Digitizing Crow Oral History: Preservation, Perpetuation and Access
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Audio and Visual Holdings in the LBHC Archives - Formats

• Audio Cassettes
• Reel to Reels
• VHS Tapes
• Mini DVs
• S Chips
Audio and Visual Materials in the LBHC Archives-Content

• Crow Fair
• Handgames
• Daytime Dance
• Cultural Enrichment Course
• Historic and Battle Sites of the Crows
• Pretty Eagle Collection
• Crow Veterans Project Collection
• Crow Hymns Recordings
• Oral Histories- Historical and Cultural Information on the Crow People
Audio and Visual Materials Showing Signs of Aging

• All of the Audio and Visual Formats Are Outdated
• Video is Snowy
• Audio is Fuzzy
• Tape is Stretched or Starting to Corrode in Many Instances
We Needed a Solution to this Problem

• The Librarian and Archivist Have Been Concerned About this for Years
• We Decided to Apply for an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grant to Remedy this Situation
• We Received Assistance from the Sustainable Heritage Network at Washington State University
• In the fall of 2015, we received notification that we received the grant
• In order to improve our digitization skills, the Sustainable Heritage Network conducted numerous training.
A Three Part Process- Part One, Metadata

• What Metadata Do We Create and Why is it Important?
• IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT WHEN USING MUKURTU
A Three Part Process- Part Two, Digitization

- Tape is Inspected
- Tape is Downloaded Into Audio or Video Digitization Software
- Audio- WAV. Or MP3 Created
- Video- Mov. Or MP4 Created
- Both Formats Are Saved in Multiple Locations
- Ensures Long Term Stability in Multiple Platforms
A Three Part Solution- Part Three, Mukurtu and Uploading to the Internet

• What is Mukurtu?
• How do We Utilize It?
• Upload to the Internet Under Parameters Set up in Mukurtu
• Our Overall Experience With Mukurtu
Photos of Our Updated Work Area
What We have Accomplished So Far

• Initial Metadata Created For All Collections (Dublin Core and Mukurtu)
• 2351 Items digitized (Both Access and Preservation Copies)
• After a Slow Start We Have Made Significant Progress
• New IMLS Grant For 2018-2020- Continue Process And Work With the Community (Pryor and Wyola)
Oral History Project

• The Archives Holds Lots of Oral Histories
• There Are Gaps in Our Holdings, Post WWII Histories
• The Librarian and Archivist Met with the Library Committee
  Regrading this and after this we decided to apply for an NEH
  Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities grant.
• Once again, we were successful in getting the grant.
• A Key Part of the Project is Partnering With College Faculty
How The Project Functions (Year One)

• Faculty Picked Important Subjects From Post-WWII Crow History: The Big Horn River Case, Relocation, The Crow Bilingual Program, Coal Development, Arrow Throwing Tournaments, Midwifery, Community Action Programs, The Creation of Plenty Coups High School, etc.
• Faculty Conducted Oral History Interviews That Were Taped Both in Audio and Video.
• Faculty Conducted 36 of 40 Interviews Planned This Summer
• Transcripts and Translations Produced For Each Interview.
How The Project Functions (Year Two and Three)


• Faculty Will Begin to Take the Oral Histories and Create Course Modules. These Will Be Integrated Into the Humanities Curriculum at the College. August 2019

• There Will Also Be an Oral History Course Taught at the College. This Will Train Community Members to Conduct Oral Histories.

• All Interviews Will Be Saved in the Same Manner as Described in the Digitization Project