1.5. Archives across northern borders: Experiences & examples from Sápmi

Grete Gunn Bergstrøm
Sámi Archives,
the National Archives of Norway
Anders Paulsen’s shaman drum

Archives are important for indigenous peoples.
Joik is another medium for preserving and transmitting information.

If the joiks are not easily accessible for the commoner that could understand them, then society loses its ability to interpret and use the information contained in the joiks.
On exhibition for the first time ever...

The oldest literature in North Sámi, by Lars J. Hætta and Anders Bær. (1867)
Documented by travelers, photographers, music documentarians, researchers.

Collections with Sámi peoples in many European and also North American institutions.

Postcard, Nils Bals
The Sámi have as individuals become subjects and citizens of each of the 4 respective states.

A lot of information concerning the Sámi as subjects and as ordinary citizens in various roles is found in the public archives in all these states.
Political developments worldwide are moving towards decolonization and repatriation of archival material.