As you review this collection it is important to remember that each item here exists on digital tape, a DVD, as a full-quality digital file and a digital file optimized for streaming online. That means that this collection does not require specialized processing to be accessible either as a DVD, on a computer or over the World Wide Web. I chose to do this knowing there wasn’t enough money to pay for the hours involved; I also knew the human resources required to make these documents accessible did not exist at the college. If I wanted these to do any more than collect dust on the shelf I’d have to present them whole and ready to use.

In my experience under-pricing or outright giving away valuable time creates a false sense of the value of the work. Aside from making it difficult to value my time it sets the recipient up with a false sense of the time involved in any given project and its true worth. Ultimately it tends to de-value the finished project. An accepted formula for calculating editing costs is to multiply the total amount of raw tape by 5, a factor that reflects the time required to edit it. That number is then multiplied by the hourly rate which begins at a low of $18.00/hour.

In addition to establishing the quantitative value of these documents the qualitative worth needs addressing as watching all 250+ minutes of footage seems unreasonable. To that end I have editorialized freely, making this an annotated list that reflects the technical as well as the aesthetic aspects of the pieces in question.

Dick Nichols: A History of Evergreen Had You Only Read the Newspapers.” A through chronology and, at times humorous review of the founding of the college through 1971 given at the first faculty retreat. This eloquently lays out the foundation of the institution and captures the spirit of those early days. This video was digitized and enhanced as far as the existing software would permit, then edited to remove those sections too unintelligible to be of any use. I did this with an eye towards preserving this piece of the schools history in an accessible and durable format. Approximate running time 47 min.

“Then and Now; Reflections on Evergreen.” A conversation with Dick Nichols I had in the summer of 2000 as preparation for an evening with the founding faculty. Subsequently I edited excerpts from the Pack Forest speech with those from our interview to produce this piece as a demonstration of how archive material could be made dynamic and “tolerable” to a modern audience. The archival clips served to support and illustrate the interview. There is a long version at 37 minutes and a slightly shorter 30 minutes.

Nichols shorts; two untitled 10-minute segments of the original interview with Dick Nichols. Originally I had seen these as the ultimate use for the interview tapes I made with Mr. Nichols; subsequently I created the “Then & Now” concept specifically for the archives. A third 8 to 10 minute segment could be produced from the raw tapes to round out a 30 minutes set.

Tom Rainy; Reflections on 28 years at Evergreen; An untitled, far reaching interview done originally as practice and research for the evening of story telling that followed in September. I felt that what Dr Rainy had to say was eloquent enough to save and include in the archives. Total Time; 15 minutes.

TESC Logo Animations; Four different versions of the original college logo, animated so it appears to draw itself followed by: “The Evergreen State College Archives at the Daniel J. Evans Library.” Intended to be used before video that is housed in the archives, the “slugs” as they are called, were created especially for the archives with an eye toward future productions. Custom designed and created in Photoshop, the whole project took in excess of 8 hours to create. This is separate from standard editing - creating something like this essentially from scratch, in Photoshop would cost at a minimum 600.00 (the hourly rate for a Photoshop tech is $60 – $80/hour). Each are approximately :30 seconds in length.

Don Faccette’s 90th Birthday; A request was made to me by someone at the college; ‘Please video-tape Don’s Birthday party.’ For those who don’t know, Don was one of the best friends this institution has ever or will ever have. He gave of himself; his time and his expertise both as an engineer and a sailor and more importantly as a human being and mentor. It was a privilege to meet him — I only wish it had come sooner. There is a half hour of stories and people at the party that was held on the 4th floor of the Library building on October 16th 2000. Running Time; 18:00 minutes
Concordia. This was my student project from the summer of 2000. I was a little shocked that as the institution was turning thirty no one was making any effort to document this very unique place. I set out to gather a small group of the educators from the early days to do what they do best; weave a tapestry of facts and, stories and, chronologies into a picture of the institution as it fit in the larger landscape of higher education and the country in a period of great changes. I got that and more but owing to “technical difficulties” beyond my control the original audio portion of the evening was lost. My professor said there was a much to be learned from a failure as a success and had me write up my evaluation and forget any hope of salvaging the project.

I did and I didn’t – a few months ago I began trying to piece the program back together using an audiocassette copy I had made originally to use for my own reference. The program ran for over 100 minutes, the appearance of synchronous audio began to “slip” out of phase about every 10 to 40 seconds. Basically, 3 to 4 times a minute I would have to stop the tape and try to match the audio to the person talking. The abrupt edit that resulted was covered by the fact that I had three cameras that night and could cut to another angle if there weren’t someone in front of the camera or some other problem. A conservative estimate would put each of these cuts at :10 to :15 minutes each to complete. This represents around 75 to 100 hours of editing time added to the project and is why the restoration was scrapped initially. Under normal circumstances a three-camera shoot of 1.75 hours in length, represents 27 hours of edit time. Restoring the audio effectively increased the cost of the project by a factor of 5, which makes this a very costly labor of love. In the end I managed to create what I feel is an acceptable document from a pile of technological wreckage, the quality of the content is due wholly to those on the dais I can only claim credit for inviting them to tell their stories. Total time 1:42