

# **Montana Folklife Survey collection**

**AFC 1981/005**

**Guides to the Collections in the Archive of Folk Culture**



**American Folklife Center, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
March 1980**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2012655473>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/eadafc.af014005>

Prepared by Kevin Lawlor Farley. Revised by Lucy M. Long

Finding aid encoded by Valda Morris, November 2014  
Revised July 2022

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Montana Folklife Survey collection

**Inclusive Dates:** 1979

**Call No.:** AFC 1981/005

**Creator:** Archive of Folk Culture (Library of Congress), collector.

**Creator:** Montana Arts Council, sponsor.

**Extent:** 11,800 items; 8 containers; 3 1/2 linear feet.

**Extent (manuscripts):** manuscripts: 102 folders.

**Extent (sound recordings):** 144 sound tape reels (73 hours) : analog, 7 1/2 ips ; 7 in.

**Extent (sound recordings):** 2 sound cassettes : analog.

**Extent (moving images):** 1 videocassette (U-Matic) : sound, color ; 3/4 in.

**Extent (still images):** circa 5700 photographs : film negatives, black and white ; various sizes.

**Extent (still images):** circa 3600 photographs : film negatives, transparencies, color ; various sizes.

**Language:** In English.

**Location:** Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/2012655473>

**Summary:** Collection of field recordings of interviews with Montanans in various occupations including ranching, sheep herding, blacksmithing, stone cutting, saddle making, and mining; various folk and traditional music occasions including fiddle and mandolin music in Forsyth; fiddle and accordion music performed in Broadus; the Montana Old-Time Fiddlers Association in Polson; Irish music, songs, and dance music on concertina and accordion in Butte; a Serbian wedding and reception in Butte; hymn singing of the Turner Colony of Hutterites; the annual Crow Fair in Crow Agency; storytelling on the Milk River Wagon Train, and other documentation of rodeos, trade crafts, vernacular architecture, quilting, and other reminiscences and stories about life in Montana in 1979. One videocassette comprises news coverage of the Montana Folklife Survey, featuring Barre Toelken, KECI-TV, Missoula, Montana, 1979-09-13.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Crummett, Michael, 1948-

Dockstader, Ray.

Fleischhauer, Carl

Johnson, Paula J., 1954-

McBride, Tom

Stanton, Gary Ward, 1946-

Toelken, Barre, 1935-2018

Toelken, Miiko

Wasson, George B.

Young, Kay, 1931-

### Organizations

American Folklife Center

Archive of Folk Culture (Library of Congress)

Crow Fair Celebration.

Montana Arts Council

### Subjects

Basque Americans--Montana.

Blacksmiths--Montana--Interviews.

Cowboys--Montana--Interviews.

Crow Indians--Montana.

Fiddle tunes--Montana.

Field recordings--Montana.  
Folk music--Montana.  
Folklore--Montana.  
Food habits--Montana.  
Greek Americans--Montana.  
Hutterian Brethren--Hymns.  
Hymns, German--Montana.  
Irish Americans--Montana--Butte--Folklore.  
Irish Americans--Montana--Butte--Music.  
Italian Americans--Montana.  
Japanese Americans--Montana.  
Miners--Montana--Butte.  
Norwegian Americans--Montana.  
Quilts--Montana.  
Ranching--Montana.  
Rodeos--Montana.  
Salish Indians--Montana.  
Serbian Americans--Montana--Butte.  
Songs, Swedish--Montana.  
Storytelling--Montana.  
Swedish Americans--Montana.  
Tales--Montana.  
Vernacular architecture--Montana.

### **Places**

Butte (Mont.)--Social life and customs--20th century.  
Montana--Social life and customs--20th century.

### **Titles**

*Montana folklife collection*  
*Montana folklife project*

### **Form/Genre**

Correspondence.  
Ethnography.  
Field notes.  
Field recordings.  
Interviews.  
Manuscripts.  
Maps.  
Oral histories.  
Photographs.  
Sound recordings.  
Television programs.  
Videocassettes.

## **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into the following series: I. Administration; II. Collected Publications and Ephemera; III. Documentation (fieldnotes, still images, sound recordings).

## **Acquisition**

Accessioned; 1981.

## Processing History

The collection was processed by Lucy M. Long in 1981.

## Copyright Status

Duplication of the collection materials may be governed by copyright and other restrictions.

## Access and Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Access may be restricted; some or all content is stored offsite. To request materials, please contact the Folklife Reading Room at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/folklife.home>

## Preferred Citation

Montana Folklife Survey Collection, 1979 (AFC 1981/005), Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Administrative History

In the summer of 1979, the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress conducted a field research survey to document traditional folklife in Montana. The survey was undertaken in cooperation with the Montana Arts Council. The survey team was led by Barre Toelken, and included folklorists Kay Young, Gary Stanton, Paula Johnson, photographer Michael Crummett, and photographer Tom McBride, George Wasson, Miiko Toelken, and Carl Fleischhauer and was conducted from June 28, 1979 to September 15, 1979.

## Scope and Content

Collection of field recordings of interviews with Montanans in various occupations including ranching, sheep herding, blacksmithing, stone cutting, saddle making, and mining; various folk and traditional music occasions including fiddle and mandolin music in Forsyth; fiddle and accordion music performed in Broadus; the Montana Old-Time Fiddlers Association in Polson; Irish music, songs, and dance music on concertina and accordion in Butte; a Serbian wedding and reception in Butte; hymn singing of the Turner Colony of Hutterites; the annual Crow Fair in Crow Agency; storytelling on the Milk River Wagon Train, and other documentation of rodeos, trade crafts, vernacular architecture, quilting, and other reminiscences and stories about life in Montana in 1979. One videocassette comprises news coverage of the Montana Folklife Survey, featuring Barre Toelken, KECI-TV, Missoula, Montana, 1979-09-13.

## Description of Series

Container

Series

[PDF Inventory, June 1981](#)

See [PDF inventory](#).

# Container List

**Container**

**Contents**

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**PDF Inventory, June 1981**

See [PDF inventory](#).

## Container List

See [PDF inventory](#) of the collection materials, prepared in March 1980 and revised in June 1981.