Click Capture, Press Play:
Digitization Initiatives for Regional Audiovisual Collections

Association of Moving Image Archivists Conference
October 11, 2014
pilot funding

call for nominations to

32

survey respondents

RFP

archive.org/details/californialightandsound
2010
pilot funding
call for nominations to
32 survey respondents
RFP

2011
50 recordings

2012
22 partners

2013
5,912 streams

2014

2015

archive.org/details/californialightandsound
<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<td>Call for nominations to 32 survey respondents</td>
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[archive.org/details/californialightandsound]
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archive.org/details/californialightandsound
pilot funding

call for nominations to 32 survey respondents

RFP

2010

50 recordings

22 partners

5,912 streams

2011

427 recordings

26 partners

22,000 streams

2012

1,650 recordings

75 partners

88,774 streams

2013

3,000+ recordings

77 partners

102,981 streams

2014

2015

archive.org/details/californialightandsound
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<td>102,981</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>3,816+</td>
<td>84+</td>
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archive.org/details/californialightandsound
2014 | California Audiovisual Preservation Project (CAVPP)

- African American Museum and Library at Oakland
- Allan Hancock College
- American Jewish University
- The Autry
- The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley
- Bishop Chamber of Commerce
- California Academy of Sciences
- California Automobile Museum
- California College of the Arts Libraries
- California Historical Society
- California Institute of Technology Archives
- California Judicial Center Library
- California Polytechnic State University
- California State Archives
- California State Military Museum
- California State Railroad Museum Library
- California State University, Bakersfield
- California State University, Chico
- California State University, Fresno
- California State University, Fullerton
- California State University, San Marcos
- Center for Asian American Media
- Center for Sacramento History
- Claremont Colleges Library
- Computer History Museum
- Eastern California Museum
- Environmental Design Archives, University of California, Berkeley
- Ethnic Studies Library, University of California, Berkeley
- Ferndale Museum
- Fresno County Public Library
- Graduate Theological Union Library and Archives
- Headlands Center for the Arts
- History San Jose
- Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford University
- Humboldt County Archives
- Humboldt State University
- Institute of Government Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- Inyo County Free Library
- The Kitchen Sisters
- Labor Archives, San Francisco State University
- Lambda Archives of San Diego
- Little People of America
- Loyola Marymount University
- Manzanar National Historic Site
- The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley
- Media Resources Center, Media Resources Center, University of California, Berkeley
- Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library
- Museum of Performance and Design
- Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
2014 | California Audiovisual Preservation Project (CAVPP)

- Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library
- Oakland Museum of California
- Ontario City Library, Robert E. Ellingwood Model Colony History Room
- Orange County Archives
- Other Minds Archive
- Pacifica Radio Archives
- Pasadena Museum of History
- Pepperdine University Special Collections and University Archives
- Regional Oral History Office, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley
- Sacramento City College
- San Diego Air and Space Museum
- San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
- San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
- Santa Clara Valley Water District Library
- Shoshone Museum
- Sierra Club
- Stanford University, Department of Special Collections: Manuscripts Division and University Archives
- University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive
- University of California, Davis Library
- University of California, Los Angeles Ethnomusicology Archive
- University of California, Riverside, Special Collections and Archives
- University of California, San Diego Library
- University of California, San Francisco, Archives & Special Collections
- University of California, Santa Barbara, Davidson Library, Department of Special Collections
- University of Southern California, Doheny Memorial Library, Special Collections
- Visual Communications Archives
- Writers Guild Foundation
- Yolo County Archives

Golden Gate Bridge Celebration (1937), 16mm film, from California Historical Society
California Light and Sound Collection
archive.org/details/californialightandsound

Welcome to California Light and Sound

Historical moving images and audio from the California Audiovisual Preservation Project

In partnership with seventy five libraries, archives and museums, the California Preservation Program provides digitization, preservation and access services for historic California audiovisual recordings. The "California Light and Sound" collection of recordings provides "glimpses and whispers" of our state's rich audiovisual heritage- there is much more to be mined and discovered. We must save our audiovisual heritage before it is too late; analog recordings are threatened by fragile physical condition, format obsolescence and the lack of playback equipment.

The Project gathers best archival practices for moving image and sound preservation and establishes low-cost, practical standards to help collecting organizations move from the analog age to the digital age. Access is provided by the Internet Archive for teaching, research and study. Storage of files for long-term preservation is provided by the California Audiovisual Preservation Project.

Funding was received from the California State Library, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this collection do not necessarily reflect those of the funders.

For additional information about the California Audiovisual Preservation Project, please visit the California Preservation Program. Comments or questions? Email

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter!
CAVPP Workflow Overview

Partner actions:
• Assess collection using CALIPR (preferably)
• Nominate recordings by adding records to CONTENTdm
• Send approved recordings and metadata to CAVPP for processing

CAVPP actions:
• Add administrative metadata to records
• Send recordings to vendor(s) for digitization
• Check technical specifications of new files and image/sound quality
• Upload access files and metadata to the Internet Archive
• Long-term storage and preservation of the digital object and metadata

Partner actions:
• Check image quality and content of access files at the Internet Archive
• Confirm and update metadata in CONTENTdm
• Long-term storage and preservation (preferably)
CAVPP Partnership: Nomination
Selection Criteria

- Statewide and/or local historical significance that contributes to an understanding of the history of California and its people - (ideally) featuring widely known names and events
- Risk of loss due to physical condition and format obsolescence
- Primary source material, never published commercially
- Intellectual property in the public domain, held by the owning library, or secured from the rights holder, when possible
- Cataloging metadata provided by the partner
- Titles most requested by users

Malcolm X (1963), ½” videocassette,
from Media Resources Center, UC Berkeley

[UC Charter Day] (1962),
16mm film,
from The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley

[Harvey Milk Interview at Castro Camera] (1978),
¾” videocassette,
from Pacific Film Archive
CAVPP Partnership: Nomination
Value and Triage

Questions to ask about the object’s content
Historically significant?
Part of a comprehensive collection?
If lost would the library/archive spend its resources to replace it?

Questions to ask about the object
Obsolete format?
Damaged or deteriorating?
Archival: unique, master recording or “best available”?  

California Condors In Flight, 16mm film, from California State Archives
CAVPP Partnership: Description

Required Metadata
• Main or Supplied Title
• Media Type (Moving Image or Sound)
• Generation
• Name of Holding Institution
• Country of Creation
• Date Created
• Copyright Statement
• Why the recording is significant to California or local history

'Unknown’ can be a placeholder

CAVPP Metadata Guidelines and Permission Guidelines
calpreservation.org/projects/audiovisual-preservation

The Challenging Sea: Kelp (1969), 16mm film, from California Institute of Technology Archives
CAVPP Partnership: Description
CAVPP Partnership: Digitization

- Vendor photographs recording and container
- Inspects, preps and transfers recordings according to CAVPP specs, and partner’s specs upon request
- Treatment only if necessary – always CAVPP will check with partner before proceeding
- Compiles technical metadata about the transfer with metadata supplied as a PBCore xml record

- 30 formats processed so far!
- Good vendors bring:
  - expertise, equipment
  - established procedures
  - guidance on file naming conventions, destination formats
- Bulk and batch transfer options
- Less “real time” staff cost

A Soviet Ant Takes a Walk (1975)
16mm film,
from Stanford University,
Manuscripts Division and University Archives
CAVPP Partnership: Digitization

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<th>Lacquer discs/acetates</th>
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<td>1/2 inch audio tape</td>
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New Games (1973)
½” open reel video, from Pacific Film Archive
CAVPP Partnership: Quality control

CAVPP checks all files

- Technical specifications
- Directory structure and file naming
- Image quality at beginning, middle and end
- Consistent heads and tails; missing content
- Accurate and complete metadata
- Runs checksums

Partner checks online access files

- Image/sound quality, ideally in its entirety (if staff time permits)
- Confirm image and sound quality are adequate for patron use
- Is the file true to the original source (best estimation)?
- Confirm content corresponds to descriptive metadata
- Update metadata in CONTENTdm accordingly

Only after files and metadata have been approved by the CAVPP and owning archive, will the vendor return original materials to the archive

CAVPP Quality Assurance steps
CAVPP Partnership: Preservation

CAVPP Digital Repository

- All files kept on LTO tape (two copies)
- Access files on archive.org’s servers (two copies)

- Total data (2010-2014): 216 TB+ (3,000 titles)

- Storage costs (2010-2014): $16,140 total
  (shipping and LTO storage media)
  \(~$5/recording\)

- Ongoing (2015-2023) data:
  154 TB/year (1,500 titles+/~4,200 files+)
  Assumes: all moving images
  maximum running time
  20% complex objects; 80% simple objects

- Total data in 10 years: 1.35 PB!

Earthquake Scenes (1906),
16mm film,
From California Historical Society
CAVPP Partnership: Preservation

CAVPP Redundancy

• Partners keep copies as well (HDDs; server)

**Average storage needed for 12 recordings:** 1.23 TB
  Assumes: all moving images
  maximum running time

• Storage costs: $155 for 12 recordings
  (shipping and HDD storage media)
  ~$13/recording

Quake '92,
3/4” videocassette,
From Humboldt State University Library
Does a collaborative model work?
Partner survey results

• Gains physical and intellectual control over audiovisual materials;
• Addresses preservation needs of audiovisual collections;
• Preserves and provides access to audiovisual material—for both staff and users;

• Streamlines standards, needs, practicalities and preservation workflows for partner institutions;
• Provides shared visibility and broader exposure through larger networks like the Internet Archive;
• Inspires participating institutions to address preservation needs of other recordings outside project scope;
• Serves as a proof of concept for possible donors;
• Creates opportunities for online marketing and public relations

[Film Footage of California Scenes] (1930s), 35mm nitrate negative film, from The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley
Is the Project sustainable?
Define limits

The CAVPP’s goal is to save and provide access to all of California’s significant, at risk, historical sound and moving image recordings.

What’s missing?

• Aggregate CALIPR data
• Ask partners:
  • How much historically significant analog AV Californiana do you have?
  • How much historically significant digital AV Californiana do you have?
  • How much of what you have would you like to contribute CLS?

• Establish “big sister” partners

Filipino American Home Movies (1950s), 16mm film, from Visual Communications Archives
Is the Project sustainable?
Define communities

Who is California Light and Sound for?

How can the partnership further encourage discovery and use of the collection’s treasure trove of audio, video and film recordings?

- Content and metadata aggregation
  - IA; Worldcat; PopUp Archive; DPLA
  - Possible tools and apps…?
- Curatorial development
- Curriculum development
- Partner outreach initiatives

Bishop, California – The Film of All Ages (1931), 16mm film, from Bishop Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
Is the Project sustainable?
Define fundraising opportunities beyond grants

• **Local/state foundation support.**

• September 2014: **Outreach workshop.** With key partners, brainstormed outreach initiatives (i.e., programs, events and activities) that sparked community interest in preservation of the community’s audiovisual heritage.

• Spring 2015: **Outreach initiatives.** Engage users and local communities with collections, on the ground and online.

*Is the public willing to invest in their own audiovisual heritage?*

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Life in Ontario: You and Your Friends (1947), 16mm film, from Ontario City Library, Robert E. Ellingwood Model Colony History Room
Thank you!

Pamela Jean Vadakan
pamelajeans@berkeley.edu

calpreservation.org/projects/audiovisual-preservation
archive.org/details/californialightandsound
Questions? Comments?

California State Fair Exhibit (1941), 16mm film,
From California State Archives