LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Today is May 10, 2016. I'm Leslie McCartney and we are in the University of Alaska Fairbanks Library. And I'm honored to be here with Paul McCarthy. Thank you, Paul, very much for coming in.

PAUL MC CARTHY: You are entirely welcome.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And sharing your memories about PLC and we will just start off a little bit with a bit of background where you were born and raised and education.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Sure.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And how you came to be into librarianship.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yes. Well, I was born and brought up in Rochester, New York, big Kodak town. And went to elementary school at two different schools, Blessed Sacrament and St. Monica and then went into the seminary for four years, St. Andrews Seminary, a Roman Catholic seminary. And decided that women were -- I wanted women to be more a part of my life than that vocation permitted. And they gave me a great education. Then I went to St. John Fisher College. It took me five years to get through, but I had a serious illness and was out for part of a semester and then didn’t do well in the finals on that semester so I changed my major. I went in as a chemistry and then physics major and decided that my background foundational education was seriously lacking. This was not a great subject in a seminary so I changed to history and did really well and then had a history -- general history graduate or BA and then a minor in philosophy and theology and in English. And a second major in English and then a minor in philosophy and theology.

So, you know, I was kind of trying to figure out what I was going to do with the rest of my life and over at RIT, the Rochester Institute of Technology, they had a testing center. So I went over there and they said we do multi-facet testing and I’m trying to remember, you know, vocationally oriented.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Aptitude testing?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Aptitude testing and they said, well, the aptitudes you most clearly identify with are ministers or librarians. And I had -- I thought well, that was quite interesting. And I had always used a public library a lot and two or three of my friends we used the Arnett Branch in Rochester an awful lot and read a lot. I mean it would not be unusual for me even now to be reading three or four books simultaneously. Some lagging and some going in. And so really a terrific love for reading and the curiosity. So I did apply to Syracuse University which was, you know, a long stone throw from Rochester and started there in October of ’62.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And this was for a Masters in Library Science?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right, Masters in Librarianship and by that time I had gotten married to my sweetheart who was at Nazareth College which was a mile down the road. They were both -- both were single sex colleges at that time. Men’s college at St. John Fisher, Nazareth Women’s College. It since has intermingled and I took classes at Nazareth when I was finishing my degree. And so we moved to Syracuse and Lucy got a job teaching and I went in to get an interview with Ted Ryberg. He was the Associate
Director at Syracuse and he -- I was looking for a part-time job and he said well, how about a full-time job. I said, well, I am supposed to be working on this masters and he said, well, we could do it so you have got time during the day, but we have -- at that they had an extensive evening program, you know, five days a week. So I took that up and the job I had was Assistant Stack Supervisor. And I didn’t work in the main library, but I worked in this -- the American Continental Can Company warehouse that we had taken over -- Syracuse had taken over and the second floor -- the third floor was the University of Alaska or University of Syracuse Press. The second floor was all libraries and so at that time it was kind of the overflow and the storage area so people would select books that hadn’t been stored away and then I would retrieve them and we would have somebody come by a couple times a day and take the books. We also were recept -- not receptacle, a better classy word than that.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: A repository?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, right, repository, right for the PL480 books and this was a program where libraries could enroll in a program and get in -- I don’t know if it was US AID or somebody, you would purchase languages and from various countries in various languages and the forte of Syracuse was India. And so we would have I don’t know how many languages are, but we would have all the regional publications. They would come, you know, boxes and boxes of it so we had an incredible collection.

And one of the other things that the second floor house was the overflow for the University Archives and Manuscripts Division. So I got to know the people in the manuscript division. I was alone most of the day, you know. You would go out for coffee to a little place across the street or with a young man who was a runner for the university library. We would have coffee or -- and then Howard Applegate was the head of the archives and the manuscript division and Jim, oh, I just forgot his name -- Jim Owens. Jim Owens was the person who was head of the archives itself and he was a professional. He had worked with the National Archives Record Center groups.

And so there was an opening in the archives so for the second year I was there 'cause it was a two year degree. Second year I was there I started working in the archives. I got really a taste and a love for not only collecting the original materials, but also for meeting people and, you know, before when the first thing I had to do was make cold calls to people that we didn’t -- they didn’t know us and we broached the possibility of collecting their papers. And some people were just stunned and others flattered and others were dumbfounded. So it was, you know, by that time I had -- we didn’t get a phone I think until I was in the sixth grade. So I wasn’t really fluent in, you know, cold calling and I don’t anybody is usually.

So I did that. We did some terrific field trips. We were in New York and, of course, Mardy, I’m trying to think of his name and Howard were a polite -- a politer version of a archivist in the West who I will not name. But they would send out like 50 letters a week, you know, soliciting materials nationally. So there was, you know, a few -- more than a few leads. And so we would go to New York and we would just go up and down Manhattan crazy like and talk with people. And one outstanding person I think was just stunned by the fact that we thought he was mortal. You know, I think it never crossed his mind that there was a time when he wouldn’t be around and his papers might be of use to somebody else so.
So it was a -- we also did a lot of work with railroads and I suspect that Syracuse has probably a preeminent or the preeminent collection of Eastern and Mid-Atlantic railroads. We went down to Hoboken and spent a week there going through this roundhouse and we loaded up a carload of records and a full truckload of records. And they went back to 1870’s, 1860’s, 1850’s, you know, it was just prime stuff that the railroad -- it was just a liability at that point so we retrieved that. That was one of the biggest projects I have ever worked on.

But we also worked with oh, I am trying to think of -- Senator Flanders of Vermont and they sent him a note and got a very positive response. And so we went over there and he was -- Senator Flanders was really instrumental in the first senate opposition to Joe McCarthy. He was a conservative, but I think highly principled man and realized what a dangerous strategy McCarthy was engaging in. And he was one of the first opponents to him, so he was a really -- one of the things I really have enjoyed is visiting people like him and getting to know people like him and stuff like that. And we were surprised that he didn’t want it to go there, but I think he and the university must have had a feud ’cause it was clearly no reservations on his part, you know. So that was one of the other really interesting collections.

So Ted Ryberg was going to leave Syracuse and he was going to take the Director of Libraries position at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and before he left he asked me if I would ever consider going to Alaska. And I said sure anything for, you know, a while -- a year or two, a couple years, you know. So at the end of that year in the summer I got an invitation to join him in Alaska. You know it was a time when it was really hard to get professional staff and there was a shortage and you had to recruit hired and fewer people wanted to go to Alaska.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And what year was this been then Paul?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Sixty-four.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Sixty-four. Graduated in ’64 and we came up in ’64 and I was delayed a little bit because my wife had an illness and, but I was like nine days late. But they were - - this was before they would give you -- there was any deal to cover travel and stuff like that. So they just paid me for the days that I wasn’t there which helped a lot and ’cause we had by that time two kids and we were transporting four people to Alaska, you know.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And driving up the Alcan?
PAUL MC CARTHY: No, we flew.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Oh, did you fly?

PAUL MC CARTHY: We sold our car. We got up and we kind of toughed it out for two years without a car and, you know, had to depend on friends to get to the grocery store. And if we had to go to the doctor, you had to pony up with somebody else and there was no cab service at all that I remember so. And we lived at -- right off campus at Ballaine Lake Subdivision which was a lot classier then than it is now. It is pretty seedy and pretty, you know, several of the houses are going into the subsoil. But we had to carry our own water. In winter we’d use a sled. In the summer a cart or I would backpack five gallons on my back ’cause the water was terrible, just terrible. The early tests for water was if you used the water and mixed it (bell) with bourbon or alcohol of any kind, it would turn black and it turned black let me tell you.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: A sure sign that the water was no good.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Oh, it was a sure sign the water was no good and you looked and you think, okay, it is getting fed out of -- it is not going to be fed out of Ballaine Lake, it is right down through and into the peat bogs. So we lived -- I came up as the Assistant Reader Services Librarian and we were in the old building over at Bunnell. Now where IT is. And it was a beautiful building, but the university was forward enough looking to want to build a better library. And so after the first year Ted got permission to hire an archivist and so I moved into that position and he sent me out to a seminar at the Initial Archives, a two week program which was, you know, revolutionary at that time. I mean there just wasn’t --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And there was no archive here at the time.

PAUL MC CARTHY: No, there was no archives.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: It started right from scratch.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right from scratch. Right from scratch. And so I came back and, you know, it was like a wonderful new world, but I’m glad I had the Syracuse experience too. So we started up the archival program and one of our chief assets was we went through the library because sometimes people put manuscripts in the library collection and there was a professor named Otto Geist who was an assiduous collector. I mean assiduous. Some of it really prime stuff and some of it his basis his own appendix. I mean Hannah Genaux who is one of our faculty spouse assistants was startled one day when she opened something and here is this vial with his appendix shows up, you know. It is -- but he would save everything, you know. A subscription letter from Time Magazine. Of course, you know, it was there, you know, they were blanketing the post office like they do now or the air waves like they do now with stuff.

There used to be a series of three warehouses going downhill where the forestry building is and so we went in there and we found tremendous treasures. We found some of the earliest Alaska Commercial Company records that had been stored there. The university had been pre-forward and a gentleman named Herb Hilscher who later had a public relations firm in Anchorage was with public relations here and he had helped arrange a sale of the early Skinner collection which was this foundation of the Alaska Collections. Skinner was this Alaska Steamboat executive who funded the collection and the collection was put together by Erskine in Kodiak. So it was brought up as a basis in the early 50’s, but there were other treasures that were deposited like the letters -- the diaries of George Pilcher who had been on the Lower Yukon for 35 years and kept a daily journal and some of it is exhaustingly boring like I chopped wood, I chopped wood, I chopped wood ’cause he was -- he chopped wood for the steamers and that is how he made his living, you know. Did a little bit of trapping I think, but curiously letters or things like that and other journals that we were able to get or had and recovered were interesting for like we had a nutritionist come up to study what they were eating to predicate or kind of predicted what illnesses might be most -- they might be most susceptible to so. We put that together.

We were the first unit over here in the new building. We moved over the first part of it and then I was in charge of the move and the physical plant had these huge carts. There was only one or two of these left in the building I think, these monster carts. And we put books and books on them and then we rolled them across the quadrangle just endless streams and asked students to volunteer to push carts and so we got the whole. We moved in and then there was a problem with the transformer blew up and it was like four to six

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months before we get a new transformer. We had -- they had cobbled some stuff together so there was some entry problems into the new building, but it was a fabulous facility and, you know, it was temperature controlled and we were below ground so that made it a little bit easier and then the rest of the library moved over so. I was the archivist through to the 80’s and then Director Bob Geiman came in and he reorganized it so then I became Head of the Alaska Polar Regions -- we pulled all of the units together. What else -- there was one maybe we didn’t, I can’t remember.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So it would have been the oral history started in ’81.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Uh-huh.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And the film archives were after that if I’m not mistaken.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And the rare books?
PAUL MC CARTHY: They were before.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Before.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Before because Elmer Rasmuson had a real love and passion for the library and he was, I think, the -- on the Regents I think until 1966 or 1967 and he had been I think it was like 19 years or 18 years that he had been the chair for 15 of those years. You know this is before we re-elect somebody -- somebody different every few times. And he -- his commitment to the libraries was based on what he felt that the women’s collection -- the library that the women put together in Skagway meant to him in terms of allowing him to use materials that he wouldn’t otherwise have had and helped him really foundationally become as successful as he did. I mean he obviously is a hard worker and that, but he credits the library with making a material -- more than significant change in his perspective and lifestyle, so. So he has always supported and he would call us some time. And one time I had forgotten who the journal was, but it was, I don’t know if they were offering an English -- maybe they were offering a English, an old English translation of this thing and we had the German copy. And so then he asked me about it and I reported to him and he said, well, Paul, you know I think we should buy this, you know. And wide-eyed assistant associate professor like but it is $10,000, you know. And he said, hey, but we are wanting this library to be the complete most comprehensive collection so you buy that and I will send you the check. And he was like that. He was like that. He would donate money every year and then obviously he really loved the place and he endowed it so.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: So I served as, no go ahead.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: No, I was just going to say so he was really the forefather – founding father of the Alaska Collections here?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yes. I think it would be fair to say, you know, there are other people who put parts of it together, but he --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: It was his vision.
PAUL MC CARTHY: His vision and he also paid for the renovation of the public room, the McCarthy Room. (Laughter)
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Which is true, yeah. The Paul McCarthy Research Room.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And he was quite interested and so I had a relationship with him for, you know, 10 or 15, 20 years. And it was really illuminating ‘cause sometimes I would, you know, visit with him for half an hour and other times we would go for two or three hours,
you know. Talked about like I was doing culture -- how do you establish a cultural climate in a corporation and he had a lot to say on that. It was interesting and his ethics and his approach to business were just phenomenal. I mean it was a really --

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: And just for the record so other people listening to this, he was a banker.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yes, he was a banker. His father was a banker, but Elmer had the skill and the talent to really grow the bank beyond Skagway area. And he had gotten his Master’s Degree in Harvard and then had gone with -- oh, I just had the – I’ll think of it in a minute, but one of the really -- Arthur Anderson. Arthur -- he had gone with Arthur Anderson and he had an incredible respect for Arthur Anderson, just incredible respect for him and talked about his ethics and his relationship to staff and to their families. And so he brought that back with him and he was essentially responsible, you know, for directing the banks expansion all over Alaska. And he continued to contribute and people would talk with him. He was -- and he was honored to have that the regents decided after he left that to name the library after him. We thought it was really appropriate.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: So it was the Regents’ decision to do that?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, yeah.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Very interesting.

PAUL MC CARTHY: He was -- and then I served as Director of the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections for seven years -- and I mean it was -- it is a great job. It was a fantastic job. You meet all kinds of people. There is -- I went -- we were going over the accession registers last year and, you know, there were so many stories that come up just incredible stories about the people we met and people who gave stuff and things like that. So then Bob Geiman left suddenly, was reassigned and they asked me if I would serve as the Interim Director so I did that for I think I don’t know if it was six months. They put a search on and yeah, I think it was six months and I was one of three candidates and I was a successful candidate. And so then I became the Director.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Director of the library itself, the whole library, right?

PAUL MC CARTHY: The whole library and West Ridge and our regional campuses, which I think are really important, really important and served in that capacity for seven years I think, yeah seven years, six and a half years I guess. And it was a real challenge at that point in time in the ’85, ’86 era there was just a huge, huge crises at the university much like now. Maybe not as serious as now, but --

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Funding crises?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Funding because the price of oil dropped to twelve bucks a barrel, you know. It was like holy cow and there were major changes in the library and the irony is we had just staffed up to move from a smaller space to a much larger space and we had to let people, various people go, which was really not a good time, but we survived. And then I think one of the things I feel best about is we had to go through a physical review. Everybody, every Dean and Director on campus had to present a program of how they would take a five, ten, fifteen, twenty percent cut, you know.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Right.

PAUL MC CARTHY: And I think we were one of the first presenters and what I am really proud of is that the staff really got behind us and we talked about what we would have to do. And, in fact, the guys in graphics and media services had -- we got the idea that we
would show the library in kind of a vertical section so you could see all the programs and then we would say, okay, with the first five percent we would do this. And, you know, at fifteen percent, I said, you know, at this point you really need to fire me or let me go because you really need a different kind of person to do this. And I think it was a really tough exercise, but I think we did the best or one of the best presentations and people really remarked about that. But it was fully staff supported because the people in media helped and they were – and their necks were on the line.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: They were involved in it.

PAUL MC CARTHY: They were involved in it, right. So and that is at the point where we began this huge switch to digital; that we thought, you know, we could only buy like 5,000 or 4,500 subscriptions physically, but we found that we could do considerably more than that in combines with other universities we could do like 50,000 or 60,000. So it was a fundamental switch. A lot of faculty were very uncomfortable with it that we could use more resources.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: With the online journals?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, online journals, yeah. I mean major, major things.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Yeah, which today is just so common.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, yeah, yeah and then Ted Stevens was very supportive of our going into the internet environment and two or three grants through the library or librarian –

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Enhancement?

PAUL MC CARTHY: I am trying to think of the foundation and the education department. They were not happy. They were not happy. They had become an increasing target of targeted funds or focused funds and they didn’t like that but we just complimented for how helpful they were and we mentioned to Senator Stevens and they still weren’t happy, but at least we tried to be honest with them.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: They weren’t happy because they didn’t think digital was the way to go?

PAUL MC CARTHY: No, they didn’t like the congress mandating awards when they had a kind of an open competition, but Stevens was in a position where --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right. So as a specialist in the Arctic Regions for library collections, did you feel fairly isolated or did you meet colleagues who were also professionals in arctic collections at the time?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Well, I had two things. PLC is a critical part of that. But one is I took a sabbatical leave in ’71, ’72 and this was before really there was much sharing. There was hardly any sharing on the internet of resources. And so I visited repositories. They either had outstanding archival collections like university archives to get a better idea of what we might do or manuscript collections of what they had and how they dealt with it and who they drew from and, you know. And one of the opportunities I had was to go to Scott Polar Research Institute. So I think I spent two or three weeks there and worked with Harry King and I think it was Allan -- I don’t know if it was Alan Cooke who was the archivist. I’m trying to – or maybe he was the librarian, but anyway to go through their collections and spend some time and see how they did it and their resources. This was -- they had in the printed national catalog manuscript collection was the only thing that, you know, other than a news release that you might or might not see was the only way to share. It was really good and as a result of that I spent several weeks at the National Archives. We relocated there as a family and worked with Virgil, I’m trying to think of
his last name, but he had had the formidable task of trying to get to a hold on all of the Alaska related records of the National Archive. This is, you know --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: That’s a daunting task.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Daunting task and he had been working for it and for many -- several years and I think it was initiated like in 1967 because of the hundredth year anniversary of the purchase of Alaska. And so we were able -- I was able to come back and the Alaska Historical -- not the -- not the society but --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Commission?
PAUL MC CARTHY: The Commission was able to get money to publish that so we actually funded the federal publication of that holdings of the National Archives. But then I think where PLC comes along is that I think part of it is that we, you know, realizing that in working in the arctic areas your professional peers in the Lower 48 you could look at professionally, but their focus of their materials was quite different in that in Alaska our relationships were more with Canada, Greenland, Denmark, Finland and hopefully the Soviet Union at that time. And so I think Ted Ryberg and Nita Cooke in Alberta -- Nora Corley Murchison of AINA and Phil Cronenwelt were probably some of the major initiating people who helped push it and I think Nita Cooke might have been really the prime driver.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And where was she located?
PAUL MC CARTHY: She was at the University of Alberta.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And really nice lady, very professional and very helpful and so I think they then decided that there would be really a community of interest among these people and we hoped to attract foreign members. And so the first one was -- first meeting of PLC was in Alberta and I think a real success. You know it was on campus. We had campus housing and I think the chance to get together with other folks who had a very similar subject interest and many times very interrelated. You know, like several of the arctic expeditions either got caught in -- the British things got caught in Northern Canada or off of Alaska or like with Cook, you know, he came here so that we had relationships and closer relationships with somebody like Scott Polar or National Archives of Canada then we would have, you know, you receive from University of Chicago or somebody else. And it was augmented by at least initially by INSTAAR in Colorado with Martha Andrews who is really sharp and I think -- I had more of the names but I forgot to bring that sheet with me.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Ron Innoye mentioned Garth Graham.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Garth Graham. Garth Graham. He was the librarian at the -- in Whitehorse on the Yukon and he had -- I am trying to remember his earlier history, but he think it had been Eastern Canada. But Garth really loved the North and I think he was excited by this too because he is, you know, if not the Lone Ranger, the Lone Ranger and two people helping him, you know. And because that was a fairly small community and then later Dick Engen. I think, you know, at first I think it was primarily focused on the research and in the scholarly and in -- but I think others realized and wanted it to be expanded to public libraries. You know, that there were daunting tasks in public libraries.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: We have to remember that when this started in ’71, this is pre-internet.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: You know you’re in isolated communities.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Uh-huh.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Circumpolarly.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Around and, you know, telephone calls were horribly expensive.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Oh, terribly.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So the opportunity to get together once every two years must have been a wonderful seeding ground for germination of ideas and practice.
PAUL MC CARTHY: It -- it really was and didn’t we meet annually for a couple years? I didn’t bring that sheet with me, but I thought we --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: I have the first three colloquy’s 1971 to 1973.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yes.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And then it started from ’74 --
PAUL MC CARTHY: Biannually.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Biannually after that and it sort of oscillates between either Europe and then North America.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Well that was the agreement.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: That was the agreement was it?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. Right. The first three, you know, people were so excited. We got to do this again and then about year three we realized, you know.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Can’t afford to.
PAUL MC CARTHY: This is expensive. The excitement is over. Now we got to live together, you know, I mean you can’t go out all the time.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Yes.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And -- but I think it pulled in -- it was I think an exciting enough development that we started pulling in libraries and archives in Germany. John – Jean Malaurie was an anthropologist in Paris who had his own arctic collection and he had been quite active in the arctic and surprisingly so. A fairly significant ego, but he was an interesting guy and he had some really good staff members and they had collected a lot. And then we found out that there was an Italian Arctic Collection and I think one of the meetings was later in Italy in Rome.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: I believe it was actually. I can get to see which year it was.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Okay. You weren’t at that one, all right.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay, you weren’t at that one, all right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And, you know, I think it was initially focused on library materials and resources and archives and manuscripts.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Uh-huh.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And the archives and manuscript people got more involved too and then researchers who like Jean Malaurie who were primary movers got involved and I am trying to think of there was Gerhardt, somebody from Germany that is named for individual Willie Mueller, Mueller was involved. He was a researcher and like, I mean there were some like -- Terrence Armstrong who was a researcher at Scott Polar was really kind of a godfather, you know, really encouraging Harry King and Alan Cooke and others too.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right. Just to go back to the Italy one was 2006.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Okay. You’re right, right. Took a while. Took a while.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Yes.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah and I think it was, you know, some of those connections in the 80’s allowed us to get to know the people from the western part of Russia and it is the Kola Kola Peninsula, but anyway right para -- right paral – right near Finland and there was an Academy of Sciences group and I should have looked at a map. I can’t remember that I kind of I think the meetings in Rovaniemi because I think the meetings in Rovaniemi were the first that we really attracted Russian scholars to and Russian archivists too, mostly scholars I think. And they -- because they -- Finland was looked at more neutral than –

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And easier to get visas to go there.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. Right. And they could drive and so we gradually got to know them and there was a couple of outgrowths. One is that we started this -- the Polar Pack Initiative and to try to, well, part of that was the Russian American Institute in Anchorage was trying to do some work in democratic -- reinforcing democratic institutions in the former Soviet Union. And they asked me, you know, for a proposal and so Sharon West and I were working a lot on Polar Pack and trying to encourage people to contribute notations on their holdings so this could be --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So that people would know what holdings were and what they had in these various archives.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. Right.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So Polar Pack was an initiative to make it transparent as to what materials were in what archives?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, ’cause this was before, you know, the easy access on internet. I mean I wrote a book with somebody on internet or a evaluation instrument for archives. How to evaluate your archives on the internet, but, it was, you know, back and forth and back and forth and, you know, it was a miracle at the time, but it would be so much easier now.

Well, just to get back to your other thing in terms of telecommunications. When we first moved up here and that would have through the seven -- early 70’s at least when you called home it was three dollars a minute plus a minimum of three minutes.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right.

PAUL MC CARTHY: So once you dialed that number it was nine bucks when that would be like $35 now.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So like, you know, calling a colleague in Whitehorse or somewhere else it was just not in budgets to do.


LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So the only way to get out of your isolated little place is to actually go and meet other archivists and special collection mangers.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, yeah, absolutely. There is no Facebook, face time and skyping and even calling I mean. I mean I think it is hard for some younger people now who think nothing -- they have unlimited calls on their cell phone and they are calling all over the country and --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Well at one time if you wanted to call abroad, you had to call an operator and make an appointment as to what time you would call in.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. Right. Right.

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LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And at an enormous costs so.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Today it is just so different.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah. So we were able -- one of the proposals -- I submitted a proposal that we would help some of the libraries in Russian Far East to catalog their holdings in archives and that they would contribute them to us. And so that got involved with, you know, several colleagues in the western or the eastern part of Russia. And then we had invited several of the people to the colloquy in Columbus, Ohio and I think I had the money to pay for them. I can’t remember how we did it. And money -- I wouldn’t say money was easy to come by, but people were -- some of the groups that had money to do the kind of work that we wanted to do were eager to have it done. I mean it was really great. And so I put together a pre-proposal, four pages, and they said go ahead, but we want you to make some changes and we want you to include Magadan, which is a science facility in the eastern part of Russia, the academy’s site. And so we did the addition. And I said well, when do you want the proposal? They said, oh, no, no, you just change, include Magadan in the paper you have written and change the budget to reflect the cost and we are going to give you that. It was like whoa, whoa!
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And through which institution was this or –
PAUL MC CARTHY: Russian.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: The Russian?
PAUL MC CARTHY: No, the Russian, yeah, American Russian Center which was established at UAA.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Just to do this as a jump off point and it was all -- I think it was largely AID money, something like that. So we had -- after I retired, we had like five or six grants to do work on in the Russian Far East. So that’s after I retired the first time I worked for three years just in that kind of grant stuff. So we integrated that, but the colloquy provided a place, a time for the Russians to come and visit and they could do that even before the fall, you know. I mean it wasn’t -- it wasn’t easy necessarily and but we were able to fund some of them to come. So the colloquy not only attracted like people. The one problem we ran into with Polar Pack is at that point both Scott Polar and the University of Calgary had visions of being able to sell their data on like a subscription basis, you know, much like OCLC or WLN does. But and we didn’t think that the audience was large enough for that to make a real difference, but they were scrambling for money and they did that and, you know, we were unable to get it all together. But we made a significant and the focus on like some of the Russian stuff was to get some of the great literature that would not otherwise be available. So I think -- I am trying to think of, you know, it just got more exciting and I think people just felt that they had like people, like problems and that cooperation -- there was more incentive for cooperation. I think when Dick Engen came up in ’67 he had been at Portland at Oregon State Library. And his vision in coming here kind of involved rather quickly. I think he said Alaska is a library that when you put all of our holdings together, there are many libraries outside that have more, you know, because we had like a million and million two or three or four and Anchorage collection and state libraries, but everybody was relatively small. So I think that idea of cooperation and recognizing that we had way more to gain by being cooperative and sharing than we --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: In competition.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, then competition or this gee, I am going to stand here and be my gracious, beautiful, wonderful self-collection and the heck with you folks. But I mean I think a real sharing of materials.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: What about Jerry Brown’s fiscal assistance through the National Science Foundation?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Jerry Brown was a pivotal figure. He really was. He was always supportive. In fact, I would say he is one of the godfathers of Polar Pack. He, you know, wanted to get more of the gray literature too because I think he felt that --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: What was his role? What was his --
PAUL MC CARTHY: He was the program officer for --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: National Science Foundation?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, but they have a number of program officers, but he would attend the meetings. He is keenly aware of the historical uses of the materials. He’s been a very active in the Glaciological Society and he was just a -- he helped us crack NSF ’cause I think the rest of us were saying, oh, my God, you know.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: You are never going to get that.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Never going to that because what do they care about books and I think he was able to encourage us and perhaps make a case for that ’cause we were pretty successful and then we were able to get some from National Humanities Foundation for Polar Pack.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And this was funding to help people come to the various meetings or this was --
PAUL MC CARTHY: No, this was --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Funding for?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Fund Polar Pack, but we had -- we did have money to bring some people to the meetings and yes, we did. I’m trying -- I know the one thing that sticks out in my head a lot is that I was taking them -- the Russians to supper and we went to – there’s some kind of a pavilion some place near where we were at the university and we picked a, you know, a restaurant. You know, like Pacific Place in Seattle where they have the building and there are different restaurants on all the levels, you know. We picked this one and it was kind of a medium to higher end sandwich, hamburgers, you know, chicken burgers, but a nice place. And I said well, okay, what would you like? Do you want meat or beef, chicken, dada, da and they said, oh, chicken. I said, well, okay, now we have seven entrees and this is the first time I realized and I have since realized even myself some time is it is such a -- the choices. They were dumbfounded by the choices. Just -- it was a problem, it wasn’t an opportunity. It was a problem too because I just had no clue. It is like, you know, and they wanted to do the right thing. And I think it was -- and finally they said Paul, you make the decisions for us. But it is, you know, that was I think problems of --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Cultural learning.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Cultural -- it was a cultural thing that we too often overlook. I mean we have so many choices and even we sometimes are --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Too many.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Too many, too many, you know.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: That's really interesting that the Russian government at the time would have actually allowed them to in the Polar Pack make this information even available.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, well it was by the time that was right after the fall, yeah, 'cause we were dealing in --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So we've got glasnost. There was a more open information.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah. And there was probably was more open than it is now, right, right. I mean it is like --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: But after glasnost, it became far more open.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, yeah, it was.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: More open.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah and you know like when we were working in the Russian Far East we brought money so that helped and we brought a fair amount of money which was -- which presented problems to the university. It really did.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Oh, did it?

PAUL MC CARTHY: It did you know.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Paid cash and they don't like that, right. And they have to have their own --

PAUL MC CARTHY: I asked --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Claim their visit to reimbursement forms and they don't understand how different economies work. We still have the same problems today, Paul.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Really, really because I, you know, when I ask for cash, $17,000 and they went like what? And I said well, it is in the grant and they read the grant. And I said well, I have the grant administrator and there is no banking system so you can't get it there and if there was, not much of it would get there, you know. When we went over there, --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Was the money strapped to you or something?

PAUL MC CARTHY: It did. I had pockets. I had these shirts that had hidden pockets in it, you know. And I didn't tell anybody in the group how much I had, you know, until -- unless I needed a witness at each place so that they saw me hand it over, the people signed it and we put some kind of a stamp on it, you know, it didn't make any difference and it could be received as of today, you know, for a periodical and we were scrupulously honest going in about that. That is what the granting people said don't try to hide it because then if you don't spend it all, you will really be in trouble 'cause you are not going to come out with more than you went in. That's, you know, you go to jail for that. So I think, you know, the PLC has been just a great arena to meet and mix and become more than we were separately and --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And then, of course, it has witnessed a phenomenal change. I mean we kind of touched on this going from basically no phones and all paper into a digital age.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And satellite imagery and just the type of information that is now available to everybody.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, it is amazing. I mean just it is phenomenal and I mean I just marveled at, you know, at least in the commercial arena you can go up on the internet. Sometimes a book is easier to buy from Amazon than it is to go downtown because you might not be able to go downtown for two days, right? And so Amazon will have it there.
I mean that is a disadvantage and I would certainly like to use local vendors, but the --
but what we found out and what I found out is in ’94, no ’95, ’96 I was on the WLN
Board and we lost our CEO suddenly and they asked me if I would fill in, you know. And
I said, are you out of your mind? I live 1,700 miles from here and almost everybody else
lived in Washington, Oregon or Idaho or, you know, not very far. And so I took that
position on a temporary basis. And one of the illuminating things is to me was that WLN
had been really on the ground helping libraries connect to the internet.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And can you just say what WLN is?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Western Library Network. Western Library Network. And we were the
rival to OCLC, but we -- they two corporate -- two non-profits had used different models
for development. OCLC had tried to capture states by, you know, trying to pull them
together. WLN had gone for institutions, but and they provided some basic connectivity
for these institutions. So we -- before my time there was tremendous loyalty in both --
was tremendous loyalty in both camps, but with WLN there became as a transition to
more and more internet became apparent the libraries then were getting services from
their university and didn’t need to go through necessarily WLN. And it is just like you or
I it wasn’t, you know, it doesn’t cost you any more to buy from Seattle than it does from
Florida, you know, I mean this time and space. The time is the same and the space is in
different, you know what I mean. So you can shop all over or you can buy your
bibliographic data from wherever.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And, but one of the products we didn’t and I used was a collection
development analysis which was really cool, so.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So where do you see the future of the PLC going from Polar
Librarianship?
PAUL MC CARTHY: Well, having not been in it for a while, you know, I -- it would seem that,
you know, that the ability to share is still valued and part of it is that perhaps people can
define their mission more carefully if they have, you know, the ability to depend on
somebody else for the margins, you know. It might be my margin, but it is somebody
else’s, you know, type of --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Well that’s something I want to come back to is because the archives
was brand new and you basically started it how or who defined what it was that you were
going to collect?

PAUL MC CARTHY: We defined it as a history of Alaska. You know, this was before
Anchorage.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: And --
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And there was no other historical repository -- ?
PAUL MC CARTHY: But there was --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: State.

PAUL MC CARTHY: A state and I had written a somewhat critical analysis of the state before
Dick got there. It was that the state library was within the Department of Education. The
whole state library’s budget was a miniscule part of the State Department of Education. I
mean less than I think it was like three percent or something like that. I mean it was --
because they were supporting schools all over the state, you know. I mean in Anchorage
and Fairbanks and whatever and that the ability of the State Library, especially the

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archives to execute it a strategy was limited. So that involved the state archives too and then Dick came in and he was before I think we were more in competition and I think Dick was the kind of person that you feel better about yourself when you work with him and you are more cooperative and he had a vision and he didn’t take umbrage and he and I got along I think really well and he had me testify -- it was at a point when the state legislature was open to reinstituting our state archival program and Paul Cole who was the director and I were kind of team tagged to essentially write the -- write or rewrite the legislation. So we sat down at supper and a couple of beers and worked all night. But Dick was very gracious and, you know, they wanted it in the Department of Administration, but he said, you know, it has to be a professional archivist, you know, and not a records manager, professional archivist. So that’s the way it was for many years.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Interesting. And then I noticed in the PLC they -- and what they had on their website the various colloquy’s that have gone on. There’s been a few of them in Alaska.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Uh-huh.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So I mean in ’76 were you involved --

PAUL MC CARTHY: Uh-huh.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: In planning any of those?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, yeah, ’76.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Uh-huh. There is one in ’76 and then I thought there was one in Anchorage.

PAUL MC CARTHY: There was one in Anchorage. We -- in fact, the one at -- let’s see, I am trying to remember if we had visitors -- Russian visitors to that.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: There we go. Anchorage was the 16th it was in 1996.

PAUL MC CARTHY: I remember -- I think I remember that probably because I was with WLN at the time.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.

PAUL MC CARTHY: And I think we were still working in the Russian Far East. We worked -- we had two or three of the Russian -- American Russian Center grants and we had one on -- I am trying to think of the -- we had a Soros grant. That was kind of a funny one. I applied for that at the penultimate moment in August and then in November I get this email saying you got the grant contract. I’m like what! What! It is like --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Money from heaven.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. It already was like -- I mean I was working at home ´cause I had retired and it was amazing. And we had another one, oh, I’m trying to think of. The organization is always known by its initials. Oh, God, private group, they were really interested in what they wanted us to do and they funded an archival symposium in Vladivostok for us. So that was really interesting. That was --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Any memorable actual keynote speakers or speakers that you remember that were --

PAUL MC CARTHY: Well we -- I brought three people with me. David Gracie from Texas, the one in Vladivostok. And assistant archivist down at Juneau. I am trying to remember -- John, I have to look it up. And we invited -- we could actually pay for between 13 and 15 people to come. So we invited -- we had the people that we were with invite them and tell them what we would cover and so our party, you know, was going to be like 16 people.
and 17 people and it turned out to be well over 25 'cause it attracted more people. Fortunately, one person couldn’t show up so I could afford to buy them lunch. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have eaten. You know, it was like really?

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: That’s successful.

PAUL MC CARTHY: It’s -- well, one of the sobering things in when we were working on one of the grants is that it happened when we were in the Russian Far East and with the people that visited us at the, you know, one of the -- I stayed with a family which helped me and really helped the family 'cause we paid them a per diem. And he worked for the Department of Agriculture, I think, and she worked in the science end. And he left for work. They both worked at the same place. He left for work like an hour sooner than she did and so I am going with her and I said why did he leave so early? Oh, she said he walks to work. You know, it’s like 15 below zero. And like, you know, Magadan can be brutal, absolutely brutal. And I said well, why does he walk to work? Well, she says he hasn’t been paid in five months so it doesn’t make any difference when he gets there.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Oh, my heavens, dedication.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, really, well, you know, what else would he do with his time? It’s like, you know, I mean I think we are indeed fortunate in the lives that we’ve been able to live and you just have to go some places like that and you think oh, my God, it is really different. It is real different.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Wow. Paul, anything else that you wanted to say about PLC or the future of polar librarians --?

PAUL MC CARTHY: No, I just -- I just, you know, the people who --

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: That’s wonderful.

PAUL MC CARTHY: People who started it were really interested. It was, you know, we were so excited to see one another and find out about what they were doing and, you know, like you said it was before -- before telephone -- ease of telephone communications and before any significant activity on line. I mean I don’t remember I think with the Society of American Archivists we started really using the internet about 1980.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Really, that early.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, we brought the first microcomputers to the library in the archives. We had a grant from the state legislature to arrange and describe the Mike Gravel papers. And I thought this is a perfect way to do it. We, you know, I was -- we had worked in a cooperative program with the Library of Congress in the late probably ’67 to ’69 and, you know, keyboarding and punch cards, indexes to collections and the guy who spirited it was Frank Burke of the Library of Congress and later I was at the National Archives and Frank became a good friend. And what we shared is he had spent two years in Alaska part time as a student but also as a radio operator at Barrow. So he used to have a place out here in Starvation Gulch and so he and I hit it off and we got involved. I think we were on five or six institutions way out of a scale, you know.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Yeah, way ahead of your time.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, it was -- it was good, it was good, so we had a couple people that were really interested in, of course, we had the library was an early adapter. I mean we had program in I think mid to late 70’s of, you know, dumb terminals and out of the WLN database, things like that, so.

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Right, right. Well, hopefully this year you’re going to attend the PLC here in Fairbanks.

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PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, I would love to. I would love to. I probably don’t know so many people, but the, you know, the founding mothers and the founding fathers were good folks. In fact, I had searched for Phil Cronenwelt and he left Dartmouth. He was a real major figure there and then he went to a private library archives in Boston and then he’s retired. He runs his own library services consulting. I thought about calling him up and just saying hi. A blast from the past. I have done that a couple of times to people and at first they are like, whoa, way, what are you -- who?

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: They are probably still surprised that your three year stint to Alaska is -- well, you’re still here.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Right, right. I think I am surprised, but it has been a great place. This has been -- I always felt that you had the oppor -- nobody told you you couldn’t do something here. If you had the idea, you could get the support, you could fund it.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: You could go with it.

PAUL MC CARTHY: You could go with it. You could go with it and so we did, you know. In fact, one of the more audacious grants we wrote is Ted wrote the body of it and I wrote the rationale was federal funding for the original building here. And there was a lot of money for graduate facilities. So we talked about how the collection was gradually, you know, that there was --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Used for research by graduate students?

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah. And there was, oh, some formula that was developed in the 60’s and apparently we were the first ones to apply it of how many undergraduate majors there would be, what our book stocks should be and how many graduate support.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Interesting.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah. Oh, some formula, but that was the rationale that we used and then we said okay, this is how it relates to the building and the archives as a graduate facility and some other, you know, the studies our graduate facilities. So we got, you know, a fair amount of money.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: That must have been really fulfilling too to see your collection grow over the years and how many researchers worldwide use the collection.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Well, I think that is one of the surprising things I think and it probably happens at the other archives too and other major research -- northern research libraries is you have people who kind of drop in, you know. Sometimes it amounts to well in advance and Jim Field -- I just remembered.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.

PAUL MC CARTHY: This is a note somebody -- Suzan -- I have to stop at her office.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Okay.

PAUL MC CARTHY: We had a chance to meet some of the people that were really writing Alaska’s history in anthropology and political science and science and we had a chance to host -- I am trying to think Jim Michener -- Jim Michener.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Oh, James Michener?


LESLIE MCCARTNEY: The author? Really? Tell me about that --

PAUL MC CARTHY: In fact, I went to his 90th birthday party and we were invited.

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Michener, really.

PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, he --

LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Was he doing his Alaska research here?
PAUL MC CARTHY: He was doing his Alaska research. He came -- he had an advance email from his wife. I am trying to think of what her name was. I wouldn’t remember that -- senior moment and John King who was kind of his research director or facilitator. And they came up and we talked with them. And then he came up and we gave him -- let him use an office in the archives and we set up probably 30 interviews with university faculty and he had read widely and he had I think a photographic memory. And he talked with people like geologists Dale Guthrie and zoology or paleontology and all kinds of folks, you know. History, but mostly the sciences and he had a -- so he spent two weeks here and we had him out to the house twice and we had a chance the kids were around the table, you know. We have four kids and James Michener he fell asleep on our couch, you know. We talked about editing, you know, and we asked him, you know, this was a loaded question so I already knew the answer -- how many times he would edit something and, you know, well he did it about eight times, you know. And most teens think and first edition is golden. It’s --

LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Right.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Right. Why would I do it when I am so good, you know, redo it. So he gave us some insights.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Very interesting.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, he was. And I was invited to his 90th birthday when I was at WLN and we went down there and glad we did ’cause he didn’t make it too much further than that.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Right. That is amazing that he used the archival material --
PAUL MC CARTHY: Oh, yeah.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: For the background of his book.
PAUL MC CARTHY: He really did. He had a great deal of respect deal for his research methods and how he did it and he kept records. They had an assistant who would keep records of each character so that you didn’t do something untold with the character on page 53 and have to resurrect him on page 422 or something like that, you know.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Good heavens. An operation to --
PAUL MC CARTHY: It really was. I mean look at his books and you say, ah.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: Exactly, they’re massive -- yeah, yeah.
PAUL MC CARTHY: I read a lot of Elizabeth George, a British-American detective writer, and you think this is so complex I have to keep notes to myself. How do you -- how do you -- how do you have the imagination to do this? And how did he, you know, like first there was a cloud, you know, and then the world was born.
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: That must have been thrilling to have him use your archives.
PAUL MC CARTHY: It was. It really was. It really was. He was here and there was one time we had like 30 inches of snow so I had a four-wheel drive vehicle. We were some of the few people moving around in that snowstorm, but he --
LESLEI MCCARTNEY: I wonder if that made it into the book.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, he also gave me some -- a lot of insights, but he was invited to go to this over the top family Christmas celebration where the family gathers, very extended big family gathers and the grandma is there and the riders where the kids come in on the horses over the hillside and down, you know. And I said, Jim, are you really going to go to that!? And he says oh, I wouldn’t miss it Paul. I wouldn’t miss it, you know. He was the
kind of person who wanted to experience these things and he didn’t discount the experience.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: And it probably found the way into a book somewhere.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Yeah, really.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: You know.
PAUL MC CARTHY: It is amazing.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Lived experience, yeah, yeah. It is fascinating.
PAUL MC CARTHY: It really is.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: So before we close, anything else that you want to --
PAUL MC CARTHY: No, I think I talked longer than I thought I would.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Well, thank you very much. It has been fascinating.
PAUL MC CARTHY: Good. Thank you.
LESLIE MCCARTNEY: Thank you.