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Guide to the Oregon Native American Language Sound Recordings, 1962-1964

Title

Oregon Native American Language Sound Recordings (OH 12)

Dates

1962-1964 (inclusive)

Creator

Pierce, Joe E.

Summary

The Oregon Native American Language Sound Recordings were made by Joe E. Pierce during his study of Native American languages in Oregon and include interviews with members of the Coquille and Siletz tribes.

Quantity

0.5 cubic foot, including 57 audiotapes (3 boxes)

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research.

Oregon State University Libraries, University Archives
121 The Valley Library
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-4501
Phone: 541-737-2165
Email: archives@oregonstate.edu
Web: <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/archives>

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Nielsen, 2008.

Biographical Note

Joe E. Pierce was a faculty member in the Anthropology Department at Portland State College at the time these recordings were made. Pierce earned his Ph.D. at Indiana University in 1957 and specialized in linguistics and world languages. He died in 1994.

Bruce J. Rigsby was a graduate student at the University of Oregon and completed his Ph.D. in 1965.

Amelia Brown was described by James Collins in *Understanding Tolowa Histories: Western Hegemonies and Native American Responses* as "herbalist, midwife, cook, and raconteur".

Content Description

The Oregon Native American Language Sound Recordings consist of cassette audiotape recordings of interviews conducted by Joe E. Pierce with members of the Coquille and Siletz tribes. The recordings were made as part of a project funded by the National Science Foundation for a systematic study of Native American languages in Oregon. Bruce J. Rigsby also participated in the study.

The recordings document the Tolowa and Tutuni languages, especially word phrases, songs, and stories. The grammatical structure of the languages is also addressed. The bulk of the recordings are interviews with Mrs. Amelia Brown; other individuals that are included in the recordings are Mr. and Mrs. Lopez, Mrs. Ida Bensell, Hoxly Simmons, Miller Collins, and Mrs. Carrie Streets.

The cassette audiotapes were prepared in the late 1980s by Tom Grigsby of the OSU Anthropology Department from original reel-to-reel recordings. Tape logs were prepared at that time and are included with the collection.

Preferred Citation

Oregon Native American Language Sound Recordings (OH 12), Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis, Oregon.

Acquisition Information

These sound recordings were transferred from the Oregon State University Anthropology Department in 2001.

Related Material

This collection is a component of the [Oregon Multicultural Archives](#), which documents the lives and activities of African American, Asian American, Latino and Native American communities of Oregon.

Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the OSU Libraries Catalog. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog (<http://oasis.oregonstate.edu>) using these headings.

Topics

Coquille Indians.

Coquille language.

Indians of North America--Oregon--Languages--Interviews.

Siletz Indians.

Forms of Materials in the Collection

Audiocassettes.

Oral histories (document genres)

Other Creators

Rigsby, Bruce Joseph, 1937-