. One aspect I'm solidly behind is the encouragement of informed and culturally respectful description of culturally affiliated collections in non-tribal archives. I would welcome improved indexing vocabulary, and think we should supply as much contextual metadata as we can. While I think the negotiation of research protocols between researchers and Native American communities is not the province of archives, I fully support their use, and the need for archives to work

with research donors to ensure that records are administered in accord with any research agreements they have made. I find it hard to believe that non-tribal archivists would engage in ritual or ceremonial practices with materials in their collections, but I can certainly agree that that would be inappropriate. I'm also generally supportive of the call for cross-cultural training and education, although I would recast it in a broader, multi-cultural sense to include all of the constituent communities of non-tribal archives without privileging just Native American communities.

Taken as a whole, I find that I cannot be supportive of the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials as they are currently written. The problems with the guidelines given are significant from my perspective, and can't be resolved by minor changes or adjustments in language. I am, however, supportive of the concept of the Protocols and think a set of workable guidelines for non-tribal archives working with Native American materials could be a valuable tool for the profession. With that in mind, I would suggest that the Protocols be redrafted. Rather than try to address details in this article, what I would do is suggest some basic premises and guidelines on which a revised set of Protocols could be drafted.

My first suggestion is that in drafting a set of best practices for non-tribal archives, the non-tribal nature of those archives must always be kept as a primary consideration. Non-tribal archives exist in a variety of institutional settings, have a variety of primary missions and primary clientele, and typically serve diverse constituencies. Those that hold Native American culturally affiliated materials likely do so as only a fraction of their overall collections. Archives should be able to follow the best practices without giving up autonomy of operation or being compelled to accord a position of special privilege to one of multiple constituencies.

My next suggestion is that it should be recognized that being respectful of Native American perspectives and knowledge systems does not equate to adopting those perspectives and systems. The guide-

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5) *Protocols*:

lines should strive to help non-tribal archives work with Native American materials in a respectful manner, but within the context of the professional environments in which non-tribal archives operate. Tribal archives may well develop different sets of best practices within their own institutional environments, but guidelines for non-tribal archives need to be respectful of their established practices and professional ethics.

Further, I think the concepts of “culturally affiliated” and “culturally sensitive” need to be developed in much more detail and in a much more nuanced way. The language of the guidelines should be less legalistic and prescriptive, if indeed non-tribal archives are to be able to adapt the best practices to their own institutional contexts. Some sense of priority or overriding issues would also help non-tribal archives determine where to direct efforts and finite resources. The intended audience also needs to be kept in mind, and the guidelines limited to best practices which can actually be implemented at the repository level—calls for changes in professional standards, federal laws, field research requirements, etc. would all be addressed more appropriately in separate documents with potentially different audiences.

Finally, I think the *Protocols* need to promote greater proactivity on the part of Native American communities. Non-tribal archives often won't have the resources or expertise to pursue ongoing and concerted efforts related to Native American collections and constituencies, but may be much more able to respond to issues and programs raised by involved Native American communities.

I hope that the drafters of the *Protocols* were serious about treating the document as a work in progress and are open to some quite significant revisions. I would hope that greater involvement on the part of non-tribal archivists in future revisions would result in guidelines and best practices more readily implementable by non-tribal archives while still meeting the needs and concerns of Native American communities.

Further reading: The Society of American Archivists' Task Force to Review the Protocols for Native American Archival Materials has issued a report and collected comments here:

www.archivists.org/governance/taskforces/0208-NativeAmProtocols-IIIa.pdf

Northwest Digital Archives Completes Needs Assessment for Digital Services Program

—Jodi Allison-Bunnell, NWDA Program Manager

Northwest Digital Archives (NWDA), a program of the Orbis Cascade Alliance that provides enhanced access to archival collections and facilitates collaboration among archives, libraries, and museums in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska, has completed an eighteen-month-long needs assessment for a digital services program.

The four-part assessment has four components. In the first part, an online Survey of Digitizing Initiatives gathered information from NWDA and Alliance members on digital projects or programs they currently have in place. In the second part, an online Researcher Type Survey asked NWDA members what types of researchers they have served in the last year, and who they consider their primary or priority types of researchers. The third part, the Researcher Needs study, was conducted in cooperation with Elizabeth Yakel of the University of Michigan's School of Information. It followed on the Researcher Type Survey by interviewing researchers from priority groups on their needs and preferences for the selection and presentation of online content. The fourth part, the online Institutional Needs Survey, asked NWDA and Alliance members what they desired from a digital services program, including program types, standards, training, and specific services.

The results of all the surveys are available at <http://orbiscascade.org/index/alliance-staff-reports>; results from the researcher study are forthcoming.

NWDA's Steering Team (ST) and Digital Program

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

Working Group (DPWG) met in early November to review the results and recommend future directions. With all the time and thought that members put into some very long and complex surveys, the most productive directions were quite clear. The ST accepted the DPWG's proposal that NWDA:




- Develop a digital preservation solution such as a dark archive.
- Develop a discovery tool or system that will harvest *and* integrate the presentation of content from systems used by member institutions.
- Develop options for hosting content for access such as shared servers.
- Develop options for scanning and reformatting services.
- Structure services and fees that enable institutions to participate—or not—at appropriate levels.

With the IMLS Collaborative Planning Grant that NWDA received in September, the program will take the next steps to make these recommendations a real-

ity. The grant is a collaborative effort of NWDA, Lewis & Clark College, Whitman College, Whitworth University, Washington State University, and the Montana Historical Society. Grant funds will pay a programmer to prototype a search and presentation tool and an advisory board to assist with key issues: digital preservation, search and presentation, and sustainability and business planning. Those advisory board members are Terry Reese, Oregon State University; Leigh Grinstead, CDP@BCR; and Fynette Eaton, independent consultant.

The NWDA program currently offers a database of almost 5,000 EAD-encoded finding aids. The database is available at <http://nwda.wsulibs.wsu.edu/>.

Founded with NEH and NHPRC funding in 2002, NWDA became part of the Orbis Cascade Alliance in 2007. Members pay annual fees based on institution type that cover the costs of technical and administrative services. For information on the benefits and costs of membership, go to <http://orbiscascade.org/index/nwda-membership>.

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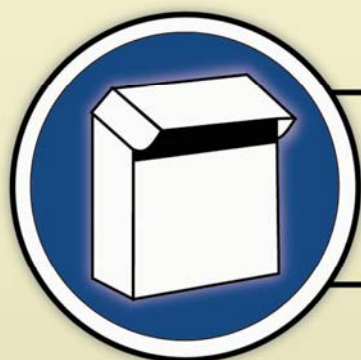
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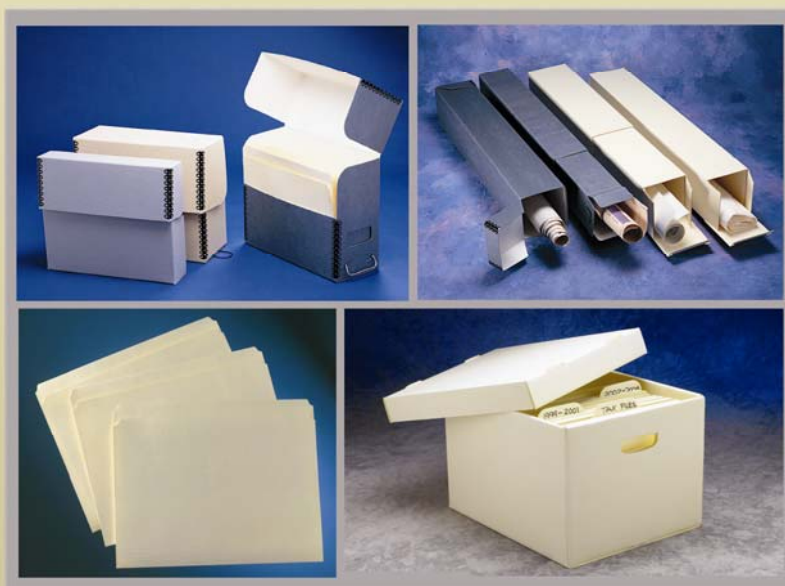




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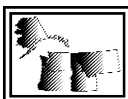
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NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . .

Assistant Editor's Note

Advocating for Archives

"Action is the catalyst that creates accomplishments. It is the path that takes us from uncrafted hopes to realized dreams." Thomas Huxley, Physiologist (1825-1895)

Hello NW repositories!

Last time I asked you all to consider what it meant to be an archivist; this time let's turn to ruminations on what it might mean to work with archival and historical materials. In particular, why do they matter? Why should institutions financially support us? We're all archivists, so we know that history is replete with dire forecasts, budgets cuts, layoffs, mini recessions, reorganization, and institutional panic. I won't pretend to be an economist, but I grew up in Oregon and have seen what failed industries and the absence of funds can do to communities, businesses, and individuals.

In my mind, this brings up issues of sustainability. We hear this word a lot, volleyed around as a sort of code for "being here for the long haul" or "at a rate that we can keep up." In most cases, I hear it linked to either the environment or finances; but I think we can also link it to ourselves. As our budgets shrink and positions are not filled, we may find ourselves spending more time considering how our own collection development and access services will be or should be effected by more limited resources and funds. To finally use the cliché, I ask you to ask "how do we *actually* do more with less?" How do we work with each other to conserve resources? How do we share our collective talents? How do we show how much archives matter? To quote Frank Boles in his President's Message in *Archival Outlook* ("Archives in Tough Times," November/December): "As times get tougher, it's critical that we use our advocacy skills to remind those around us why archives matter...it's time for archivists to become committed advocates for themselves and their

programs." I would add that we also need to become advocates for each other.

What might this mean? Honestly, I'm not sure. I am half-way through my term as NWA's vice-president and have begun concretely thinking about what I want my "focus" to be next year; in other words, what do I think matters and how can my governance be guided by those principles? Community, communication, cooperation, support, sharing—I was an English grad student, I could go on and on with my words! But at the heart of this musing is one word: people. We are all immensely talented people, dedicated people, and I hope caring people. It's easy to lose sight of our neighbor when we see lines eliminated from our own yearly budgets in the middle of a fiscal year, piles of real and electronic work on our real and electronic desktops, bad news on the front page of our local paper; although I would ask you to remember that *this* is exactly when community matters most of all! *This* is when sharing matters most of all! *This* is when it is time for us to really advocate for ourselves and our regional repository neighbors! Many of you may read this and say "what? I've already been tested, I've already been cut." I know—I have colleagues in Oregon who have personally faced major cuts in the last couple of years. Times have been *very* tough for many archives and historical societies. But we have an amazing opportunity in less than six months: we are all coming together in Portland, joined by our colleagues at the Oregon Heritage Commission, Northwest Oral History Association, Pacific Northwest Historians, Washington Historical Society, and Oregon Historical Society. It's time to share what you have, what you know, what you're thinking! As many of you know, I am the chair of the program committee this year, and I am personally asking you to step up and submit your proposals. I love to chit chat, talking in the hallways in between sessions, but I think you (and your administration) would agree that attending conference is for more than that interaction: it's for those things we learn in those sessions. This will not reach you

(Continued on page 10)



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . .

(Continued from page 9) Assistant Editor's Note:

before the session deadline, so if you slap your forehead with a "DOH!" because your submission didn't make it in, please email me. If you still have a fully framed idea but no one else to partner with, please email me. If you have a vague notion and want to know if I've heard of anyone else who is pondering the same subjects, please email me.

I write this each time, and yet I see the number of submissions I get for each issue decreasing: please remember that *you* are the heart of this column. *This* is the time to share, *this* is the time to advocate, *this* is the time to tell us about you and your news! The collections and reflections that come straight from our NW repositories connect us all and strengthen our professional community. I've filled in gaps for each issue, trying to make sure to find news for each state or from a variety of institutions—but that's not sustainable. So in this issue the news will be shorter (excluding the length of this column, of course); without your stories, all you hear is me and the news I see...

If you have news, share! Also, if you know of noteworthy notes from your local museum, library, or historical society, please encourage them to contact me at tiah.edmunson-morton@oregonstate.edu.

Featured Initiative

Montana Historical Society Research Center: *From the Archives*

Montana County History Initiative

Rich Aarstad, Archivist & Oral Historian, and Jeff Malcomson, Government Records Archivist, spent the past year spearheading the creation of the Montana County History Initiative (MCHI), the Montana Historical Society's latest statewide outreach effort. With more than two dozen county centennials approaching over the next dozen years, the Montana Historical Society hopes to assist counties and local governments, museums, librarians, and educators

alike to celebrate the riches of their own community heritage. The goals of this broad-based initiative are to build relationships among people working with Montana's local history and heritage resources, and to provide support in the form of training and expertise; the initiative will also allow the Society's staff to offer numerous workshop-type programs on a variety of topics such as historic preservation, archaeology, community history, archives and museum methods, oral history, and ways of utilizing heritage education in the classroom.

The first phase of this initiative involved creating a 24 member steering committee, four people from each of Montana's six tourism regions, to help promote the effort. In May, the steering committee met in Helena for a two-day workshop designed to showcase presentations on the broad range of assistance offered by the MHS staff to local institutions. Steering committee members also received numerous publications and resources to support training in local and community history, including digital recorders for oral history projects.

The Initiative is currently in its second phase, which involves holding six regional meetings or workshops around the state. Steering committee members are responsible for planning the meetings and handling local arrangements, while MHS offers funding and staffing support for any workshops requested by the regional planners. The first regional meeting took place on November 7th and 8th in Forsyth, Montana, a region that covers the southeastern part of the state from Billings to the Dakota line. The other five regional meetings, each reflecting the particular needs and interests of its local planners, will take place over the next five months reaching every corner of the Big Sky Country!

For further information, please contact Jeff Malcomson (jmalcomson@mt.gov) or Rich Aarstad (raarstad@mt.gov).



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Idaho*

Boise State University (Boise)

Recent Acquisitions

Peter Beemer manuscript—Boise State University acquired the Peter Beemer manuscript in September. The manuscript has been called “one of the most significant music manuscripts ever discovered of music actually danced to in the Far West during the 1860s and early 1870s.” Musician and miner Peter Beemer transcribed music for approximately 100 instrumental tunes and arranged them for a small performance group in Warren in 1864. The music manuscript contains handwritten scores on paper sewn into a canvas binding. The manuscript has already been the subject of 2 master theses and a book.

Lloyd Jensen collection—Kaye Nubel presented Boise State University with materials related to her father Lloyd’s friendship with Idaho author Vardis Fisher. Friends for over 30 years, Jensen and Fisher became friends shortly after Fisher moved to the Hagerman Valley in the early 1940s. Jensen collected Fisher books and memorabilia until he died in 1990. The collection includes deluxe edition books written by Fisher, 2 scrapbooks of Fisher’s life, articles written by Fisher, and 47 postcards sent by Fisher to Jensen in the 1950s and 1960s.

John Robert Bittner collection—Denise Alexander Bittner presented BSU with a collection of more than 300 books about Ernest Hemingway, his writings, and his literary associates. The collection is named in honor of Denise’s late husband, a Hemingway scholar who was a professor of journalism at the University of North Carolina.

Basque collection—The University of Idaho Library has transferred a collection of 3,400 books about the Basque Country to Boise State University. Written in Basque and Spanish, the collection covers Basque history, geography, economy, and culture. The books are rare, as there are few copies of these books throughout the United States. The collection had

originally been loaned to the Basque Museum in Boise for the past decade.

. . . *Montana*

Montana Historical Society Research Center (Helena)

General News

In case you missed it last time: The Montana Historical Society (MHS) and the Montana State Library are pleased to announce a new and improved interface for the Montana Memory Project (www.mtmemory.org). The Montana Memory Project is a collection of digital collections and items relating to Montana’s cultural heritage. Access is open to all—check it out!

On January 22nd, noted filmmaker Ken Burns and historian Dayton Duncan will present “Montana’s Sneak Preview of The National Parks: America’s Best Idea” at the Emerson Cultural Center Auditorium in Bozeman. Burns and Duncan will discuss their upcoming 6-part documentary on the national parks, including the people involved in the beginning of the park system. Video clips from the film, which includes numerous images from the Montana Historical Society Photograph Archives collection, will be shown as a part of the January preview; the entire 12-hour series is scheduled to air on PBS in the fall of 2009. Burns and co-producer Duncan will answer questions from the audience. This event is a fundraiser for the MHS Research Center.

News from the Photo Archives: New Processing

Photo archivist Amanda Graham is processing the Copper Commando Collection which consists of nearly 1,000 images used in the World War II newspaper Copper Commando (1942-1945). The publication was created at the recommendation of the War Production Board and its purpose was to communi-

(Continued on page 12)



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Oregon*

(Continued from page 11) *Montana Historical Society:*

cate the importance of metal production (copper, zinc, and manganese) to the war effort. The photographs document the day-to-day work of individuals employed by the Anaconda Copper Mining Company at the Anaconda copper smelter, the Bonner lumber mill, Butte mines, the Great Falls copper refinery and electrolytic zinc plant, the Rocker lumber mill, and the East Helena slag treating plant. They include exterior views of the plants and images of surveying, setting explosives, making patterns and drill bits, drilling, transporting ore, roasting, concentrating, smelting, converting, casting, electrolytic refining, and much more.

News from the Photo Archives: Recent Accessions

- 31 photoprints from the Montana Farmers Union Records, including views of students, teachers, and buildings of the Pondera County Farmers Union camps at Ledger School and Fort Assinboine (1942).
- 94 photoprints from the Gamer Family Papers, the bulk of which show interiors and exteriors of Gamer-owned shoe stores over a 68-year period (1912-1980). These include views of shoes, displays, customers, and store exteriors.
- 141 photoprints in an album donated by the San Diego Historical Society including images from the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project with views of the diversion dam construction and workers (1909-1911).

News from the Archives: Staff Changes

MHS Archives recently said goodbye to their beloved colleague of three years, Karen Bjork, who has relocated to the Fargo, ND area. She will be missed!

Jeff Malcomson (government record archivist) joined the Digital Program Working Group of the Northwest Digital Archives. He will be representing the perspective of non-academic institutions on this important IMLS-grant-funded effort to plan the future of digital content for the major regional consortium.

Oregon State University (Corvallis)

OSU Archives: New Accessions

Landau, Rubin H., Papers (MSS), 1966-2008.

This accession is made up of materials generated and collected by physics professor Rubin H. Landau, a researcher and OSU instructor. Landau came to OSU in 1974 to fill the post of Assistant Professor of Physics. In addition to researching high-energy particle-nucleus scattering, Landau has also studied and taught on the subject of computational physics, a topic on which he has written several books. Instrumental in developing an undergraduate degree program in computational physics at OSU, Landau has also held a part-time appointment in the Computer Science Department since 1996. Awarded emeritus status in 2005, Landau continues to be active in teaching and research.

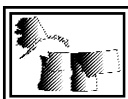
Included in his collection are article reprints, books, computer program codes, correspondence, course materials, grant proposals, newspaper clippings, notes, presentations, talks, and cds. The research documented in these papers pertain to proton nucleus scattering, quark models, kaon scattering, pion scattering from nucleons/nuclei, and relativistic heavy ions. The computer codes were written by Landau for programs to solve integral forms of the Schrodinger Equation for scattering and bound states.

Brown, Walter S., Photograph Album (P 274), 1919-1935.

This photograph album was compiled by Extension Horticulturist and Professor Walter Brown. Walter S. Brown began his career at Oregon Agricultural College in 1913 as an Extension Horticulturist. Prior to his work for the college, Brown served as president and manager of the Corvallis Orchard Company. In 1920, Brown became head of the Horticulture Department. He died in 1942.

The album contains snapshots and postcards reflecting Brown's trips throughout the U.S. and Canada. Roughly half of the images depict agricultural opera-

(Continued on page 13)



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Oregon*

(Continued from page 12) *Oregon State University:*

tions throughout the western U.S., including images of harvesting in orchards, farmhouses and barns, a crop duster, storage warehouses, packing facilities, wheat fields, and a draining bog for cranberries. Other images document a variety of natural landscapes, urban parks, and town views that include locales in Oregon, Idaho, California, Virginia, New York, Alberta, and British Columbia; some reflect family vacations and feature Brown's two daughters and brother's house in Portsmouth, New York. Also documented in these images is a student tour of Oregon farms and orchards, as well as a trip to the Southern Oregon Experiment Station, Lithia Park in Ashland, and a Sigma Pi picnic. An obituary and items from the funeral service for Brown were also found in this transfer.

OSU Alumni Oral History Collection (OH 13), 2005-2008.

This oral history collection, coordinated by staff at the University Archives, documents the experiences of three OSU alumni: Jean Starker Roth, Richard Gilkey, and Robert Mace. In addition to cds that contain sound recordings of the interviews and partial transcriptions, this transfer also includes release agreements and transcripts. In the interviews, Jean Starker Roth (class of '42) talks about her life and work in Corvallis; Richard Gilkey (class of '51) focuses on his lifelong interest in photography and student experiences at OSC; and Robert Mace (class of '42) talks about his life and work at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Associated Students of OSU (RG 11), 1996-2008.

This accession consists of materials generated and collected by the ASOSU Queer Affairs Task Force and includes budgetary records, correspondence, flyers, meeting minutes and notes, posters, publications, and reports. In addition to the task force, this transfer also contains minutes from Oregon Statewide Students Alliance for Equal Rights and the Oregon Student Association meetings. Among the topics cov-

ered in these materials include the assessment of LGBT subject matter in OSU courses, the development of a protocol for response to bias incidents, OSU hate crime statistics, Queer Pride Week, same sex marriage, a non-discrimination policy in the ASOSU constitution, building addition plans for the Queer Resource Center facility, and the Rainbow Health Resource Center.

Oregon Historical Society (Portland)

Staff News

After 25 years of exceptional service to OHS, Margaret (Mikki) Tint, special collections librarian, retired on December 13, 2008. Over the years, Mikki worked in a number of different capacities at OHS including but not limited to: film cataloger, reference librarian, photo services coordinator/librarian, oral history coordinator, general cataloger, and special collections librarian. Whatever the task, Mikki always performed her duties with professionalism, dedication, and *always* with a smile! We all wish her a very happy retirement.

New Acquisitions

- [Land Plat Promotional] Mount Tabor Villa. Original color birds-eye view and map with promotional information. ca. 1890.
- [WWII Broadside] Original Japanese Exclusionary Order for Portland area, ordering Japanese to report to Gresham. ca. 1942.

Exhibit

Carleton Watkins Stereoviews of the Columbia River Gorge, October 4, 2008 - January 11, 2009.

See the Gorge come alive. Experience the unspoiled beauty of the Columbia as it looked 140 years ago as you view rare "3-D" images by Carleton E. Watkins, the West's greatest landscape photographer. Presented in partnership with the Portland Art Museum's Wild Beauty: Photographs of the Columbia River Gorge, 1867-1957. This exhibit was curated by

(Continued on page 14)



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Oregon*

(Continued from page 13) *Oregon Historical Society:*

Megan Friedel, Archivist at the Oregon Historical Society. All materials in the exhibit are from the OHS Research Library's collections.

Acknowledgements

The Oregon Historical Society would like to acknowledge the law firm of Perkins Coie for generously supporting the transcription of the oral history interview of retired Supreme Court Justice Edwin Peterson. Jeffrey Dobbins, Assistant Professor of Law at Willamette University College of Law and Executive Director, Oregon Law Commission, conducted Justice Peterson's interview. Rob Aldisert, Portland Managing Partner at Perkins Coie, is overseeing the transcription of the twenty-plus hour interview. As a business member of the Oregon Historical Society's Corporate Heritage Council, Perkins Coie

recognizes the important role history plays in the present and the future.

The contribution of Perkins Coie is an important component of the ongoing oral history project of the Oregon Historical Society and the US District Court of Oregon Historical Society. This project began in the 1980s and currently includes interviews with more than one hundred and forty individuals and law firms. These oral histories add immeasurably to the rich history of Oregon's bench and bar. The interviews and transcripts are readily available to scholars, authors, and the public at the Oregon Historical Society's Research Library. In addition, they serve as the primary source for many articles and personal profiles published in the US District Court of Oregon Historical Society's quarterly newsletter, *Benchmarks*.

Metal Edge, Inc.
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The advertisement features a large, stylized sunburst logo with the letters 'ME' in the center. Surrounding the logo are various archival storage materials, including boxes, folders, and a roll of tape. The text 'Metal Edge, Inc.' and 'Archival Storage Materials' is prominently displayed at the top. Below the logo, the text 'THE QUALITY SOURCE' is written in a large, bold font, followed by the website 'metaledgeinc.com' and the phone number '1-800-862-2228'.



EASY ACCESS Newsletter of the Northwest Archivists, Inc.

NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Washington*

Spokane Area Archives Month Activities

Archives in the Spokane area celebrated Archives Month by offering several public programs. On September 20, archivists from the Spokane Public Library (SPL), Washington State Archives (WASA) - Eastern Region and Digital Archives, and the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture (MAC)/Eastern Washington State Historical Society presented a "Meet an Archivist" fair during the Washington State History Day workshop, held at the MAC. Displays from SPL, MAC, WASA, and Gonzaga University provided information about archival collections that connected to the History Day contest theme "The Individual in History." Fifty-two teachers participated in this event. The displays were also part of the MAC's annual "Teacher's Night" open house on October 2.

The MAC and SPL presented their fourth annual "Researching Your House History Workshop" on October 18. Nine attendees learned how to navigate the myriad of resources at area archives, libraries, and city and county offices. Hands-on research at the MAC's Research Library and Archives and Spokane Public Library's Northwest Room completed the day.

Spokane Public Library (Spokane)

New Staff!

Welcome to Riva Dean

Spokane Public Library is pleased to welcome a new face to its Northwest Room—Northwest Librarian Riva Dean. Riva comes to the library from Eastern Washington University, where she worked as a reference librarian. Before that, she worked for seventeen years at the Arizona Historical Society and the National Park Service in Tucson as an archivist. Riva holds a Master's degree in Northwest History from Central Washington University and a Master's in Library Science from the University of Arizona.

Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture (MAC)/Eastern Washington State Historical Society (Spokane)

New Accessions

The People for the Preservation and Development of Five Mile Prairie, Inc. Records (1960s-1980s; 20.0 linear ft.): This collection was donated by long-time members of an activist group, which organized in the late 1960s to combat development of open space and advocate urban planning in Spokane County. It challenged government agencies to invest in urban and rural planning, conservation, and community feedback mechanisms for the planning process.

Spokane Audubon Society Records (1914-1990s; 2.0 linear ft.): This collection was donated by the Spokane Audubon Society as part of its involvement with the MAC's exhibition, "Dabblers, Divers, Murderers and Travelers: The Birds of the Inland Northwest" (runs through March 15, 2009). The Society was formed in 1914 as the Spokane Bird Club, changing its name in 1962 to the Spokane Audubon Society. The collection includes the chapter charter (1971), board meeting minutes (1964-2002), correspondence (1953-1999), newsletters (1971-1976, 1988), and materials from the national Audubon and other conservation-related organizations that reflect issues of interest to the Spokane group. The collection is nearly processed as Ms 210.

Newly Processed Collections

American Association of University Women, Spokane Branch Records (Ms 184): The Spokane branch of the AAUW was founded in 1909 as a branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and was incorporated in the AAUW in 1921. The group focused on advancing women's status through education, philanthropy, and civic engagement. The collection includes minutes, treasurer's reports, annual branch reports, yearly directories, bulletins, and scrapbooks containing primarily newspaper clippings. It also in-

(Continued on page 16)



NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST . . . *Washington*

(Continued from page 15) MAC/EWSHS:

cludes general correspondence from the 1970s and project files pertaining to the group's diverse projects and activities. Funding for processing the collection was provided through a grant awarded by the Washington State Women's History Consortium.

League of Women Voters, Spokane Area Chapter Records (Ms 128): Accruals for this existing collection consist of documents from the 1970s, '80s and '90s and the early years of the twentieth century. They include local, state, and national league materials, including meeting minutes, financial records, and other administrative information. Also included are local, state, and national League publications from the 1980s and 1990s as well as material reflecting the many issues tackled by the League during the 1980s and 1990s. The Spokane Area chapter of the League of Women Voters was founded in 1948 with 65 members. The non-partisan group focused on voter education and participated in debate surrounding issues of local importance as well as state and national issues. Funding for processing the accruals and updating the online finding aid in Northwest Digital Archives was provided through a grant awarded by the Washington State Women's History Consortium.

Marion Moos Papers (Ms 204): Marion Moos was an activist involved in the feminist movement beginning in the 1970s in Spokane, where she ran the Past-Time Feminist Bookstore from 1973 to 1977. The collection includes records related to Marion's diverse interests and activities, including aging, environmental, civic, and other issues at the local, regional, and national levels. Funding for processing the collection was provided through a grant awarded by the Washington State Women's History Consortium.

Young Women's Christian Association of Spokane Records (Ms 207): The Young Women's Christian Association of Spokane was founded in 1903. The organization provided classes and lodging to young

single women. During and after the 1960s the YWCA turned its focus to the social issues that most affected women, although it continued to offer fitness, arts and crafts, and other classes. The collection consists of documents from the early 1900s to present, as well as a few documents covering the agency's history prior to its arrival in Spokane. Administrative materials, financial and building records, and program materials from this period are included, as is an extensive collection of visual images in photograph, negative, and slide forms. The collection also includes clippings covering the organization's activities in Spokane and a small selection of audiovisual materials. Funding for processing the collection was provided through a grant awarded by the Washington State Women's History Consortium.

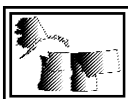
Mamie Rand Papers (Ms 208): Mamie Rand (1894-1995) operated a pet store, Petland, in Spokane for 30 years. The collection includes a wide range of ephemera on topics such as religion, music, sewing, travel, animals, and women's issues; business records for Petland; and photographs, all of which provide a glimpse of the world of one woman, primarily during the decades of the 1920s to the 1950s. The collection came to the MAC via regional artist Kathryn Glowen who "met Mamie Rand through her husband's aunt Esther Kline, who was Rand's neighbor, friend, and caregiver. After three years of sorting and cleaning the Rand household, Glowen created *Petland* (an exhibition installation) from Rand's personal effects. . . . Before her death in 1995, Mamie gave [...] Glowen permission to use her personal effects for Glowen's assemblages" (from *Petland* installation statement, 2006). *Petland* was exhibited at the MAC in 2006.

University of Washington (Seattle)

Warehouse move completed

At the end of December, the UW Special Collections completed a move of its off-site storage into a new

(Continued on page 17)



(Continued from page 16) University of Washington:

warehouse. Over 20,000 cubic feet of records were re-labeled and moved into a newly renovated storage facility at the former Sand Point Naval Station. The new storage area is shared with auxiliary book storage for the UW Libraries. The Libraries Circulation staff will be making regular deliveries to and from the warehouse, which will greatly increase the accessibility of our off-site holdings to our researchers. Tremendous efforts from the staff enabled the move to be completed on schedule even though Special Collections was required to remain open with full services, and despite record snows and holiday staffing shortages.

Staff News

On January 2, 2009, Carla Rickerson assumed the new position of Head of Special Collections Public Services. A report by two external reviewers of Special Collections recommended the creation of this position so that public services in Special Collections could receive the focus and attention our users deserve. Continuing our commitment to user-centered services, Carla will be working to streamline Special Collections public services policies and procedures. She will also be focusing on reference and instruction, and on developing new services.

Carla served for many years as Head of Special Collections. Building on her highly successful tenure as Pacific Northwest Librarian, she brought the Division's disparate units together after the merger of Manuscripts, University Archives, and Special Collections. She has done much to enhance our collections and our services. This new role is a terrific match for Carla's strengths and the Division's needs.

As Associate Dean of University Libraries for Special Collections, Museum Collaborations, and Publications, Paul Constantine will take on the role of Head of Special Collections. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carla at crick@u.washington.edu or Paul at pjc6@u.washington.edu.

Washington State Archives (Olympia)

Digital Archives, Microsoft Research take public records access to the next level with Audio Search

The Washington Office of Secretary of State's Digital Archives, in a partnership with Microsoft Research, is hosting a new speech-search technology that will dramatically change how Washingtonians are able to access important public recordings.

The Washington Digital Archives is the first government program in the country to offer Microsoft Research's Audio Search technology, which takes record keeping to the next level: it doesn't just preserve audio recordings – it gives people an innovative way to search through them.

The partnership grew from an ambitious project undertaken three years ago by the Washington State House of Representatives and the Washington State Archives to save over 30,000 cassette tapes of committee hearings.

Secretary of State Sam Reed praised the Audio Search pilot project which offers the potential to increase the availability of additional public audio content: "This is not just an enormous breakthrough for Washington State record keeping, it is the debut of a groundbreaking way to access public information. The House cassette recordings were boxed up and losing quality in storage. Not only have these records been rescued, we are introducing a cutting-edge mechanism for the public to access them."

Worried about the loss of information, the House of Representatives began a major project with the State Archives to convert their at-risk cassette tapes into electronic format in 2005. It made the files available to the Secretary of State's Office and Microsoft Research, whose partnership is making it possible for the public to go to the Digital Archives Web site and search through words being said during the recorded hearings.

(Continued on page 19)



Northwest History and Heritage Extravaganza

General Information

A Northwest History and Heritage Extravaganza, including the annual meetings of the Northwest Archivists and the Northwest Oral History Association, 2009 Oregon Heritage Conference, and the 2009 Pacific Northwest History Conference, will take place April 15-18 in Portland, Oregon.

The conference hotel will be the Holiday Inn at the Portland Airport, but activities will also take place at some of the Portland area's historical and heritage resources.

The Extravaganza will have the theme of "Rendezvous 2009!" The goal is to reflect the sharing of ideas, perspectives, skills and cultures in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. The mix of presentations that would normally be done separately at a Northwest Archivists meeting, an Oregon Heritage Conference, a Pacific Northwest History Conference, and the meeting of the Northwest Oral History Association will be exceptionally exciting when they are combined.

If you are interested in helping with the conference's local arrangements or have any questions, please contact Layne Sawyer at Layne.G.Sawyer@state.or.us. If you have questions about the program or poster sessions, contact Tiah Edmunson-Morton at tiah.edmunson-morton@oregonstate.edu.

SAA Workshops

Wednesday, April 15 - 9:00am to 5:00pm: "Using Oral Histories: Publications, Exhibits, Internet"

Thursday, April 16 - 9:30am to 4:30pm: "Management of Cultural Institutions"

To register, find out more about these workshops, or see what else is being offered, visit the Extravaganza

(Continued on page 19)

Archivist's Calendar

March 6, 2009 Easy Access deadline for submissions

April 15-18, 2009 Northwest Archivists annual meeting, Portland, OR

May 4-7, 2009 Society for Imaging Science & Technology, Archiving 2009, Arlington, VA

May 7-9, 2009 Society of California Archivists, annual general meeting, Riverside, CA

June 14-26, 2009 Western Archives Institute, Berkeley, CA

July 15-18, 2009 National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators annual meeting, Seattle, WA

Aug. 11-16, 2009 Society of American Archivists annual meeting, Austin, TX

Aug. 26-29, 2009 American Association for State & Local History annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN

Oct. 14-18, 2009 Oral History Association annual meeting, Louisville, KY

Oct. 18-22, 2009 Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums National Conference, Portland, OR

(Continued from page 2) *President's Message:*

of other regional archival association dues which vary from \$10 for the Society of Southwest Archivists up to \$45 for the Society of California Archivists. We feel that a dues increase from \$10 to \$25 will ensure that the NWA will continue to thrive, but not become an onerous financial burden for our members. Just as our profession is changing so it is time to ensure a stable financial footing for the Northwest Archivists.

I would like to hear your views before we discuss and vote on this issue in Portland. Kindly send me your thoughts tjbond@wsu.edu. With sincere regards, I am
—Trevor



(Continued from page 18) Extravaganza:

Workshops site: http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/OHC/Conference_workshops.shtml

Technology Poster Session

The Northwest History and Heritage Extravaganza is also hosting a “digital” poster session. Much like the traditional poster session, this is a time for organizations show off their great projects and practices.

While technology for technology’s sake is not a great idea, technology for the mission’s sake is a wonderful idea. From advances in scanning, to databases, to public accessibility, to interaction, all kinds of options have emerged. This is a chance to share and explore new ideas and approaches that organizations such as museums, archives, libraries, educational institutions and others are taking with technology to better meet their goals. Anything from pilot projects to fully integrated programs can be shared.

The Digital Poster Session will be a feature of Saturday’s activities. For more information about the poster session or to be a presenter, contact Kuri Gill at Kuri.Gill@state.or.us or Tiah Edmunson-Morton, at tiah.edmunson-morton@oregonstate.edu.

Want to know more?

For more information, please visit the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept: Heritage Programs: Oregon Heritage Commission conference site at <http://www.oregon.gov/OPRD/HCD/OHC/Conference.shtml>. There you will find information about all the workshops, presentations, exhibits, hotel information, etc.

(Continued from page 17) Washington State Archives:

“By applying Microsoft Research speech search technologies to this innovative project, we’re allowing citizens to selectively access audio content that is important to them,” said Gail Thomas-Flynn, General Manager of State and Local Government for Microsoft. “Washington State is at the forefront of unlocking digital archives for all people to access.”

Visitors to the Digital Archives Web site can currently search through nearly 6,000 hours of House committee hearings from 1973 to 2001. For example, typing in “water” as a keyword in the search tab brings up all hearings in which water was talked about. This makes it easy for a user to speed through the hours of audio and go directly to a conversation point of choice. Over the next two years, the House will add approximately 10,000 more hours of audio to the Digital Archives database.

“This process is going to be a breakthrough for legislatures everywhere to improve public access to invaluable records,” said State Archivist Handfield.

Since launching in October 2004 as the first of its kind in the country, Washington’s Digital Archives has blazed a trail in the electronic preservation of documents. Washington is the lead partner in a multi-state project funded by the Library of Congress to demonstrate the requirements of building a digital archive system in states around the country.

More than 74 million items can be accessed online at the Digital Archives. Visit www.secstate.wa.gov/digitalarchives for more details.

Western Archives Institute

The 23rd annual Western Archives Institute will be held at U.C. Berkeley in Berkeley, California, **June 14 – June 26, 2009**. The Western Archives Institute is an intensive, two-week program that provides integrated instruction in basic archival practices.

The application deadline for the 2009 Western Archives Institute is March 13, 2009. Additional program information and application material is available on the California State Archives web site at http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives/level3_wai.html, and on the Society of California Archivists web site at <http://www.calarchivists.org>.

The Western Archives Institute is co-sponsored by the Society of California Archivists and the California State Archives.



Join NWA: Membership benefits include the exchange of information among colleagues, an annual conference, *Easy Access* published four times a year, and a membership directory.

To join send this form, along with \$15, checks payable to Northwest Archivists, Inc., to Ellie Arguimbau, The Montana Historical Society, PO Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201. For more information, contact Ellie at 406-444-4774 or e-mail her at earguimbau@mt.gov.

Name _____ Title _____

Institution _____

a. Work address _____

b. Home address _____

(Please circle address, a. or b., you prefer for newsletter and other mailings)

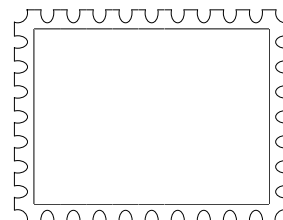
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Inside This Issue

⇒ *NWDA Digital Services Program*
⇒ *NW History and Heritage Extravaganza*
⇒ *Protocols for Native American Archival Materials*
