

Williams Afghan Media Project (WAMP)

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The Williams Afghan Media Project (WAMP) seeks to preserve photographs, film, video, audio, and other media having to do with the history and society of Afghanistan. WAMP was originally founded in March 2001 as a collaborative undertaking with the Afghan Media Resource Center (AMRC) in Peshawar, Pakistan, to preserve and utilise for scholarly and educational purposes AMRC's archive of materials related to the conflict in Afghanistan. Since then, the WAMP archive has expanded to include other material, including approximately 2,000 slides taken by the American scholars Louis and Nancy Dupree, and the photographic collection of Khalilullah Enayet Seraj from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Currently, some 1,500 images from the AMRC archive are accessible, and by the end of the summer, it hopes to have a substantial number of additional images from the Dupree and Seraj collections available as well. In addition, WAMP is working to include a selection of video clips from the AMRC archive, and over the next several years, it intends to expand the website to include oral history through the inclusion of audio recordings with English translations. Besides providing a repository and viewing and listening space for historical materials, the WAMP website also hopes to become a virtual research centre by 'publishing' photographic and written essays and other creative responses to the materials provided on this website.