

Digitizing a Cassette using the Kaipuleohone digitization suite

In general:

- cell phone off.
- Don't put tapes etc. near magnetic things (computers!).
- Recording should be at 96kHz, 24 bit

Starting the equipment

- Turn on computer (hard drive and monitor)
- Choose "Minimal Recording Mode" when given the option
- Turn on main power switch at top of recording tower
- Turn on power switch for whatever other section of recording tower is needed (ie cassette tapes)

Digitizing a cassette tape

- Open Sony Sound Forge
- Check for 96kHz/24 bit setting
- Be sure to have a proper name worked out for the digitized file (see the 'Naming files' section below)
- Insert tape (top deck), rewind entire side, fast forward entire side, rewind entire side
- Begin playing tape
- Click record (circle) button in Sound Forge - a window will appear showing sounds levels
- Play portion of tape, adjust "output" dial on tape deck until levels are not hitting the red zone at all
- When ready to record, rewind tape, click record (circle) button from the monitoring window, press play on tape deck after a few seconds
- When recording is done, click stop (square) button - Sony Sound Forge will open the waveform from the recording
- Delete any excessive silence at start and beginning, but leave a few seconds at each end (don't make any changes to the sound file beyond this)
- Select "save as" from file menu, name file and save as .wav in proper folder
- Fill out a paper slip with the date, your name and the id number of the file. Insert the slip into the cassette box.

Monitoring with headphones

- Plug headphones into the Orpheus part of the recording tower to monitor what's playing off the computer ("phones 1" plug; adjust volume with small dial)
- Plug headphones into whichever section you're recording off (ie cassette deck) to monitor sound as it records ("phones" plug; adjust volume with small dial, not output dial)

Naming files

- example: JB1-001-A.wav (this is the A side of tape 001 from the Joel Bradshaw collection)
- JB1-001-B.wav (B side of above tape)
- save to folder named for collection (ie. "JB1) under C: - Documents and Settings - Administrator - My Documents

Changing settings (shouldn't be necessary)

- Open Orpheus control panel from the desktop shortcut; settings can be adjusted here
- From within Sony Sound Forge, choose "preferences" from the option menu; click "audio" tab, choose "Orpheus" from drop-down list

Maintenance

- Heads on tape deck should be cleaned before each session with isopropyl alcohol and a cotton swab
- Cassette tapes should be stored on end, not flat

Entering metadata

- Metadata MUST be entered at the same time as the tape is digitized
- for now, use the spreadsheet - make a separate copy for each collection
- If a tape has a big section of silence in the middle, this should be noted in the item description
- If B side of a cassette is blank, this should be noted in the item description
- If only the first 10 minutes of a 60 minute side have been recorded, this should be noted in the item description