

Preserving Cordillera culture and history through the University of the Philippines Baguio Cordillera Studies Collection Library and UP Baguio Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives

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Abstract:

This paper gives a short background on the Cordillera Region, the University of the Philippines Baguio Cordillera Studies Collection Library; and Cordillera/Northern Luzon Archives and its collection; and the preservation efforts being undertaken to ensure that information sources will be made available to researchers for a long time thereby assuring a memory culture of the indigenous groups of the Cordillera Region.

Cordillera Studies Collection Library and the Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives are two separate offices in the University of the Philippines Baguio tasked to collect information sources on the seven major indigenous groups of the Cordillera. The Library has in its collection books, journals, conference papers, local newspapers maps and audio-visual materials showcasing the peoples' colorful history rich culture, unique cultural heritage and often extant customs and traditions. The Library endeavors to aggressively collect all materials on the Cordillera and in whatever format these are presented. Meanwhile, the Archives' mission is to acquire and make accessible to scholars historical documents. The collection includes the personal papers of Robert B. Fox, Sr., Laurence Lee Wilson, Howard T. Fry, Armando J. Malay, Augustus U. Saboy and Otto Johns Scheerer. Hand in hand with the acquisition of materials is the goal of preserving the photographs, field notes, letters, drawings, maps and other primary sources that are in the collection. Aware of the problem of deterioration, the Archives is embarking on a digitization project that aims to preserve the collection of the Archives. The collection that is in UP Baguio Historical Archives' possession is a treasure trove that if not preserved, the information contained in these sources will forever be lost.

Keywords: Documentary heritage. Preservation. Archives.

I. The Cordillera Region

The mountainous region of the Cordillera, located in the northern part of Luzon, Philippines, is home to the country's seven major ethnolinguistic groups namely: the Tinggian, Isneg, Kalinga, Kankana-

ey, Ibaloy, Ifugao and Bontok. It has the second largest concentration of indigenous groups of people, next to the island of Mindanao. The geographic condition of the region earned them the collective name Igorots, from the Spanish word *Igorrotes* which means “of the hill or mountain.” Partly due to its rugged terrain and largely to their resistance, the inhabitants of the region were not easily subdued by the Spanish *conquistadores* of the 18th century (Scott, 1977). They resisted efforts by the Spanish government to put them under their control. For this, they were regarded uncivilized, *infielos* (pagans), fierce and barbaric. Their non-assimilation into mainstream Spanish rule made the Cordillerans adhere to a society free of Western influence.



Figure 1: Map of the Philippines

The coming of the Americans to the Philippines in the later part of the 19th century dramatically changed the Igorot cultural landscape. Unlike the Spanish conquistadores who were very much interested in their gold and who wanted to impose tax, the Americans befriended the natives, earning their trust and confidence. It was during this period that the culture of the Cordillerans had been accounted and written extensively. Prominent Americans, the likes of Dean C. Worcester, David P. Barrows, and Faye Cooper Cole, to name a few, extensively photographed and wrote about the customs and traditions of the mountain people. Belgian missionaries like Francis Lambrecht, Maurice Vanoverbergh, Francisco Billiet not only baptized and introduced them to the Catholic faith but also studied and gave written accounts of their pagan culture. Written accounts of the Cordillera lifeways were penned by foreigners who were fascinated by the unique customs and traditions of the inhabitants. Early accounts described them as bare breasted, head hunters, tattooed, dog-eating people from the Philippines which somehow reinforced the Spanish claims of their backwardness.

The American colonial government’s influence has radically and slowly altered the way the Igorots conduct their everyday lives. Western education and religion are the two major factors that influenced changes in Igorot society and culture.

II. The University of the Philippines Baguio

The University of the Philippines was established in 1961 as a degree granting college of the University of the Philippines Diliman campus. Initially an arts and sciences college, it was granted autonomous status in 1999 and finally became the 7th constituent university of the UP System in 2002. The Colleges of Arts and Communication, Social Sciences and Science make up the three colleges of UP Baguio. As a UP campus located north of Manila, it has adhered to the principles of

academic excellence, academic freedom and nationalism (UP College Baguio, 1994). It is particularly committed to excellence in curricular, research and extension programs with regional perspectives. UP Baguio endeavors to be a lead academic institution in Cordillera studies and research and with this aspiration, conducted researches have focused on themes such as ethnic studies, regional communities, policy planning, natural resource management, indigenous mathematical and biological knowledge systems to name a few (UP Baguio, 2009).

The current administration's vision is to be an academic institution with strong research productivity (Rovillos, 2012). Faculty and research staff are encouraged and challenged to conduct research to support the development and improvement of knowledge. Towards this end, the administration has created the impetus by instituting and creating proposals, programs and plans to entice faculty and staff to conduct researches. Another vision articulated is the administration's focus on Cordillera studies and the promotion/protection of Cordillera/Northern Luzon heritage, culture and the arts. To achieve this vision, the university seeks to retain and expand its lead role in Cordillera studies. Another area which the administration focuses on is its distinction as an "institutional custodian of the collective memory and identity of the peoples of the Cordillera and Northern Luzon (Rovillos, 2012)." To realize this mission, the following entities are set in place: Museum, the Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives and the Program for Indigenous Cultures.

III. The UP Baguio Cordillera Studies Collection Library

The Cordillera Studies Collection Library traces its history to the establishment of two libraries in the academic community of University of the Philippines Baguio under two different organizations. First, the Cordillera Section of the Main Library's Filipiniana Section and a Library under the Cordillera Studies Center, the research and extension arm of the Social Sciences Division, now the College of Social Sciences. With their aim of acquiring information sources on ethnography, ethnology, communication, language and literature, ancestral land issues and other related fields of interest that focused on relevant issues specific to the highland communities of the Cordillera Region, the two libraries were in fact duplicating functions and collections.



Figure 2: The Cordillera Studies Collection Library

In 1990 plans to integrate the collection of the Cordillera Studies Center Library into the UP Baguio Main Library was initiated but unfortunately did not push through. It was revived in 2002 and it intends to solve the problem of lack of manpower to operate the library on a full time basis, to maintain the collection and to open the library to users on a continuing basis. The proposal submitted

was studied, discussed and the time table for the integration agreed upon. Finally, in December 2003, the Cordillera Studies Center Library was fully integrated into the Main Library.

With the integration of the two libraries, the new library, now called Cordillera Studies Collection Library, boasts of a more expanded collection both in print and non-print formats. The name connotes the vision of the library to have the best and most exhaustive collection of Cordillera materials with the aim of providing information sources to students, faculty, staff as well as non-UP researchers. As such, the library endeavors to aggressively collect all materials on the Cordillera and in whatever format these are presented.

The Cordillera Studies Collection Library occupies the right wing of the 2nd floor of the Main Library annex building. As before, the library's acquisition policy has been geared towards the acquisition of materials that support the continuing mission of the University in developing its niche in Cordillera studies. To date the library has a wide array of print as well as non-print materials on Abra, Apayao, Benguet, Ifugao, Kalinga, Mountain Province and the chartered city of Baguio.

The 1880 volumes of books representing 834 titles of the library showcase the colorful history and the rich culture of the indigenous peoples of the Cordillera. Aside from books, the library has a total of 752 monographs titles which comprise offprint series, conference papers, photocopied journal articles and book chapters discussing the Region's storied past, unique culture and often extant customs and practices. The library also clips newspaper articles that report current happenings in and around the Region. Also included in the collection are journals, magazines, and local newspapers. Maps, such as land use maps, slope maps, erosion maps are available for use. The library has an extensive collection of microfilms, audio and video compact discs depicting in moving pictures and sound recordings the remarkable cultural heritage of the Cordilleras.

IV. The UP Baguio Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives

When the University of the Philippines celebrated its 100th year in 2008, one project launched by the UP Baguio's Centennial Committee to commemorate this milestone was the establishment of Archives. Through the centennial project called "Understanding Cordillera Culture Through Primary Sources: A Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives Project", a historical archives was set up in August 22, 2007, to collect, reproduce, catalog and preserve historical/archival materials in one conducive place – within the UP Baguio campus.

Specifically, the project has the following objectives:

- strengthen historical research in UP Baguio and the Cordillera Region;
- forge linkages with local, national and international archives;
- collect and catalog archival materials.

The UP Baguio Cordillera/Northern Luzon Archives is the first regional archives in the Cordillera and Northern Luzon that primarily acquires and makes accessible to scholars historical documents, i.e., mission reports, government records, memoirs, letters and personal papers of individuals of the Cordillera in particular and Northern Luzon in general. The archives works closely and receives guidance and advice from the Department of History and Philosophy of the College of Social Sciences, and with this set-up the collection policy has been focused towards the acquisition of primary sources that would enhance knowledge and scholarly work on the Cordillera and its indigenous people.

To sustain the archives, the Dean of the College of Social Sciences and History faculty, Dr. Raymundo D. Rovillos, initiated the preparation of a draft, "Plan for the Development of the University of the Philippines Baguio Cordillera and Northern Luzon Historical Archives." The draft blueprint, which was approved in December 2011, envisioned to situate the archives in the organizational structure of UP Baguio and to chart the direction they will take for the coming years. Aside from emphasizing the vision, mission, goals, purposes and significance of the Archives, it also

spells out the Archives' organizational structure, budgetary requirements, collection maintenance, development and priority acquisition for the subsequent years.

With the vision of the UP Baguio to become an academic institution devoted to the development of Cordillera studies, the archives is seen as a means of achieving this vision of the parent organization. The archives' mission, aside from being a repository of primary sources on the Cordillera, aims to collect as humanly possible all known sources written on the Cordillera. The archives is seen, therefore as a means to achieve the vision of UP Baguio.



Figure 3: The Cordillera/Northern Luzon Historical Archives

V. The Archives Collection

The Historical Archives currently houses the papers of Robert B. Fox, Sr., Laurence Lee Wilson, Howard T. Fry, Armando J. Malay, Augustus U. Saboy and Otto Johns Scheerer. The primary sources collection consists of Abra's *Protocolo, Varias Provincias, Ereccion de Pueblo*, Philippine Commission Reports, and books by Dean Worcester, W. Cameron Forbes, John Taylor, to name a few. Photographs on Kalinga tattooing, Suyoc people who were exhibited at the Saint Louis Fair, Missouri in 1904 and photographs of Baguio, circa 1900 to 1940's comprise the photograph collections. Also in the archives is a portion of the door of the house of Macli-ing Dulag, a Kalinga who fought against the construction of the Chico Dam project during the Marcos regime. The door, made of *lawanit*, serves as a silent witness to the brutal killing of Macli-ing on the fateful night of April 24, 1980. A recent addition to the collection is a glass framed 20"x23" ancient world map donated by Ambassador Delia D. Albert. This paper will, however, discuss only the papers of Fox, Wilson, Fry, Malay, Saboy and Scheerer.

A. Laurence L. Wilson Papers

Laurence Wilson, a mining prospector, anthropologist, folklorist was born in Omaha, Nebraska on September 16, 1885. His father was of Scotch-Irish ancestry and his mother of French Hugenot extraction. He graduated from the San Jose High School in 1904. He obtained his B.S. with emphasis in mining and anthropology from the University of California. After World War II, Wilson became more active as a folklorist, recording Cordillera oral traditions and publishing them first in the Baguio Midland Courier, the local weekly paper and later in book form. Wilson's publications in book form

are: *Igorot Mining Methods and Legends* (1932), *Ilongot Life and Legends*, (1947), *The Skyland of the Philippines* (1953), *Tales from the Mountain Province* (1958)¹.

The Laurence Lee Wilson collection consists of 162 black and white photographs on the Cordillera. The papers were in the possession of the Cordillera Studies Center Library since the '80s. According to Prof. Analyn Salvador-Amores, who made an inventory of the photographs, there is no accurate date when the CSC Library acquired these materials. Sometime in 1982, Dr. William Henry Scott donated some photographs and historic maps to the Center (Salvador-Amores, 2001). These black and white photographs were said to be the collection of Laurence Lee Wilson. The old maps were unfortunately destroyed in 1993 when typhoon Goring struck which also flooded the Filipiniana Section, Cordillera Studies Center Library and parts of the Circulation Section of the Main Library destroying a great number of the collection.

Detailed in the photographs are the ordinary lives of the Cordillerans before the coming of the Spanish colonizers: native clothes and adornments, tattoos on skin, economic activities – like farming and agricultural activities, mining, weaving, gold panning –, native houses and abodes, rituals and festivities and burial caves. Also widely photographed are Baguio and its environs at the turn of the 20th century and political figures who governed the then Mountain Provinces as well as notable individuals who made enduring contributions to the early history of the region. Along with the photographs are film negatives, which upon close examination reveal images of individuals clad in native clothes and bearing spears and shields, *bululs*, skulls and rice terraces.



Figure 4: Photo collection of Laurence L. Wilson

In the collection are letters from Henry Otley Beyer discussing stegodon teeth, bone fragments and tektites discovered in Tuguegarao, Cagayan. There are also a number of letters from Henry A. Kamora, a former “President” of Kabayan, the seat of Ibaloi culture, expressing concern about his land being submerged by the National Power Corporation. Wilson’s field notes as well as typewritten manuscripts presumably written for the Baguio Midland Courier complete the collection.

¹ Laurence Wilson, *Igorot Mining Methods and Legends*, [Baguio, Philippines]: L. L. Wilson, 1932 ; *Ilongot Life and Legends*, Baguio?: [s.n.], 1947; *The Skyland of the Philippines*, Baguio: Baguio Print. & Pub. C, 1953; *Tales from the Mountain Province*, Manila : Philippine Education Co. [1958].



Figure 5: Photo collection of Laurence L. Wilson

In the short write-up of Dr. Salvador-Amores on the photos (2001), she notes that when the photos were discovered in a pile at the library, these were stapled together and mislabeled. Some of the photos and letters were mounted on scrap papers, making the annotations at the back of the photos hard to read or were altogether unreadable. The photos were in varying states of deterioration and were badly in need of preservation.



Figure 6: a letter from Henry A. Kamora to Laurence L. Wilson

B. Robert B. Fox, Sr. Papers

The biggest collection of the Archives consists of the papers of Dr. Robert B. Fox, Sr. (1918-1985), an American anthropologist who made substantive and enduring contributions to Philippine anthropology. His papers document his work and research among the Tagbanuwa of Palawan, the Pinatubo Ayta of Zambales, the Tabon Caves in Palawan and the Calatagan Peninsula in Batangas. The Fox collection measures approximately 20.2 linear feet. The collection includes field notes, notebooks, over 700 photographs, correspondences, stone adze illustrations, published works, theses, undergraduate as well as graduate students' papers, newspaper clippings, maps, financial records,

drafts of his books and papers, conference papers, office memos, manuscripts, and video tapes on Philippine indigenous peoples.

The collection contains papers related to the indigenous peoples of the Philippines: the Agta, Ati, Ayta, Badjaw, Batak, Dumagat, Ibaloy, Ibanag, Ifugao, Ilokano, Ilongot, Isneg, Manobo, Maranao, Sulod, Tagbanwa, T'boli, Tiruray, and Yakan. The manuscripts' papers are yellowed, and some are very brittle. In a big number of the field notes and manuscripts, ink was used in writing which poses another problem in preservation.



Figure 7: Robert B. Fox, Sr. Manuscripts on the Tagbanwa

The 56 notebooks, where Dr. Fox wrote in ink his field notes and observations on the Tagbanwa customary laws, the Pinatubo Negritos' ethnobotany, Palawan caves, and the Dumagats, are now in varying stages of deterioration. The pages have become brittle and the bindings have started to fall off.



Figure 8: Encapsulated photo collection of Robert B. Fox, Sr.

The same condition can be observed on some other manuscripts devoted to Dr. Fox's research on the Tagbanuwa documenting their plant's use including medicinal and healing properties, local and translated names, family, genealogies, kinship, religious rituals, place names, the role of rice wine in Tagbanuwa rituals, writing and vocabulary data, and manual illustrations of floor plans of religious ceremonies. Noteworthy about his manuscript collections are the manually drawn illustrations using pencil, reflecting the time and effort that went with producing each illustration.

The extensive photograph collection consists of aerial photos of uninhabited Palawan, Ayta Negritos, stoneware jars and ceramic wares, Cordillera photographs, self and family portraits among others. Majority of the photograph collections are either in sepia and black & white. A group of black and white, oversized photos on the different Philippine indigenous peoples are mounted on wood. The nails used in fabricating the wooden frame have started to rust and have spread to the photos. Also among the collection are manually drawn maps of selected barrios of Palawan, the site of his Tagbanuwa research. His interest in this group of indigenous Philippine people inspired him to write about their religion, customary laws, material culture and societal system.



Figure 9: Oversized photo collection of Dr. Robert B. Fox, Sr. showing rust

Dr. Fox's accumulated correspondences are another prized documents of the collection. The letters date back to the early 1950s up to the year prior to his death in 1985. His passion on Philippine anthropology particularly archaeology where his work was mostly devoted is vividly captured in the exchange of letters to family members, colleagues, and fellow anthropologists, like Henry Otley Beyer, G. H. R von Koenigswald, Daniel Scheans, Laurence Wilson, Harold Conklin, Tom Harrison, Bill Solheim, Ethel Nurge, Fred Eggan, F. Landa Jocano to name a few. The aspirations, frustrations and emotions he nurtures are reflected and documented in the letters he sent to individuals.

C. Howard T. Fry Papers

Dr. Howard T. Fry is a British historian whose interest on the Cordillera prompted him to write *A History of the Mountain Province*², which Dr. Maria Nela B. Florendo observes is "perhaps the only general history of the Cordillera during the American regime to the post-World War II era" (Florendo, 2008). He donated his manuscript collection to the archives in 2008. Fry's papers include his dissertation, handwritten notes, photocopy of correspondences on Philippine aspirations for independence from U. S. government and published works. The manuscripts, which were photocopied

² Howard Fry, *A History of the Mountain Province*, Quezon City, Philippines: New Day Publishers, 1983.

from U. S. libraries and archives, include the papers of David P. Barrows, Dean C. Worcester, William Cameron Forbes, Herbert Hoover, Leonard Wood and President Manuel Quezon. These manuscripts were collected during the course of his research related to Philippine history during the American period.

Recent additions to his collection are microfiche cards and microfilms books on Philippine history written during the Spanish and American colonial periods. A big number of the titles are written in Spanish. Additional manuscripts include Manuel L. Quezon papers, Henry L. Stimson papers and numerous photocopied articles and reports on the Philippine colonial government during the American occupation.

D. Augustus U. Saboy Papers

The papers of Augustus U. Saboy were donated to the UP Baguio Cordillera/ Northern Luzon Historical Archives in 2010 by his son, Scott, a faculty member from the College of Arts and Communication. Augustus Saboy, a Tinguian born in Kalinga, was a journalist who wrote for *The Baguio Midland Courier*, *Philippine News Service*, *Philippine News Agency*, *Baguio Daily Vibrations*, and *The Highland Sentinel*. He was also a former provincial administrator of Kalinga-Apayao province. Great part of his papers are documents related to the establishment of the Cordillera Administrative Region and attempts by the Cordillera people to establish an autonomous region. However, more interesting are documents on the *bodong* and *pagta*, a Cordillera indigenous political process that settles disputes to attain peace in and among tribes of Kalinga-Apayao before their separation into 2 provinces.

Real life cases of conflict resolution and settlement through indigenous customary process are documented in the different papers making up the Saboy papers. Newspaper clippings on important Kalinga-Apayao affairs and political events have been collected and compiled by Mr. Saboy. A number of photographs as well as photo film negatives make up the collection.

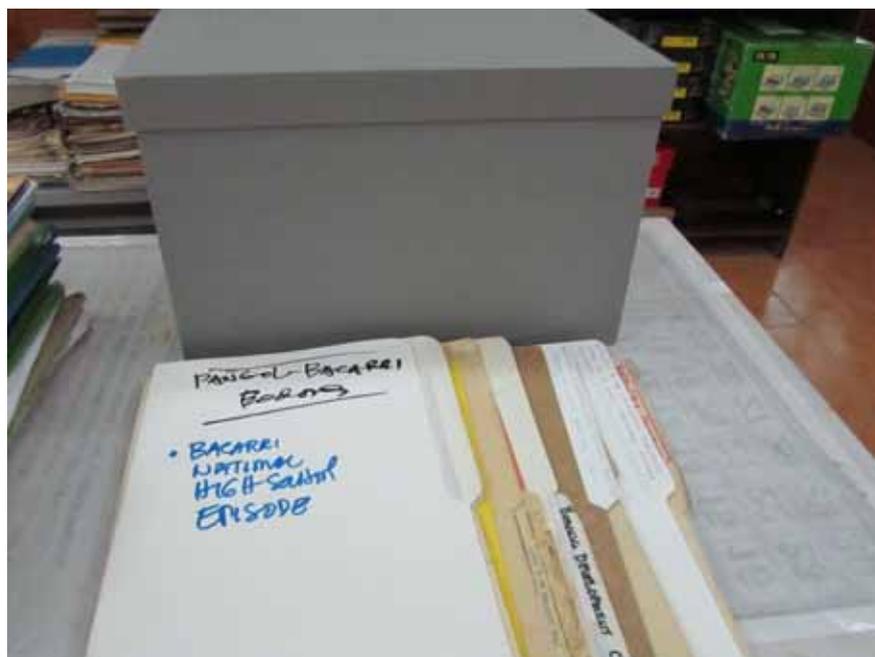


Figure 10: Manuscript collection of Augustus U. Saboy

E. Armando J. Malay Papers

Prof. Armando J. Malay, a giant in Philippine journalism and Philippine activism, was born on March 31, 1914 in Tondo, Manila. A former mentor of media practitioners, his life as a journalist began during Manuel L. Quezon's presidency and continued until the administration of Corazon C. Aquino. He was married to Paula Carolina Malay. Malay was educated in the University of the Philippines where he later taught. He also taught at the Far Eastern University. Among his publications are: *Our Folkways* (1955), *Our Animal World* (1959), *Atlas of the Philippines* (1959), *Memoirs of Ricarte* (1963), *Occupied Philippines* (1967), *The High School Paper* (1968)³.

Prof. Armando Malay donated his collection of notes, photographs, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, student papers and books on Philippine anthropology, ethnohistory, folklore, and indigenous culture to the UP Baguio Library in September 1994. The books are shelved at the Filipiniana Section of the Main Library while the notes, photographs, manuscripts, clippings and student papers are with the archives.



Figure 11: Photo collection of Armando J. Malay

The papers of Prof. Armando Malay consist of ethnographic documents. I can still vividly recall Dr. Malay's reason for donating his papers on anthropology to the UP Baguio Library when we picked up his donations at his home in Quezon City. He intimated that the boxes of books and manuscripts will surely find a good home in UP Baguio as he sees UP Baguio excel in ethnographic research. The photographs, notes, manuscripts, student papers, and newspaper clippings document the rich folklore, beliefs, culture and traditions of the indigenous peoples of the Philippines. The Malay collection is also in need of preservation as majority of the papers are yellowed and very brittle.

F. Otto Johns Scheerer Papers

Otto Johns Scheerer is a German national who came to Baguio in 1893. He chanced upon the place when he was looking for a place to recuperate for "health reasons" (Carino, 2008). He befriended the

³ Armando J. Malay, Paula Carolina Malay, *Our Folkways*, Manila, Bookman [1955]; *Our Animal World*; *Atlas of the Philippines*, Manila: Phil-Asian Publishers, 1959; Artemio Ricarte, *Memoirs*, Manila, National Heroes Commission, 1963; *Occupied Philippines: the role of Jorge B. Vargas during the Japanese occupation*, Manila: Filipiniana Book Guild, 1967 (Publications of the Filipiniana Book Guild, 12); *The high school paper: reporting, editing, advising*, Manila: Bookman, 1968.

Ibalois and in the process becoming well versed in the dialect. He would later publish articles on Baguio and the Ibaloi language. Some of his published works are *The Nabaloi Dialect* (1905); *On Baguio's Past* (1931). He also wrote articles for the *Baguio Midland Courier*⁴. In 1911 he was appointed Instructor in German language at UP Diliman where he later retired as Professor Emeritus in 1929.

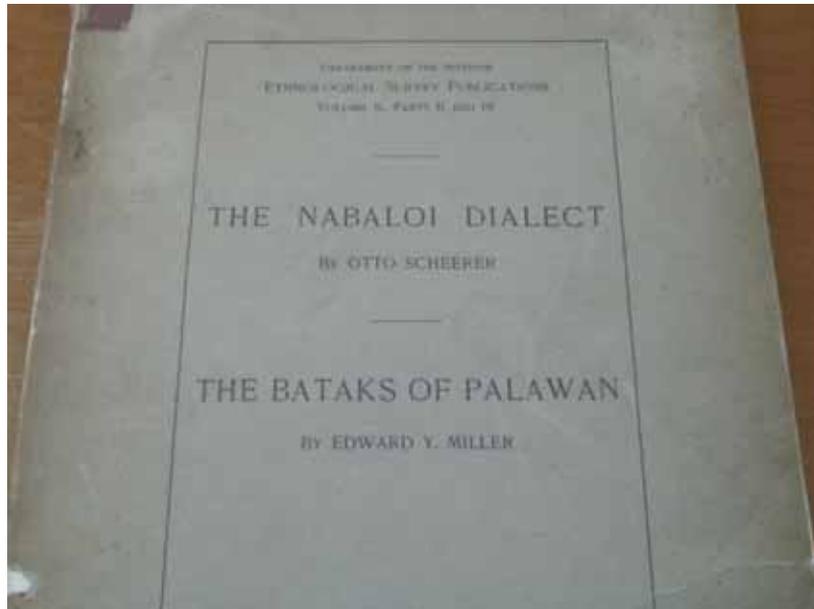


Figure 12: Published work of Dr. Otto Johns Scheerer

Dr. Richard G. Scheerer, a U. S. medical doctor and the grandson of Dr. Otto Johns Scheerer donated to the archives in 2008 a compilation of materials on his grandfather that are either in the family's possession or culled from other sources. As Dr. Scheerer notes in the introduction of the compilation, "This collection is not complete but it is our hope that more items will be introduced as they become available and that this collection will add to the overall picture of the Cordillera's past, even as its present inhabitants look toward their future" (Scheerer 2008).

True enough, when Dr. Richard Scheerer visited the UP Baguio Historical Archives in 2012, he presented a digital copy of some of his grandfather's publications. To complete the Otto Scheerer collection, copies of his works were photocopied from UP Diliman where some of his works can be found.

VI. Preserving the Archives Collection

A. Supplies and Equipment

Preserving the collection of the archives for posterity is a major concern. Given the condition and age of the Wilson, Fox and Malay collection, immediate attention has to be done to slow down the deteriorative effect of their papers and the environment. A number of problems besieged the archives when it was established in 2007. Primarily, they did not have a budget. The necessary supplies and equipment cannot be purchased. Another major concern was the temporary location, as basements are the least conducive location to house archives, let alone store fragile documents. In fact in 2007, right after the opening of the archives, molds started to grow on covers and spines of journals temporarily

⁴ Otto Scheerer, Sinabaldo de Mas y Sans, G. Galvey, Edward Young Miller, *The Nabaloi dialect*, Manila: Bureau of Public Print, 1905 (Ethnological Survey publications, v. 2, pt. 2-3); Otto Scheerer, *On Baguio's past: chapters from local history and tradition*, Manila: The Author, 1933 (The Archive, a collection of papers pertaining to Philippine linguistics. Accessory paper, 1).

displayed, a clear indication of the high relative humidity and low temperature levels of the room. So, to prevent the spread of molds to other materials, the journals were immediately transferred to the Main Library. Compounding this concern is the problem brought about by the traffic condition of the road located adjacent to the Main Library building. Traffic gets busy throughout the day and the big volume of cars produce fumes, exhaust and other pollutants that get deposited on surfaces and documents.

Manpower resource was not without problems. Since I am a librarian, I did not have formal education and training on archives administration let alone archives preservation. However, through extended readings and attendance to archives' seminars and training programs that were conducted occasionally, I was able to gain basic knowledge on archives management.

I began cleaning and brushing documents piece by piece, removing metal fasteners, staple wires and metal paper clips. I came to learn that original order and provenance of documents were essential in the arrangement of records. Mending documents had to be postponed as I do not have the recommended supplies to do this. Over time, supplies like brush, gloves, dust masks, methyl cellulose, acid free papers, pH testing pens, acid free folders and mending tapes were purchased. With the purchase of mylar plastic, photographs and brittle books have been encapsulated. To improve the relative humidity level, dehumidifiers were purchased. To justify that it was a priority need, Baguio City's previous relative humidity level data gathered from PAG-ASA, the Philippine weather bureau, was used. PAG-ASA readings record high relative humidity levels ranging from 70% to 80% pH, way beyond the recommended standard for archives which is $50\% \pm 5\%$.

Finally, in 2011, through funds generously granted by the Social Science Research Institute of the College of Social Sciences of the University, the Archives was able to secure additional preservation supplies and equipment. The following were acquired:

- a map cabinet to store maps and oversized documents
- a steel filing cabinet
- thermohygrometer
- an air filter/purifier
- acid free storage boxes to store documents
- acid free double sided tapes
- mylar plastic



Figure 13: Archives preservation supplies

The archives are now assured of an annual budget, thanks to the approval of the Archives Development Plan in 2011. The Plan, aside from emphasizing the vision, mission, goals, purposes and significance of the archives, also spells out its organizational structure, budgetary requirements, collection maintenance, development and priority acquisition for the subsequent years. With the approval of the Development Plan, a guide is now in place to aid in determining courses of action of both the administration and the archives staff.

B. Digitization Project of the Archives

Digitization is another archives project conceived to preserve and prolong the life of documents. The procedure aims to preserve the original documents which are in danger of deterioration while making the surrogate copy accessible to researchers. Digitization prolongs the life of the original documents as well as the information contained in them.

This project endeavors to address the problem of document deterioration due to paper acidity which causes paper to become brittle. Majority of the Fox, Wilson, and Malay papers are over 50 years old, yellowed, very brittle and are slowly deteriorating. Storing these in acid-free boxes, although a standard preservation technique, will not completely stop but will only slow down deterioration. At the same time, we do not want that these documents be kept off limits to researchers as this will only defeat the purpose of acquiring the materials.

The Archives digitization project's aims are:

1. To preserve for posterity the indigenous knowledge, historical knowledge and culture of the indigenous/local communities in the Cordillera and Northern Luzon as seen through the primary sources.
2. To digitize the collection of the University of the Philippines Baguio Cordillera/Northern Luzon Archives and selected documents of the Cordillera Studies Collection Library.
3. To make accessible to researchers digitized copies of the collection like, photographs, correspondences, field notes, etc.
4. To prevent loss of data and information contained in the original documents that may be caused by deterioration from paper acidity and continued handling by researchers.
5. To prepare the digitized documents for future uploading to the Web to ensure access through the Internet by a wider audience who may be interested in the Cordillera and who may not be able to come to UP Baguio.
6. This project is in line with the administration's objective of modernizing processes to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of services to the academic community.
7. The project can also jumpstart a digitization project of UP Baguio's student records, important, historical, and sensitive documents. This will ensure that back-up copies of these documents are kept safe in case natural disasters strike like, fire, flood, earthquake and man-made disasters like theft.

The current project is the first phase of a series of planned digitization projects that will ensure that the information contained in the collection of the archives are made widely available to researchers for as long as possible. Digitization presents new technological improvement in the manner by which the archives will preserve its documents. Where before, materials are simply cleaned, stored in acid free boxes or encapsulated, digitization goes a step further by creating a duplicate digital copy that will extend the life of the information contained in the original.

Digitization will greatly improve the way primary sources will be made accessible, as these will now be presented in computer format. With just a few computer keyboard strokes documents will then be made available to researchers. Research will be easier and more convenient. Succeeding phases of the digitization project will entail indexing the documents to make these searchable and uploading the digital copies in the UP Baguio website.

VII. Conclusion

Libraries and archives serve the dual function of collecting information sources and making these sources accessible to researchers. Libraries, however, collect published and more recent materials, while archives collect materials that have enduring evidential and historical value, materials that are unique and one of a kind, and materials that are more often than not unpublished.

The University of the Philippines Cordillera Studies Library and the University of the Philippines Cordillera/Northern Luzon Archives complementarily work toward collecting and preserving materials and information sources that promote and preserve the cultural heritage and history of the Cordillera Region. As the Cordillera Library attempts to collect all materials published on the Cordillera Region, the Archives endeavors to acquire records of individuals who dared put their experiences and memories of long gone customs, traditions and historical accounts in writing to aid the current crop of scholars shape a collective recollection of the Cordillera Region before the coming of the Spanish and American colonizers. The materials the library and archives collect may differ in format, but the objective of preserving and making these materials accessible for a long time converge, with the end goal of making the collective memory of the peoples accessible to current as well as future generations.

Attempts by the University to establish, maintain and sustain the archives are laudable but much needs to be done. The need for additional personnel to assist in cataloging, indexing, preserving and digitizing the collection is a priority. The current basement location is also a problem that needs to be addressed immediately. Networking with other institutional and private archives has been articulated in the vision and mission of the Archives and needs to be realized. There are private archives and institutional archives that maintain good archival collections but unfortunately these are not well preserved much less known to the community. Owners are not even keen on giving up their collection, so the least that the University can do is assist these archives in managing and preserving their collection. Knowledge and skills transfer can be done through the conduct of seminars and training programs. Finally, marketing the archives is an important activity that needs equal consideration. Marketing plans and programs aim to make the Archives visible to users as well as potential donors.

The steps that the University of the Philippines Baguio Cordillera Studies Collection Library and Historical Archives has made and the cognition that we are contributing to the overall knowledge base on the Cordillera keeps us moving and seeking for ways to improve on what we do. It does not matter whether we are getting there slowly, the important thing is that we have created institutions that are vital and relevant components of Cordillera society.

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