

Native Vermonter Oral Stories

The Native Abeneki people of Vermont enjoy the practice of using oral stories. We wanted to highlight the landscape perspective of this population on the LCP site using audio files, anticipating that it might well differ from the typical descriptions on the LCP site written by geologists and other academics. In order to reach out to this somewhat elusive, although widespread group in Vermont, we enlisted much advice from others.

- 1) There are many Abeneki factions and tribes in Vermont. Gaining “admission” or trust into these groups is difficult. We solicited advice from John Crock, a Consulting Archeology professor and from Giovanna Peebles, the Vermont State Archeologist, who have worked with various Abeneki individuals for years.
- 2) We were lucky to find a UVM employee, Melody Walker, a tribal member in Vermont, who was able to immediately liaison for us. Her enthusiasm for the LCP has been instrumental in finding Abeneki individuals to work with us. Melody was able to email a request for interviews to her personal contact list as well as post an invitational flyer on the “Vermonters Concerned On Native American Affairs” website (www.vcnaa.com/).
- 3) We asked Melody to do a test recording with us in April 09, which was a moving and personal narrative for her, albeit short. She hoped to influence other Abenekis by showcasing her example. Recently, we have received an additional two responses of interest to participate—which is encouraging.

For our audio recordings, we use a mp3 formatting with file settings of: 44.1K, 156 kbps as standard, although more kbps would be preferred. Our recorder maxes out with this level in stereo recording mode for mp3 files (industry standard). Wav formatting would be “higher resolution” but was not opted for.

Oral Stories Forms:

- Invitation to Participate
- Release Form
- Interview Protocol
- Evaluation

Oral Stories – Invitation Form

You're invited to share your own Vermont Landscape Stories in the Oral Tradition



View Up the Mississquoi River (about 1860-1890), LS05529

The *Landscape Change Program* at the University of Vermont hosts a public-access, free archive of historical images of Vermont.

www.uvm.edu/landscape

Community members may share photographs, ideas, and comments. We are currently **recording oral stories** about landscapes depicted in the archive images. These digital audio files will add the power of voice to the images of *your* choice.

Please contact: Christine Massey, UVM, christine.massey@uvm.edu or 863-3609, if you'd like to bring your voice to others.



The
UNIVERSITY
of VERMONT



Oral Stories – Release Form



Landscape Change Program
180 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05405
Phone 802-656-4411 / Fax 802-656-0045
www.uvm.edu/landscape

Release Agreement

Thank you for participating in an interview with _____
for the UVM Landscape Change Program on _____

By signing this form below you give your permission for the UVM Landscape Change Program to:

- Use any audio recordings, video recordings, photographs, manuscripts or other material made during or resulting from this interview for scholarly and educational purposes, including print, live, or on-line publications, broadcasts, and exhibitions, including any subsequent technologies;
- To deposit these materials in a public archive where they will be available to researchers and the public for scholarly or educational purposes under the discretion of the Archivist.

By signing below you agree to transfer intellectual property rights and copyright to the UVM Landscape Change Program for the Program's work in preserving and making this information available to future generations. Transfer of intellectual property and copyright is for educational exhibit, publication, broadcast, and research purposes only. Donors retain rights in any profit-making endeavor throughout their life span.

I agree to the uses of these materials as described above except for any restrictions listed below.

Interviewee:

Signature _____
Printed Name _____ Date _____
Address _____

Interviewer:

Signature _____
Printed Name _____ Date _____

Restrictions:

Restrictions in effect until: _____

For Office Use:

Collection Name: _____		
Collection #:	Accession #:	
File Uploaded:	Data CD-R:	Informant Copy:
Transcription Copy:	Transcript Out:	Transcript In:
Digital Transcript Filed:	Transcripts Printed:	Transcripts Filed:



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Oral Stories – Interview Protocol Form



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180 Colchester Avenue, Burlington, VT 05405
Phone 802-656-4411 / Fax 802-656-0045
www.uvm.edu/landscape

Interview Protocol

Interviewee:

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Interviewer(s):

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Recording Device: Marantz Digital PMD660 **File Type:** mp3 (48k)

Other: _____

<p>Image: LS _____ Title: _____ Notes:</p>	<p>Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ File transfer name: _____</p>
<p>Image: LS _____ Title: _____ Notes:</p>	<p>Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ File transfer name: _____</p>
<p>Image: LS _____ Title: _____ Notes:</p>	<p>Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ File transfer name: _____</p>



Oral Stories – Evaluation Form

Landscape Change Program Oral Stories Participant Evaluation

Please give us some feedback about your experience working with us to record oral stories. We do take seriously ALL comments. Thank you.

- 1) Please list ideas for improving the overall process.

- 2) How do you feel about the time allotted for recording your oral story?

- 3) Are you interested in working with us again?

- 4) Please recommend others who we could contact about involvement in the Oral Stories Project:

Name _____

Contact _____

Name _____

Contact _____

Name _____

Contact _____

Your name _____ (optional)

Thanks again!