**Life Underground - Preliminary Notes/Thoughts**

**Topics of Potential Interest:**

-day’s pay vs. contract mining

-underground vs. open pit

-profile of each headframe and its accompanying neighborhood

-definition of terms (chippy, drift, stope, etc.)

-fires (ACM’s arson squad)

-resistance to the pit in east side communities

-ethnic foods and traditions

-Columbia Gardens

-newspaper boys (how many were later miners?)

-chronology of strikes (Janet Finn’s talk in “Riches of Community” lists them)

-collusion between international union leadership and ACM?

-turning the pumps off

-Anaconda’s control of the state

-nationalization of Chilean mines

-Dennis Washington

-Anaconda vs. ARCO

-Population decline

-Hard rock mining vs. other forms of underground mining

-BSB tax base reliant on mining

-Tonnage

-administrative overhead vs labor (those who get the copper out of the ground pay exec’s wages)

-Butte’s status relative to other Montana economic centers

-Chinese discrimination

-smell of the mines (Dinny Murphy first tape)

-camaraderie

-water (underground, in the pumps, in the precip plant, etc)

**Possible Methods:**

Time travel from vacant lot to underground/past

Leads from Dick Gibson’s show

Mine by mine (neighborhoods around the jobsite)

Expansion of Marian’s format? (likely the easiest)

Mine nuggets from old oral histories

-random sampling?

-Buried in Butte?

-Dick’s leads?

Lean on LTB

**Context/Importance:**

-oral history niche

-getting miners’ voices out to an audience for the first time

-lived experience

**Notable Narrators:**

-Al Beavis

-John T. Shea

-Kevin Shannon

-Rick Foote

-Frank Palakovich

-Irene Scheidecker

-Jim Ugrin

-Jim Dick

-Herbert A. Mickelson

-Mollie Kirk

-10. Real Voices… Tape

-Dinny Murphy

-Reno Sales

-Perdita Duncan

-Al Brown

-Fred Calkins

-Sarsfield

-Stanley Kitto

-Virginia Salazar

-Joe Lee

-Tom Holter

-Louis Louschin

-Larry Hoffman

-John T. Shea

-Kevin Shannon

-Rick Foote

-Frank Palakovich

-Irene Scheidecker

-Jim Ugrin

-Herbert A Mickelson

-Mollie Kirk

-Don Bielenberg

-Sheila Penaluna

-James Patterson

-Don Plessas

-Jim Dick

-Andy Kuchtyn

-Pat Mohan

-Al Hooper 1999-12-01

-Bob Kovacich 1986

-Frank Pinisko

-Rex Henningsen

**New Interviews Needed:**

Teresa Jordan

Mary Murphy

**Wise Advice**

Can’t be exhaustive

Not for a PhD

Trust my own interests

Most shit is for books

Let the tape guide the narrative

Be selective about deep research topics

Do not lull people to sleep

Have compelling tape early on in an episode

Naturally experimental

The whole point is to get people to listen

**Research**

Listen to another oral history podcast

Transcription services

Read *Tracing the Veins*

List serves

**Radio**

Tension

Contrast

Emotion

Coherence

Space

Best storytellers

Memorable characters

**Process**

Pick my favorite interviewees

Select highlights of the interview

Correlate different interviews

Draft background presentation/narrative script

**Leads to Follow Up On:**

-Fran Chovers? (Mary Murphy mentions his work on early mining at the end of her first tape of Al Beavis

-Teresa Jordan’s timeline/chronology

**Notable Turns of Phrase:**

“The Monster Behind It” – Al Beavis, 1985 tape 2, 21 minutes in

**Other notes:**

Stanley Kitto calls bullshit on cleanup of the Berkeley Pit about 30 minutes into his tape.