Pellerin Songbook Project

Organization: Vermont Folklife Center
Contact Person: Greg Sharrow
Mailing Address: 88 Main St., Middlebury, VT 05753
Phone: 802-388-4964
E-mail: gsharrow@vermontfolklifecenter.org
Website: http://www.vermontfolklifecenter.org/digital-archive/chansons/

Project Summary

Franco-American culture in the region focused on home life with lively gatherings hosted by families, which kept songbooks of the various folk music played at these soirees. Vermont Franco American sing/activist Martha Pellerin’s songbook collection consists of nine manuscript songbooks that include the lyrics of 229 French songs from oral tradition.

A 2008 Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Legacy Grant from the LCBP/CVNHP allowed the Vermont Folklife Center to catalog all of these songs, scan the contents of the nine songbooks, translate all song texts into English, pair song texts with existing recordings, build a database with multiple searchable fields, and create an online portal for public access to the collection.

The searchable database is online

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