Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative: Fostering Collaboration Between Information School Programs and Local History Organizations





















WISCONSIN

Recollection Wisconsin brings together digital cultural heritage resources from Wisconsin libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies and shares them with the world.

https://recollectionwisconsin.org







The Collection

- 700,000 historical resources
- photos, maps, books, audio,
 video, artifacts and more
- aggregated from 250 orgs
- 400+ distinct collections
- Wisconsin's DPLA hub
- Amplifying Wisconsin history!















The Community + Expertise

- Six governing partners
- WiLS = project manager
- Statewide resource for LAMS, local history orgs
- Community of practice!
- Digital Readiness Toolkit
 <u>https://recollectionwisconsin.org/accessing-the-digital-readiness-toolkit</u>



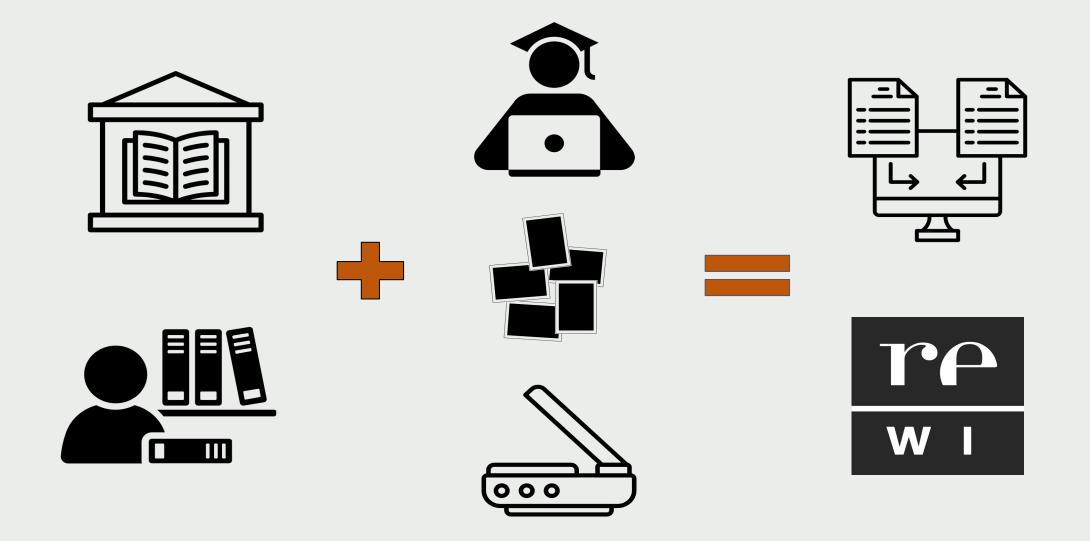
We believe libraries, cultural institutions, and their partners make the world a better place.

We build relationships and provide services so they can do more with their time and money.

We help our members turn ideas into action.

https://www.wils.org/

Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative

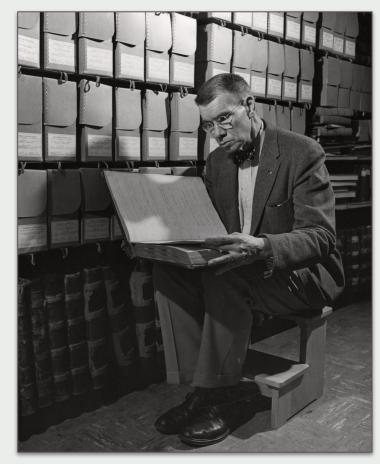




Strategic planning, c. 1955. UW Digital Collections

Goals: Program-level

- Leverage experience digital curation, community-building programs
- Outreach and relationship building
- Continued use of past projects
- ROI + supporting Wisconsin people and institutions



UW Archivist Gilbert Doane.
UW-Madison Archives

Goals: Collection development

- New types of collections
- Fill gaps
- New stories, under-represented communities
- New partnerships community of practice!



Folk dancing at UW-Green
Bay.
UW-Madison Archives

Goals: Host sites and supervisors

- Recollection Wisconsin strategic goals
- Expand participation, onboard new content partners, focus on under-represented geographic areas
- Provide training, build workflows for sustainable digitization work
- Create meaningful connections with graduate programs



Library School students, c. 1926.

UW Digital Collections

Goals: Student participants

- Paid student opportunities
- Experiential learning outside of major cities
- Training and support, curriculum
- Transferable skills, workforce development
- Share our knowledge and experience!



UW-Stout, c. 1920. UW Digital Collections

Structure and logistics

- Cohort- and semester-based program
- Student placements for credit
- Digitization project start to finish: scanning, metadata, project management, documentation, CONTENTdm
- Student stipend + mileage reimbursement
- Orientation to host site and collections



UW-Madison student, 1979. UW Digital Collections

Participants and requirements

- Students + host site supervisors + Recollection Wisconsin staff
- Vicki part time coordinator
- Application + informal interview
- Match-making process
 - students: proximity to host site, ability to travel
 - host sites: digital readiness
- Information school staff support



UW-Madison women's track, 1921.
UW Digital Collections

Training and support

- Participation agreements
- Host sites project planning
- Virtual training + curriculum
- Weekly + monthly check in meetings
- Mid-semester all-cohort meeting
- Ongoing support, program evaluation



EDGERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY











MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM



Eagle River Historical Society

Vito S. Bortolotti, Executive Director





Eagle River Historical Society

MISSION STATEMENT

To collect, preserve and share Eagle River heritage and culture, and to be a recognized economic asset to the community.

VISION STATEMENT

To offer services to the Eagle River area by means of preservation, research, and community outreach in our museums and public spaces.



Eagle River Historical Society Main Museum Campus

Eagle River Historical Society
Depot Museum





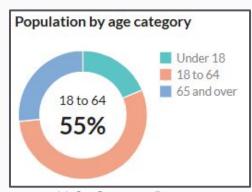
E.R.H.S. Collections & Archives

Project Purpose

The Eagle River Historical Society (E.R.H.S.) has an extensive and growing collection of 2D and 3D objects representing Eagle River and other Vilas County communities too small to field their own local history organization.

- Desire to make collections publicly available.
- Online platforms can be costly or technologically challenging.
- Demographically, lots of tourists and a year round, older generation.

Our biggest need? To meet locals and tourists where they were at, in both skill, interest, and overall usefulness.



U.S. Census Bureau c. 2023 for Vilas Co. Wisc.

Recollection Wisconsin and CONTENT dm helped E.R.H.S. achieve this intersection.



E.R.H.S. Archival Collection Files (A.C.F.)

Project Scope

The E.R.H.S. has digitized 4,000+ images, independent of what is already in our archives. Courtesy of a local Historian, Craig Moore.

- Many people loan us collections but they take up space and are not permanent.
- The Historical Society needed a way to save a digital copy of collections, for internal & research records.

In addition to digital files, we have thousands of artifacts in our A.C.F. not yet digitized. Our greatest challenge has been scanning equipment and trained volunteers or docents.

Recollection Wisconsin has been instrumental in the execution of this project by providing:

- Partners with proper equipment
- Metadata and scanning instructions
- Digital Readiness Toolkit



NFLS offices + digitization lab in Green Bay, Wisconsin

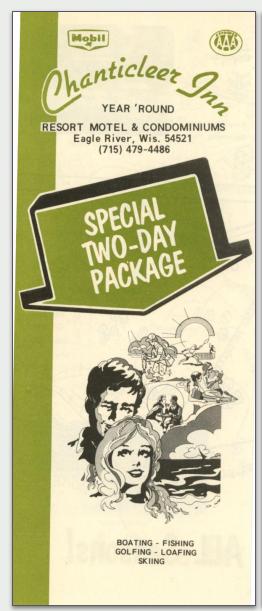


Jacqueline Steel, UW-Milwaukee SOIS



Tracy Vreeke, NFLS director





SPRING - SUMMER - FALL ACTIVITIES

SWIMMING - 1150 feet of shoreline, on the famous Eagle Chain of 27 lakes, dotted with piers and a wonderful sand beach in front of the cottage circle. Plus a beautiful 400 foot beach on the sandy shore of crystal clear, spring fed Dollar TROUT POND — On our own property.

ARCHERY - Our range is a short distance from the cottages, in a clearing in the woods.

SHUFFLEBOARD - Cement court just outside the Lodge.

WATER SKIING - Behind our inboard. We have Skis, Slalom Skis and Shoe Skis, Disc and Surf Board.

VOLLEY BALL - For young and old.

FISHING - All seasons, with 1,000 lakes to choose from. All species to catch - musky, bass, walleye and pan fish. Armchair fishing from our boardwalk and 10 piers. Guide service by advance reservation.

BOATING - A boater's paradise for all to enjoy. Launching facilities for every type boat.

PONTOON FLOAT BOAT - Available for group or family outings - an experience you'll never forget.

SPEED BOAT RIDES - Anywhere through the chain of 27

GOLF - One of the sportiest and most beautiful nine-hole courses (Daily Fee) is directly across the way.

BADMINTON - We have a lawn court to the rear of the

TARGET RANGE - In the woods-away from the cottages for perfect safety. Bring your own rifle or pistol.

TENNIS COURT - New blacktop court.

HORSESHOE COURT - Just outside the Lodge.

RIDING HORSES - Close by.

LOAFING - Just as much as you desire.

PING PONG - Indoor and outdoor tables.

ENTERTAINMENT — Let's get acquainted evening; Monte Carlo Party; Nature Hike over trails in the Nicolet Forest; Movie Night; trips to Pleasure Island and Aqualand. Card or other games in the Lodge any time you wish. SPECIAL NIGHT - Hawaii ???

WINTER ACTIVITIES

SNOWMOBILE RENTAL - Snowmobile from your cottage or Motel door to our Dining Room, Cocktail Lounge, or to our many Trails through the woods of our property.

SKI HILL WITH TWO TOWS - On the Resort property. ICE SKATING - Rink in front of our Motel. Bring your own Ice Skates.

SNOWSHOEING - Over the vast countryside.

TOBOGGANING - Our own Hill.

SKI JORING - Behind any of the Snowmobiles.



Our Property From the Air



"Nauti Room" Cocktail Lounge



Our Swimming Beach



"Chicken Coop" Dining Room YOUR PACKAGE

INCLUDES

· First Day - Lodging

for additional \$3.00)

· Second Day - Breakfast,

Dinner, Lodging & Boat • Third Day - Breakfast & Boat

(Golf may be substituted for boat

Tennis - Badminton

Shuffleboard - Archery

Volleyball - Ping Pong

Horseshoes - Shutter Bugging

- Plus-

ENJOY

- Sunny days at 2,000 ft. above sea level
- 2 Sandy Beaches
- 28 Connecting Lakes
- 9-Hole Golf Course
- · Bicycling
- · Water Skiing
- Pontoon Float Boat

Trout Pond

Relaxing

Complete Package

Per Person (two to a room)

Lodging may be had in Cottages - Motel Rooms Condominiums





EAGLE RIVER, WIS, 54521 (715) 479-4486 *July - August add \$2.00





Everybody skis at Jake's Ski School

Chanticleer Inn. c. 1968-1969



SCAN THIS CODE OR FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW
TO VIEW OUR COLLECTION IN
RECOLLECTION WISCONSIN

https://content.mpl.org/digital/collection/ER
HSDigiArch/search

What's next for us?

This is no small project and will have no formal end. As of 12/11/2024, we have uploaded 1,400 images to Recollection Wisconsin!

- Approx. 2,600 digital images to be uploaded.
- Partnering with the Nicolet Federated Library System,
 Recollection Wisconsin, and other universities, to invite interns
 to digitize and add new materials to Recollection Wisconsin.
- Our *Internal Initiative* = upload 500-1000 scans per year.
- By June of 2025? Add yearbooks from 1950-2000 and 16mm film from 1939-1945.
- Community uses to date:
 - Local school district
- Eagle River Genealogical Society
- City of Eagle River
- National Register nominations



Ho-Chunk Language Division

Kierstin Wagner, UW-Milwaukee SOIS



Samson Falcon and Kierstin Wagner



View the HLD's online learning resources!

Ho-Chunk Language Division

- Site supervisors: Ahuginąwįga (Adrienne)
 Thunder and Hiwicožuga (Samson) Falcon
- Mission

"The Hoocąk Waaziija Haci Language Division is dedicated to ensuring that the Hoocąk language continues to be a "living language." As a sign of respect to their elders and the speakers that have come before them, they will continue to speak the Hoocąk language, celebrate customs, respect the Hoocąk value system and teach future generations the "Hoocąk way of life.'"

Language collections



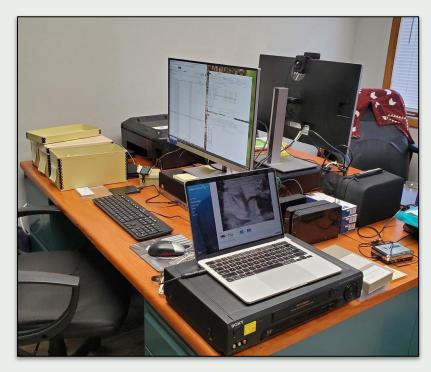
Kierstin Wagner with the HLD archives



Learn more about Mukurtu!

Project Phases

- Project history
- Physical and intellectual organization
- Digitization
- Uploading to Mukurtu
- Documentation



HLD Digitization Lab



Learn more about the project!

Project Outcomes

- Accessible documentation
 - Project history
 - Digital file management scheme
 - Digital storage plan
 - Metadata guide
- Expanded community access
- Momentum



Samson Falcon at a recent outreach event at a local public school

Takeaways

- Planning: have guiding documents and shared learning resources
- Communication: check in with partners early and often
- Compensation: show your respect for the student's time and expertise
- Documentation: ensure the long-term viability of these projects



What's next?

- Summer cohort
- 11 projects+students+host sites!
- Evaluation, outreach and funding
- 2026 and beyond?
- Digital Readiness Toolkit
- "How we did this" document

Recollection Wisconsin Digitization Initiative

https://recollectionwisconsin.org/rwdi

Vicki Tobias - vicki@wils.org

