



## **Cahuilla Oral History Project**

Jon M. Fletcher

Agua Caliente Cultural Museum

471 E Tahquitz Canyon Way Ste 231

Palm Springs, California 92262

Phone: (760) 778-1079, ext. 115

Fax: (760) 322-7724

Email: [jfletcher@accmuseum.org](mailto:jfletcher@accmuseum.org)

URL: <http://www.accmuseum.org/>

(c) 2009

Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. All rights reserved.

---

## Cahuilla Oral History Project

**Accession number: A2004.032**

Agua Caliente Cultural Museum  
ACCM Archives  
Palm Springs, California

Processed by:  
Jon M. Fletcher  
Date Completed:  
11/01/2004  
Encoded by:  
Jon M. Fletcher

(c) 2009 Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. All rights reserved.

---

### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Cahuilla Oral History Project

**Dates:** 1989-1991

**Accession number:** A2004.032

**Creator:** Palm Springs Desert Museum

**Collection Size:** 2.75 linear feet

**Repository:** Agua Caliente Cultural Museum

Palm Springs, California 92262

**Abstract:** A collection of oral history interviews and associated materials created by staff at the Palm Springs Desert Museum. Interviews focus on Cahuilla culture and history. Collection includes both audio and video recordings, transcripts, and subject notes. Interviewees include Anthony Andreas, Judy Diamond, Donna Largo, Catherine Kitchen, Anthony Largo, Katherine Saubel, and Saturnino Torres. Project funded in part by the Palm Springs Art Museum's Natural Science Council, the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society, and the Bureau of Land Management.

**Physical location:** Stored off site. Advance notice required for access.

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: EnglishCahuilla

### Access

Collection is open for research.

### Publication/Reproduction Rights

Ownership of the physical collection belongs to the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum. Other rights, including copyright and cultural rights, are retained by the creators and their heirs. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine who holds these rights and pursue the rights owner[s] or his or her heir[s] for permission to publish or reproduce content where the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum does not hold such rights. For research purposes only.

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Cahuilla Oral History Project, A2004.032, Agua Caliente Cultural Museum.

### Acquisition Information

Donation.

### Biography / Administrative History

Collected by the Palm Springs Desert Museum between the years 1989-91. Project funded in part by the Palm Springs Art Museum's Natural Science Council, the Coachella Valley Archaeological Society, and the Bureau of Land Management.

### Scope and Content of Collection

A collection of oral history interviews and associated materials created by staff at the Palm Springs Desert Museum between the years 1989-91. Interviews focus on Cahuilla culture and history. Collection includes both audio and video recordings, transcripts, and subject notes. Interviewees include Anthony Andreas, Judy Diamond, Donna Largo, Catherine Kitchen, Anthony Largo, Katherine Saubel, and Saturnino Torres.

### Indexing Terms

---

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection.

Palm Springs Art Museum

Malki Museum

Francis Stevens School

Banning Union High School

Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians

Perris Indian School

Torres-Martinez Indian Reservation

Soboba Indian Reservation

Cahuilla Indian Reservation

Pala Indian Reservation

Windy Point

Los Coyotes Indian Reservation

Morongo Indian Reservation

Agua Caliente Indian Reservation

Santa Rosa Indian Reservation

Anza-Borrego Park

Andreas Canyon

Palm Springs

San Jacinto National Monument

Martinez Canyon

Banning

Tuba Mountain

Edom

Thousand Palms

Chino Canyon

Santa Rosa

Dead Indian Canyon

Roadrunners Village

Salton Sea

Devil's Canyon

Andreas Canyon

Victory Indian Reservation

Patencio, Francisco

Torres, Saturnino

Torres, Florence

Andreas, Anthony

Jeffrey, Cheryl

Largo, Anthony

Bean, Lowell John

Lyle, Janice

Quick, Betsy

Siva Saubel, Katherine

Kitchern, Catherine

Largo, Donna

Barrows, David Prescott

Jeffrey, Cheryl

Cahuilla

---

Traditional foods  
Bighorn Sheep  
Segregation  
Allotments  
Racism  
Tattoos  
Bird Singing  
Rock Art  
Tahquitz  
Peon  
Religion  
Hunting  
Ceremonial House  
Rattles  
Traditional games  
Shamanism  
Hot Springs  
Traditional tools  
Musical instruments  
Medicinal plants  
Stagecoach  
Gold Mines  
Trails  
Missions  
Petroglyphs  
Cupeño  
Volcanoes  
Fish traps  
Insects  
Sweathouse  
Ceremonies  
Alcoholism  
Fire Eating  
Eagle Feathers  
Eagle Dances  
Catholicism  
Barrel cactus  
Hallucinogenic plants  
Basketry  
Basket making  
Gaming  
Agriculture  
Kish  
Section 14  
Section 10  
Trading post  
Piyatem  
Creosote

---

Greasewood  
Mesquite  
Puberty  
Horses  
Yucca  
Mountain Cahuilla  
Desert Cahuilla  
Smallpox  
Moieties  
Mission Indians  
Hampton School  
Rabbit skins  
Baptismal names  
Ramada  
Chickens corral  
Fiestas  
Granaries  
Mesquite beans  
Desert tea  
Tea  
Cahuilla creation story  
Feather skirts  
Rattlesnakes  
Frogs  
Grinding stones  
Corn

---

**Series 1: Project Related News Articles 1989-1991**

**Physical Description:** 0.25 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**

News articles summarizing the Cahuilla Oral History Project.

Box 001: Folder 1

**News Articles and Question Sheet**

**Scope and Content Note**

News articles summarizing the Cahuilla Oral History Project. Question sheet for use in oral history interviews.

**Series 2: Manuscripts and Publications 1989-1991**

**Physical Description:** 0.25 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes published copies of the booklet Desert Hours with Chief Patencio and manuscripts pertaining to this publication.

Box 001: Folder 2

**Publications**

**Scope and Content Note**

"Desert Hours with Chief Patencio" (1971) by Francisco Patencio. Five copies.

---

Box 001: Folders 3  
and 4

**Manuscripts**

**Scope and Content Note**

Partially edited version of Desert Hours with Chief Patencio and a final version in manuscript form.

**Series 3: Transcripts and Subject Guides 1989-1991**

**Physical Description:** .25 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**

Transcripts and subject notes pertaining to oral history interviews.

Box 001: Folders 5  
through 9

**Transcripts**

**Scope and Content Note**

Transcripts corresponding to interviews with subjects and with project organizers.

Box 001: Folders 9  
through 10

**Subject Notes and Summary Sheets**

**Scope and Content Note**

Subject sheets and notes corresponding to interviews with subjects and with project organizers.

**Series 4: Oral History Interviews and Project Management Recordings 1989-1991**

**Physical Description:** 2 linear ft.

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interviews with Cahuilla subjects in both audio and video format. Also includes recordings of Cahuilla Oral History project meetings.

Recording # 002

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interview with Katherine Siva Saubel. (June 18, 1989).

Recording # 003

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interview with Anthony Largo (Santa Rosa Indian Reservation) and Anthony Andreas (Agua Caliente Indian Reservation). (June 21, 1989).

Recording # 004

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interview with Katherine Siva Saubel, Anthony Andreas, Anthony Largo, and Dr. Lowell Bean discussing historic photographs. (May 22, 1989).

Recording # 005

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Video recording of the final Cahuilla Oral History Project consultants meeting. (June 9, 1989).

Recording # 006

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interview with Saturnino Torres (Torres-Martinez Indian Reservation) and his wife Florence discussing the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains National Monument and its Cahuilla associations. (February 21, 1991).

Recording # 007

**Video Recording**

**Scope and Content Note**

Oral history interview with Saturnino Torres (Torres-Martinez Indian Reservation) and his wife Florence Torres (Cupeño) from Pala Indian Reservation. (March 20, 1991).

- Recording # 008      **Video Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Oral history interviews with Saturnino Torres (Torres-Martinez Indian Reservation) and his wife Florence Torres (Cupeño) from Pala Indian Reservation. (June 12, 1991).
- Recording # 009      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Oral history interview with Catherine Kitchen and basketmaker Donna Largo. (November 23, 1986).
- Recording # 010      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         "Narrative History with David P. Barrows on the Coachella Valley - The Early Days." Includes Cahuilla songs and ethnohistory. (February, 1953).
- Recording # 011      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Lecture given by Katherine Siva Saubel and Cheryl Jeffrey. (January 20, 1990).
- Recording # 012      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions. (May 16, 1989).
- Recording # 013      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions. (May 17-18, 1989).
- Recording # 014      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions. (April 3 and June 6, 1989).
- Recording # 015      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Oral history interview with Anthony Andreas. (February 22, 1989).
- Recording # 016      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions with Dr. Lowell Bean. (May 22, 1989).
- Recording # 017      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions. (March 20-21, 1989).
- Recording # 018      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Oral history interview with Saturnino Torres. (February 21, 1991).
- Recording # 019      **Audio Recording**  
                         **Scope and Content Note**  
                         Oral history interview with Saturnino Torres. (March 20, 1991).

- Recording # 021      **Audio Recording**  
                                 **Scope and Content Note**  
                                 Oral history interview with Saturnino Torres. (June 12, 1991).
- Recording # 022      **Audio Recording**  
                                 **Scope and Content Note**  
                                 Oral history interview with Anthony Largo. (February 27, 1989).
- Recording # 027      **Audio Recording**  
                                 **Scope and Content Note**  
                                 Oral history interview with Katherine Siva Saubel. (February 15, 1989).
- Recording # 029      **Audio Recording**  
                                 **Scope and Content Note**  
                                 Cahuilla Oral History Project discussions with Dr. Lowell Bean, Anthony Andreas, Anthony Largo, and Katherine Saubel. (March 6, 1989).
- Recording # 030      **Audio Recording**  
                                 **Scope and Content Note**  
                                 Oral history interview with Dr. Judy Diamond. (August, 1989).