

Oregon Multicultural Archives

Assisting Communities Document Their Histories Through Digital Stewardship and Archival Education



Baker City, OR Chinese Cemetery ~ Photos by Tom Banse

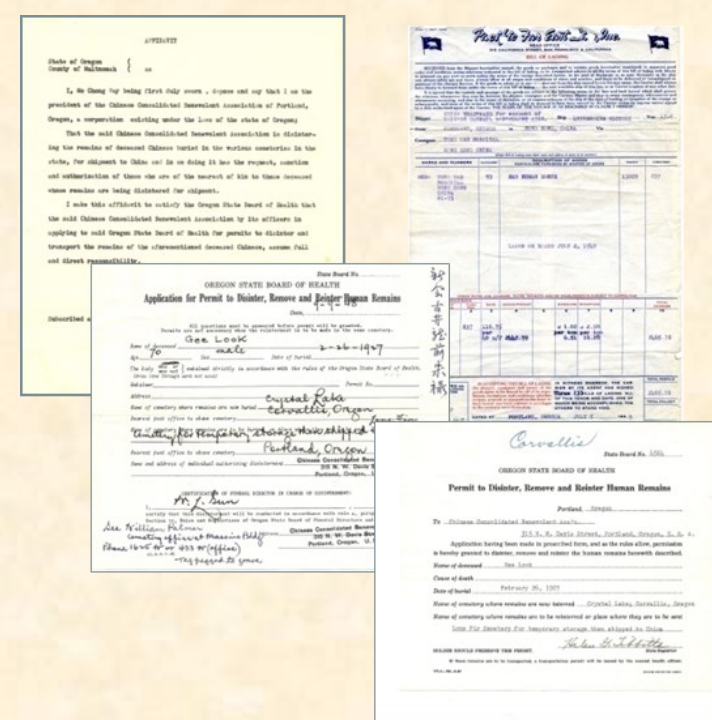
Digital Stewardship: Oregon Chinese Disinterment Documents



Map of Oregon Cemeteries: Gravesites of Chinese Laborers

Project Background:

It is part of Chinese tradition for the living to care for the deceased's remains in order to protect their spirits and those of the living. In the mid 19th century and afterward the Chinese immigrants that came to the Pacific Northwest continued this practice by making arrangements with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) based in Portland for their remains to be disinterred and shipped back to China to their families.



Project Description:

In early 2010, an anonymous donor gave a box of records to the Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) radio's newsroom which pertained to the 1949 shipment of Chinese immigrant remains from Portland to Hong Kong. The collection consists of documents such as disinterment application and permit forms from cemeteries all over Oregon as well as shipping related documents (images on left).

Project Objective:

To make the collection documents available online and enable the CCBA community archives to retain physical control and custody of the collection.



Oregon Chinese Disinterment Documents Online Exhibit

Project Outcomes:

As part of a collaborative effort with the CCBA community archive, three organizations, including a news network and two university archives, digitized the documents, stored and preserved them, and made them accessible to the general public through an online exhibit.



OPB: Digitization

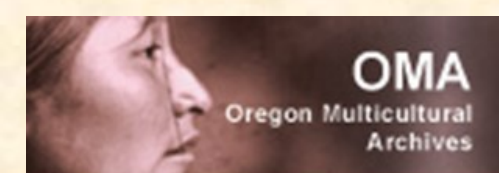


PSU: Temporary Custody and Preservation Work



CCBA: Custodians of the Original, Physical Documents

The Four Project Collaborators

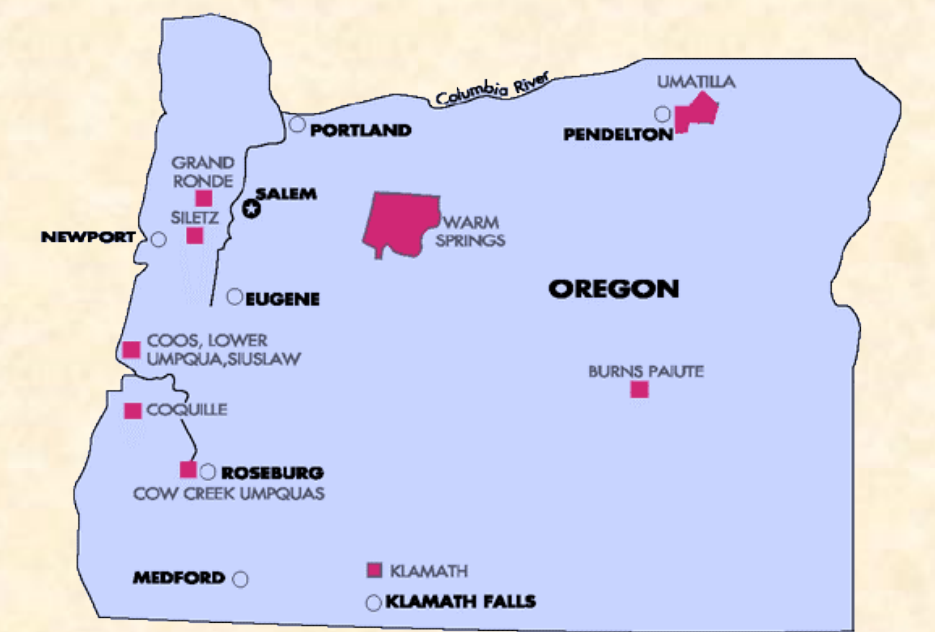


OMA: Digital Stewardship and Online Accessibility



Oregon Tribal Archives Institute (OTAI) 2012

Archival Education: Oregon Tribal Archives Institute



Map of Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes

Project Background:

Establishing and developing formal and sustainable archives and records management programs by Oregon's tribal communities has been challenging in part due to the lack of affordable and location accessible training opportunities for tribal members. In conversations with tribal archives and records management staff, the consensus was that they wanted to maintain their own records and what they needed was the education and training to do so. In 2010 the OMA applied for a two-year state funded grant to develop an archives and records management training for all of Oregon's tribal communities to specifically address their archival education needs.

Project Objective:

To assist Oregon's tribal communities by offering them an opportunity for professional development and networking through an affordable, location accessible, and in-depth archives and records management training.

Project Description:

Site Visits to Oregon's 9 Tribes: Summer 2011

Conducted In-Person Needs Assessments in Order to Develop the Training Topics

- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, July 20
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, July 11-12
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, July 7
- The Klamath Tribes, July 25-26
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, August 9
- Burns Paiute Tribe, August 31
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, September 8
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, September 16
- Coquille Indian Tribe, September 15

Institute Planning: Spring-Summer 2012

Curriculum Development: Fall 2011-Spring 2012

- Formulated a List of Topics
- Brainstormed Sessions and the Schedule for the Week
- Identified Trainers
- Shared Information with Project Partners
- Organized Lodging & Meals for Attendees
- Developed Curriculum Materials
- Planned Special Events & Field Trips

The Oregon Tribal Archives Institute
Sunday August 19 - Friday August 24, 2012



Field Trips to the Siletz Tribal Community Archives and the Benton County Historical Society

Sessions at the OSU Valley Library



Grand Ronde Community Archives and Closing Dinner with speaker Dr. George Wasson



Project Outcomes:

- ~ 18 attendees: at least one representative from each tribe
- ~ Costs: lodging, meals, and travel covered by the grant
- ~ Assessment: the institute itself and follow-up phone interviews to discuss ideas for future trainings
- ~ Session Recordings: OTAI content is available online
- ~ Extra Grant Funds: offered \$775 in archival supplies and equipment to each of the nine tribes

OTAI Project Website

<http://scarc.library.oregonstate.edu/oma/tai/index.html>



Oregon Multicultural Archives (OMA)

The OMA assists in preserving the histories and sharing the stories that document Oregon's African American, Asian American, Latino/a, and Native American communities

<http://scarc.library.oregonstate.edu/oma/> Contact Information: Natalia Fernández natalia.fernandez@oregonstate.edu

