CUPD Legacy Project:

Laying a Foundation

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University of Colorado, RSO



Capstone Author

My name is Kara Syvanen.

My undergraduate degree is in History from CU Boulder.

I've been working for the University of Colorado Boulder Police Department for five years as a Residential Service Officer.

I'm proud of my involvement in campus life here at CU, both as a graduate and an employee. I believe that, by telling and listening to stories, we learn and grow in understanding.



University of Colorado Boulder Police Department

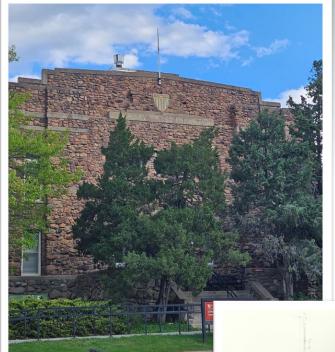
The University of Colorado Boulder Police Department (CUPD) began safety and security services on campus in October of 1949.

In 1970, after a threatened strike and negotiations with the university administration, CUPD became an independently operational police department.

Still active in 2024, CUPD celebrates 75 years of service to the campus community.

Throughout its history, the members of CUPD have:

- upheld safety on campus
- responded to dangerous incidents both large and small
- contributed to research into law enforcement best practices
- participated in the daily life of our community



Left: Armory Building at CU Boulder. Former location for CU Police Below: Photo of new Police and Parking Services building, taken in 1997



MLIS Capstone Sponsor

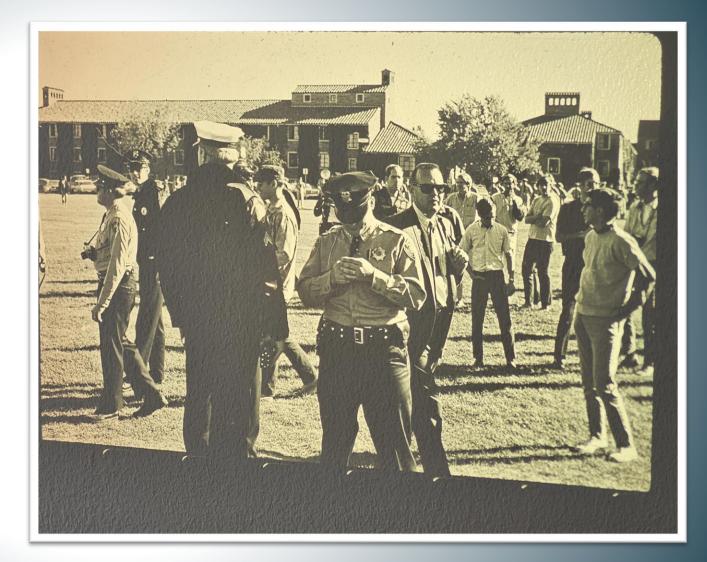
- Deputy Chief of Police Mark Heyart, CUPD (left in photo)
- D.C. Heyart has worked for CUPD for over twenty-five years and participated in a wide variety of police activities on campus. He has led and supported initiatives to <u>research</u> and <u>train</u> methods of violence prevention and assessment and <u>integrate co-responders</u> into the Patrol division.
- D.C. Heyart is passionate about keeping a healthy and progressive department culture through preserving the memory and honoring the accomplishments of CUPD members.
- Additional thanks to CUPD Police Chief Doreen Jokerst (right in photo) for her support and interest, without which this project and CUPD would not be what they are today.

Photo from CUPD Facebook page, 25 March 2024



Capstone Deliverables

- Original Legacy Collection inventoried, organized, described, recorded, and housed
- Accessioning packet and handbook approved
- Three memory displays approved
- Ten of twenty-one photo groups digitized, recorded, and housed in the Digital Collection
- Oral History Process created, three interviews conducted and added to Record with transcripts
- Information made available for continuation of project research and maintenance



CUPD officers following ROTC riot, April 30, 1970

Building the Processes

The documents for collection maintenance began as a list of necessary tasks or required information informed by the principles of cataloging, archive studies, and knowledge management.

Alongside the processes, I also developed a list of descriptions and definitions so the work could be continued by a non-library professional.

The documents produced were compiled into a handbook, containing:

- Collection Overview
- Organizing Principles
- Accessioning Guide
- Definitions
- Legacy Stories Introduction and Process
- Donor Information Form
- Recording Release Form for Oral Histories
- A Record of all items in CUPD's Legacy Collection



Collecting the Collection

- Scattered and Lost
 - In the initial stages of this project, the items which became the Original Legacy Collection were identified and set aside.
 - However, persistent rumors and information about a larger group of documents, photos, reports and newspaper clippings saved in a filing cabinet were constantly being brought up. Despite best efforts, this filing cabinet with a larger collection was never found.
- Recaptured and Identified
 - Although the filing cabinet was never located, smaller groups of photos, documents, training manuals and memorabilia were saved and set aside for CUPD's collection by employees across the department.
 - Additionally, retired employees responded to emails and messages and agreed to contribute their recollections and help fill in lost information.



There were many empty filing cabinets and boxes, but the rumored collection is still missing.

The Original Legacy Collection

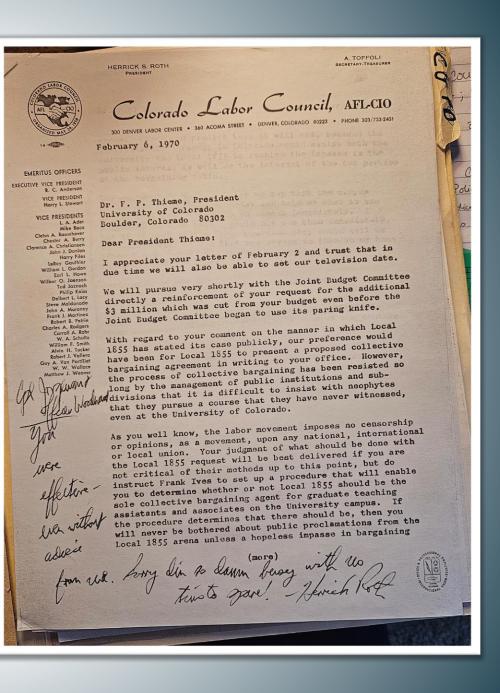
The "original legacy collection" was identified as the foundation for CUPD's Legacy Project and the inventory and description of these items became one of the main deliverables for this Capstone.

These items range from uniform shirts and patches to slides from the 80s, ID photos for former department members, to legal decision documents, to a Security Office log book from 1967.

Most items were described individually, however large and cohesive collections of photos or slides were described at folder or group level, with tags indicating associations and themes to enable finding activities.

Highlights of this collection include: investigative summaries of a student protest at the Glenn Miller Ballroom, Security Office log book 1967-1968, 1974 Dormitory Security Committee reports and recommendations, "CIA Riot, 1985" arrest photo collection, uniform shirts in a retired style, and a collection of historic patches.

> Letter documenting strike threat, February 1970

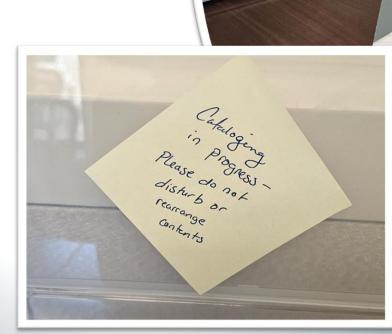


Cataloging the Original Legacy Collection

Each box was accessioned separately, and the items described and recorded in individual Record sheets. The Record for Box 1 contains 70 item descriptions and Box 2 contains 76 item descriptions.

While describing and recording these boxes of items, improvements in the description process, in the digitization process and organization were identified and used to improve the documents for collection management.

Digitization, particularly for important documents and photos, was started for this collection alongside the description and recording process. The Capstone goal of digitizing ten photo groups was completed, but digitization of the entire collection will be an ongoing process for some time.



These photos show my cataloging area and Box #2

STENO PAD

The Legacy Stories: Memory-Without Memorabilia

Prior to the beginning of my Capstone and the development of a plan for the CUPD Legacy Project, former department members reached out to Police Chief Doreen Jokerst to share memories and experiences from their time at CUPD. The interest of these individuals prompted the addition of oral histories to the CUPD Legacy Project.

To announce and facilitate the oral history collection, CUPD hosted a luncheon for retirees and former department members, introducing the CUPD Legacy Project to attendees and inviting them to participate in creating an oral history collection.

At the luncheon, a flood of recollections and experiences were shared around the tables and several individuals reached out, willing to share their stories.

At the time of this presentation, oral history interviews have been completed with five CUPD members. Three of the transcripts have been completed. The audio recordings and interview transcripts have been added to the CUPD Collection Record and represent the beginning of CUPD's Legacy Stories.

Photo of attendees at CUPD's Retiree Luncheon from CUPD Facebook 28 March 2024

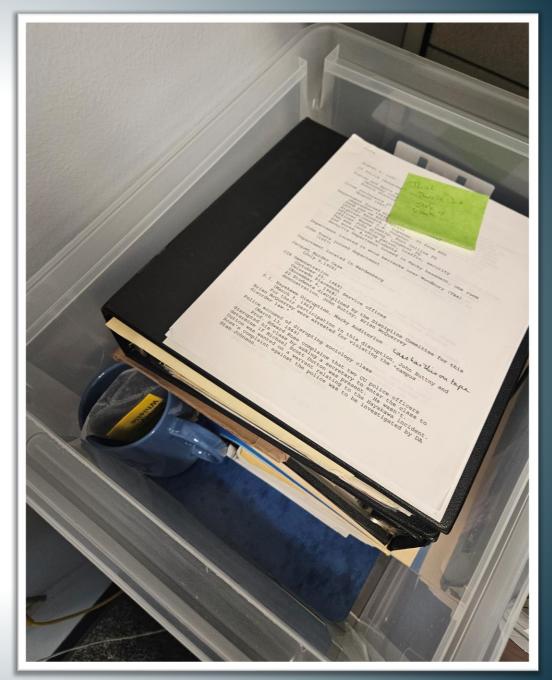


The Legacy of the Legacy Stories project

Through word of mouth and independent investigative efforts, news of the creation of the Legacy Stories collection spread through CUPD and amongst former CUPD members. Following the retiree luncheon, multiple current and former department members reached out to me and said they would be willing to share their stories.

By email and in person, I received photos, articles, commendations, and memorabilia from their time with CUPD and I heard snippets of stories from behind the scenes of events that made the news (King Soopers shooting, <u>Hill riots '71</u>, <u>Rushdie visit to</u> CU). These oral history interviews have not yet been scheduled but give indication that there is scope and interest in growing the Legacy Stories collection.

Right: Box of photos, documents and items from Sgt. Gary Arai (ret.)



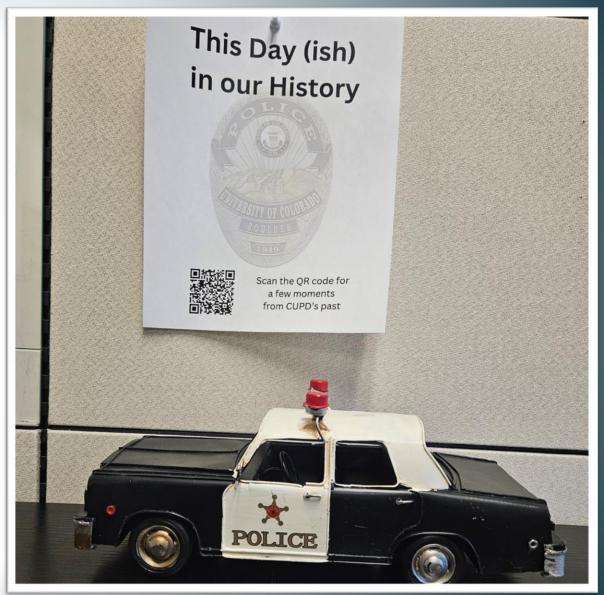
Teach, Train, and Share

The items and information from CUPD's collection, memories of current and former department members, and research drawn from CU's Norlin Library archives were combined to create several new ways to learn about the history of CUPD.

In a survey distributed to CUPD employees, I learned that the top preference for learning about CUPD history was through short videos. The next preference was for learning at in-person trainings. In response to these preferences, a video series teaching about the history of CUPD was started and I am developing lesson plans for in-person trainings.

Additionally, a series of short information bites, titled "This Day(ish) in our History," was established and made accessible through QR codes posted in the police department.

Memory displays, which can be periodically updated to reflect areas of focus or anniversary dates, are in progress and will be located throughout the administrative, Patrol, and training areas of the department.



Capstone Accomplishments Photos

- The Original Legacy Collection, designated on 31 January 2024, was completely inventoried, organized, described, recorded and housed.
- The Digital Collection has been created and contains:
 - Digital copies of eleven groups of physical photos
 - Audio recordings of oral history interviews
 - Transcripts of oral history interviews
- The Legacy Stories Collection has been created and contains:
 - Sgt. M. Delaria's recount of 2013 flood activities
 - Lt. W. Woodward (ret.) recollections of the early department
 - Lt. D. Stolz (ret.) recollections of CUPD investigations
 - Ofc. Joe Armstrong and Dispatcher Maggie Armstrong (both ret.) memories of CUPD

COUNTY/DIST CTS

Folder 5 : mixed Photos

Folder 1: Event Crew Photos

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Sample of Collection Record and part of housed photo collection

Capstone **Accomplishments**

- Necessary documents for collection management were created and compiled into a handbook, including the processes for accessioning and collecting oral histories.
- Three ways of sharing CUPD history were started and include:
 - Video series
 - "This Day(ish) in History"
 - Lesson plans for briefing trainings •
- Five wall-mounted memory displays are in progress and will enable rotating displays to reflect anniversaries or highlight individuals or special topics.
- Information and research avenues collected and discovered through the course of project activities were noted and kept for ongoing project activities.

Jan 31, 1970 The entire patrol staff of the University of Colo-campus police has voted to strike at S P.N. Tuesday b campus police has voted to strike at 6 P.H. Tuesday r lack of funds for updating the department. In a meeting Friday night, the patron division to strike unless the University administration ropriated mosty for radio facilities separate from Boulder Police Department, more men to investigate Nus thefts, and a pay eagle comparable to Boulder te Department. Information was received that the te Budget Committee of the State Legislature had ad down a request for \$100,000 to update the departturned down a request for \$100,000 to update the department. Theres have become the area of chief concern to the cargua police. Frieta property loss for the first har of this academic year is approx. \$60,000, by compare some 35,000 in property loss was rejected year. This authorities for all of the 1960s in their and vandalism if projected over this set in their and vandalism. a projected over this set in their and vandalism. a plainclutes in weithin the interventive. In such as the set of intervent was allowed to the the the department feals there is a strong need for a plainclutes investigator to follow up capment there invediately. This job is now done by one city denotive the ideo must handle dis regular, of cargua chicks are colving enquestheffs is extender you can be for a strong need for recovering property. In addition, assaults on canpus have risen over 1005 -is the first one half of this year. Finally, the patrolem want here rund to for here to be now red in the first one half of this year. Finally, the patrolem hant here rund to for how, canpus books one how red to use their second channel for some compared to have the increasing number of calls, the comments of a stress many number of a first, here the first one half of this year. Finally, the patrolem want here rund to for how, canpus books one books one the stress many number of calls, the comments one half of this year.

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Above: demand letter published before negotiations, 31 January 1970

Right: Sgt. John Towle speaking to a student who rushed the stage during S. I. Hayakawa's speech at Macky Auditorium, March 1969





The Legacy Project Continuing

The next steps for the CUPD Legacy Project include:

- Completing the wall-mounted memory displays
- Continuing to add items to the CUPD collection, notably a box of mixed documents found in the police department building and a box of items donated by Sgt. Gary Arai, ret.
- Recording more oral histories and adding to the CUPD Legacy Stories
- Continuing to produce history videos and lesson plans to share CUPD history

