

Interviewee: Aaron Abeyta  
Location: Antonito, Colorado  
Time: 2:30pm  
Date: 02/11/2015

Interview protocol:

### **Questions for Parish Hall:**

Thanks for having us down, Aaron! It's certainly wonderful to have the opportunity to spend the afternoon with you. The basic idea of this interview is to have a casual conversation about the San Luis Valley and specifically about your life experiences here in the Antonito.

With that being said, let's go ahead and get started. Sound good?

To start off, can you please tell us your full name and your current occupation?

Can you tell us a little about your family history here in Antonito?

- Who were the first members of your family to come?
- Where did they come from? What did they do (occupation) when they showed up here?

We understand that Antonito is a very unique place. With that in mind, could you share with us some of the beliefs and traditions unique to your community?

Which of those traditions is most important for you to pass along to your daughter? Why?

How have these beliefs and traditions changed over the years?

As we sit here in this beautiful Church it occurs to me that religion has played a significant role in your community. Can you tell us a little bit about the history of the Catholic Church here in Antonito, especially as it relates to local culture?

### **Questions for the Rio Grande:**

If there is one thing that is particularly special about this area it seems to be the natural beauty of the landscapes and fauna. Related to that, can you tell us a little about the root of your passion for preserving the land, resources, culture, and people of this Valley?

Related to this, can you tell us a little bit more about your involvement in organizing the community to keep nuclear waste from being transported through the Valley?

- What was the issue?

- Why was it so important to you?
- What was the result of your efforts?

What is your favorite place in the Valley? Why?

What was it like growing up bilingual in Valley?

We understand you teach about Chicano literature and the Chicano movement, can you tell us about that?

What does the term Chicano mean to you? What do you think the meaning is for others today? How has that meaning changed?

From what we understand you left the Valley for some time. What was it like to leave and why did you ultimately come back?

To conclude our interview today we wanted to invite you to read a passage from one of your writings for us. Would you mind?