

**A Preliminary Survey
of
Under-Documented Communities and Subjects in Arizona**

Compiled for the Arizona Records Advisory Board

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by

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**Under the Direction of the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records
and
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Introduction and Scope of Work

In the Arizona Historical Records Advisory Board's *Protecting Arizona's Documentary Heritage: Action Plan 2005-2007*, one of the statewide Preservation objectives reads as follows:

"Using the institutional collections policies located in the *Arizona Cultural Inventory Project*, identify underdocumented [communities] or underdocumented subjects and seek institutions willing to collect in those areas."

(Preservation Goal, Objective #4, p. 7)

The Arizona Historical Records Advisory Board (AHRAB) decided to take the first steps in determining which Arizona communities, groups and/or organizations and subjects (what we are calling under-documented communities and subjects) are under-represented in archival repositories in Arizona. As a result, the Board asked that the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records and the Arizona State University's Department of History develop a plan for doing this.

These two institutions worked with Sarah Bohl, a graduate student from the Arizona State University's Department of History. Under the direction of Dr. Melanie Sturgeon, Director of the History and Archives Division, ASLAPR, and Dr. Noel Stowe, Chair of the ASU Department of History, the student took the broad categories of political, social economic and cultural history and broke them down into more specific Arizona themes.

This thematic evaluation for the period 1850-2006 included the following:

- Demography of the territory and state
- Minorities and ethnic groups
- Immigration
- Native Americans
- Cultural movements/changes
- Labor movements
- Political history
 - Political movements/protests
 - City, county and state politicians
- The growth of professional organizations
- The growth of tourism
- The Great Depression
- Environmental movements
- Economic booms and busts
- The growth of business
- The history of sports
- Women's history
- Children's history

- The history of communication organizations
- The history of health care
- Ranching and farming
- Mining
- War
- Religion and religious movements
- Law enforcement
- Water

We also did a chronological breakdown by decades that included the themes, communities and subjects listed in the thematic evaluation, listing the kinds of records and photographs one would expect to find for these chronological periods.

The next step in this evaluation was to search the catalogs of the major repositories in the state, using these historical themes, to see where there were gaps in collections, e.g. lack of material on under-documented communities and subjects. Because many of the small repositories in the state do not have on-line catalogs, we also thoroughly searched the Cultural Inventory Project (CIP) to see what various institutions reported that they collected.

The challenge of identifying the universe of potential Arizona historical documentation and comparing it to the collecting practices of existing historical repositories is significant. However the analysis should expose strengths and weaknesses in collecting activities and suggest under documented topics that might be the focus of future collecting efforts.

The following pages contain information from this preliminary survey. It is a first sweep and is by no means exhaustive.

It is hoped that this list will encourage discussion and collaboration among the archival repositories in the state to expand this list and to collect the records of these under-documented groups and subjects in a collaborative, cooperative and systematic way.

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Research Websites for Determining Under-documented Communities and Subjects in Arizona:

Arizona Archives Online:

<http://aao.lib.asu.edu/Browse.jsp?institution=Arizona+State+University&repository=Arizona+Collection>

ASU Arizona Collection:

<http://www.asu.edu/lib/archives/azlist.htm>

Cline Library, Colorado Plateau Digital Archives:

<http://www2.nau.edu/%7Elibei-p/scadb/browse/Browse.cfm?brby=COLLECTION>

University of Arizona Library Special Collections:

<http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/branches/spc/homepage/index.html>

Arizona Cultural Inventory Project:

<http://cip.lib.az.us/>

(the Collections of the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson are included in the Cultural Inventory Project)

Arizona Historical Society, Tempe:

<http://www.arizonahistoricalsociety.org/>

(only Tempe lists its collections; the online database isn't browseable, only searchable by keyword)

The following preliminary survey list contains collections and subjects that are under-documented in Arizona repositories, based on the initial thematic evaluation.

Under-documented communities and subjects

African Americans

- Oral histories
- Organizations-social, cultural, political
 - Minutes
 - Publications
 - Events—lists of names, programs
- Business records
- Photographs

Asian-Americans

- Oral histories
- Organizations—social, cultural, political
 - Minutes
 - Publications
 - Events

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- Business records
- Photographs

Blue collar workers

- Oral histories of postal workers, trash collector, factory workers, etc

Boom era post-WWII

- Photos that show changing landscapes of roads, streetscapes, airports, transportation, housing developments, city growth, motels/resorts, etc
- Housing development records—planning documents, blueprints, etc
- Oral histories of developers, planners, ex-military
- Homeowner or neighborhood association records

Celebrations/festivals

- Photographs
- Planning documents
- Programs
- Promotional material
- Oral histories of organizers

Chambers of Commerce

- Photographs
- Minutes
- Programs
- Public relations materials

Communications

- Oral history of TV news anchors, radio personalities, station owners, journalists
- Business records

Economic/business history

- Ledgers
- Business records
- Oral histories of businesspeople, business owners
- Oral history of railroad, factory, management, clerks, secretaries

Environmental history

- Club and or/organizational records
- Publications—pamphlets, brochures
- Photographs
- Oral histories of activists, lobbyists

Entertainment

- Oral histories of performers
- Photos of theaters, theme parks, festivals

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- Ephemera, programs, tickets, promotional material, etc

Health care, medicine

- Oral histories of doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, etc
- Photos of buildings, people, interiors

Labor history

- Union documents (locals and state organizations)
 - Minutes
 - Union records
- Pamphlets, brochures
- Oral histories—union members (men and women) and women's auxiliaries
- Lodge or other meeting hall records

Legislators

- Papers—correspondence, memos
- Photos
- Campaign materials
- Oral histories

Local political history

- Oral histories of aldermen, mayors, engineers
- Campaign documents—pamphlets, paraphernalia
-

Minorities/immigrants

- Photos
- Oral histories
- Business records
- Organizational records
- Records of festivals or events (photos, planning documents, lists of sponsors or attendees)

Native Americans

- Oral histories in urban and rural settings
- Activist organizations

Natural resources

- Oral histories of ranchers, state/national parks, forest service, Bureau of Land Management employees
- Photos

Police/legal

- Oral histories of lawyers, police, firemen
- Photos

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Professional organizations—Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce, University Women and others

- Minutes
- Oral histories
- Publications
- Records of events

Ranching and farming

- Oral histories
- Business records—financial, ledgers, guest books, etc
- Photos
- Organizational records

Religious history

- Oral history of missionaries, ministers, priests, etc
- Pamphlets, programs
- Photos—churches, yearbooks, etc

Sports history

- women's teams
- African-American, Mexican league teams
- minor leagues
- boxing events, etc?)
- Oral history about growth of spring training
- Programs, promotions, events, etc
- Photos

Tourism

- Route 66 material
- Tourism brochures/materials
- Oral histories
- Photos
- Motel/hotel records, guestbook, photographs

Universities

- Oral histories of professors, employees, alumni, etc
- Photos
- Professors' papers

Veterans

- Oral histories
- Letters, correspondence, diaries, postcards
- Photos

Water

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- Oral histories of water policy makers, farmers and ranchers
- Organizational records—like water user’s associations

Women

- Organizational records
- Oral histories
- Photos
- Diaries, letters, personal papers

Youth

- Organizations—oral histories of boy scouts, girl scouts, camps
- School—one-room school oral histories

Families

- Photos
- Oral histories
- Genealogy materials
- Letters, diaries, any other written material

Photography studios in smaller towns

- Negatives, prints
- Business records

Chronological breakdown by themes, communities and subjects

The following are examples of the kinds of records and photographs one would expect to find for the chronological periods below.

Territorial-1900-1909

- Records, photos, oral histories of Indian school teachers, reservation administrators
- Women—club records, oral histories, letters, diaries
- Mexican American and other ethnic and racial groups oral histories, letters, diaries, photographs
- Mining—oral histories, photos, records of labor activism/unions, records of mining companies
- Ranching/farming—oral histories, financial records, photos, correspondence, etc
- Records of early businessmen, doctors, dentists, etc
- Records of early lawmakers, politicians, police, etc
- Entertainment—vaudeville, opera, theater production records, oral histories, playbills
- Schools—yearbooks, graduation programs, plays, sports
- Immigration—oral histories, correspondence, etc from European, Asian, Latin Americans

1910-1919

WWI

- Oral histories of veterans, military personnel, home front, etc
- Correspondence, diaries, etc
- Photos
- Oral history, medical records, etc of influenza epidemic

Arizona statehood

- Oral histories
- Political records
- Women's suffrage

Progressive Era

- Settlement house records
- Oral histories, writings of reformers
- Publications, pamphlets, etc
- Mexican Revolution—oral history of anyone who might remember
- African Americans—oral history of migration, organizations (local NAACP?)
- Klu Klux Klan

1920-1929

Prohibition

- Oral history or records of speakeasy owners, rumrunners, entertainment industry
- Photos

Communication—radio begins

- Oral history of radio personalities, correspondence, photographs
- Records of stations, programming, etc
- Klu Klux Klan

1930-1939

Great Depression

- Oral history—stock market crash, daily life, etc
- New Deal project records, correspondence, etc
- Photos—migrants, projects, everyday life

1940-1949

WWII

- Oral histories—veterans, military officials, organizations, nurses, homefront, Rosie the Riveters, etc
- Correspondence, diaries
- Photos
- Japanese internment camp photos, oral histories, internee correspondence

Post-War Boom

- Technology

1950-1959

Korean War

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- oral history
- correspondence
- photos, etc

Cold War

- oral history (could include McCarthyism, Berlin Wall, Bay of Pigs, A-bomb, etc)

Suburban culture

- Developer's records

School segregation and desegregation

- oral histories
- photographs

1960-1969

Civil rights movements—

African American

Chicano

AIM

Gay Liberation

Feminism

New Left

- oral histories, organizational records, publications, pamphlets, photos, from all of the above

1970

Vietnam

- Oral histories—veterans, protesters, draft dodgers, etc
- Photos

Environmental movement

- Oral histories, organizational records

Equal Rights Amendment

1980

AIDS epidemic

- oral histories from medical professionals, patients, etc

Anti-drug campaigns

1990

Desert Storm/Gulf War

- oral histories, photos

CAP completion

- oral histories of legislators, construction workers, recipients, etc

Sanctuary Movement

2000

- preliminary survey

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