

Tradition Interview Character Testimony
Biography Psychology Publishing Anecdotal Narrative
Reel Archiving Grassroots Recollection Recreation Genealogy
Self Transcript Linguistics Neighborhood Discipline Broadcast
Arts Journalism Ethnography Intersubjectivity Multimedia Analysis
Radio Perspective Family Research Humanities Field
Reflection Reminiscence Education Subjectivity Reflexivity Political
Anthropology Coconstructed Documentary Listening
Literature Social Compassion Art
Methodology Audio Auditediting
Activism Place Public Positionality
Preservation Misremembrance Interpretation Humanistic
Structure Community Monologue Authority
Nostalgia
Sociology
Advocacy
Culture
Analogue

ORAL HISTORY

What is Oral History?

What is Oral History?

- A field of study and a method of gathering, preserving, and interpreting the voices and memories of people, communities, and participants in past events
- Based on storytelling and listening (Kathy Walbert, Duke University)
- The oldest type of historical inquiry, predating the written word
- One of the most modern types of historical inquiry, initiated with tape recorders in the 1940s (Oral History Association of America)

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ORAL HISTORY

Whitewater State Park Oral History Project



Camping, Residents of the Whitewater Valley, CCC, WPA, German POWs, Wildlife, Land use Practices, Agriculture, Ghost Towns



Brad Horn
HWY 74 in White
Water State Park, MN
August 20, 2007



**MINNESOTA
REFLECTIONS**



What are the benefits of Oral History in the classroom?

Listening and
conversational
skills

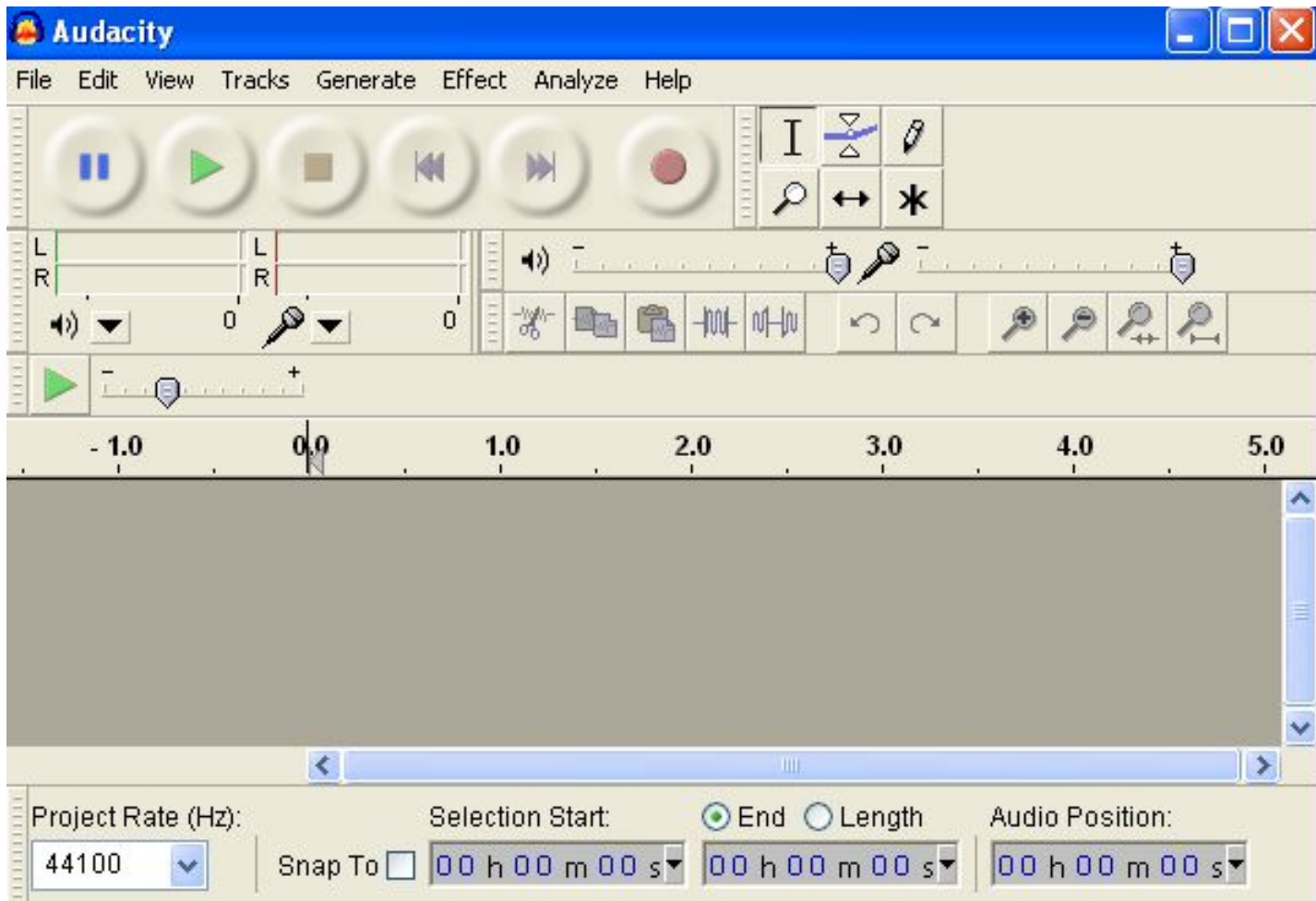
Personal
Connection to
Historical Events

Intergenerational
Appreciation

Multimedia
technology skills

Preserving
narratives for
future generations

Discussion of “who
tells the story,” or
“whose voice is heard”





The Questions

Make these better:

- Did you ever visit the state park as a child?
- Everybody was upset when they sold their land and moved out of the valley weren't they?

Write your own question!



- 5 free online lessons
- The Great Thanksgiving Listen
- Huge archive of stories



- Over 1600 interviews archived
- Project Guidelines and tips to walk you through

Resources

**VOICE OF
WITNESS**



Amplifying Unheard Voices

- Free online lessons and toolkit
- Common Core Aligned
- 9-12 grades in mind
- Focus on absent narratives



We Are Water MN

“Water is a part of
our identity, our
culture, our history,
and the future we
are creating
together.”