

RECORDING DEVICE BLUEPRINT



EQUIPMENT



Digital Recorder

This sturdy Tascam recorder is ideal as it can support an external microphone, and also enables a remote pedal to initiate the recording function. Click [here](#) to purchase.



Microphone

This Studio Projects B1 Microphone is solid and records great sound. This mic can get a clear recording of a person regardless of the ambient environment. With a medium length (10") mic cable that connects to the Tascam recorder, you are on your way to creating a community recording device. Click [here](#) to purchase.



Foot Pedal

This foot pedal made by Tascam is the heart of the Listening Post device. It's a big target that connects to the digital recorder and enables community members to record themselves. Click [here](#) to purchase.



Power Adaptor

This enables you to plug your digital recorder into the wall, and keep it running even when you aren't there. The digital recorder does have batteries, but electricity is the best way to make sure you can keep recording for an extended time. Click [here](#) to purchase.

THE POST

Design #1

The actual ‘Post’ that hosts the recording equipment is a very malleable concept. In New Orleans we started out with whimsical cardboard sculptures like a fish, lamppost, and a tree. Artist Jacques Duffourc made these one-of-a-kind Listening Posts. If you’d like to commission a Listening Post from Jacques, he can be reached at jacqueslovesyou@yahoo.com



Design #2

We also created a more straight forward design out of wood.

This is a very handy and transportable shell for the recording equipment. These Posts separate into two pieces, a front panel that fits into legs that enable it to stand on its own. The panel hides the digital equipment, and has room to display directions on how to use the post, and also community questions to prompt people to record thoughts and anecdotes.

Media developer and carpenter Jeff Severns Guntzel made this version of the Listening Post. He’s up for making more if you’re interested in this design. Jeff can be reached at jsguntzel@gmail.com.



This is how we did it. Keep in mind, every community responds to different approaches and designs.

The Listening Post project in Macon, Georgia uniquely combined digital recording equipment with an abandoned payphone. The result, a symbolic public recording device that they could drop into any neighborhood. Feel free to create your own version of a “Listening Post,” and let us know when you do so we can share a picture of it with our Listening Post Collective.

Safety

We know some of you have concerns about investing in recording equipment that might get stolen when placed in the public sphere. In our experience, when we partner with a community organization, business, or civic center, we can rest easy knowing they will keep an eye on our recording equipment. We have yet to have any equipment stolen or damaged. We often leave Listening Post recording devices at local libraries or community centers for months, and aside from having them get unplugged on occasion, nothing unusual has happened to them.

