The following index lists the major topics in the audio recording and the approximate point when they occur in the recording according to an analog cassette recorder’s tape counter. This tape counter index (TCI) has not been edited for accuracy by Archives and Special Collections.
Highland city is a real ghost town. There are few buildings but the scenery is excellent. The remains are only about 25 miles from Butte. The town once had about 300 buildings and 3000 people. This was during the 1868 season. This was more people than were in Butte at that time. Gold had been discovered as early as 1866 by the Coleman brothers. Estimates of the amount of gold removed from the area range from $3 million to $15 million. The town had 10 saloons and 5 dance halls. There is no indication that a church ever existed in Highland city, however.

A few buildings remain on what was once the main street. These are the brewery and the blacksmith shop. Many dances were held in Highland. They ran as long as two days and two nights. They were very rarely cancelled. One example of this is a dance held in 1867 during a blizzard. Two hundred men shovelled a six mile trail into Highland city. Another connected with Highland city is that of Johnny Kern who lived there for 57 years. In 1908 he found a gold nugget weighing 5 pounds.

Highland city is recommended because of what it once was, not what it is today. It is in a beautiful area of the state.

Pony is less exciting than Highland city because people still live there today and the touch of civilization is present. $15 million in gold was mined from around Pony. Pony has about 15 people living there today. The peak population was about 1000 in 1877. The town survived two stampedes. The town was considered important enough to have a spur line built into it by the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1900. In the winter of 1875 the Mallorys set up the towns first quartz mill. It was a five stamp water powered mill.

In 1876 Pony managed to receive a Post Office. When a stampede came to the district came in 1877 building commenced. By 1878 Pony had two hotels, 40 houses, a blacksmith shop and a saloon. However, miners left and the population dropped to 100. In 1900 Pony experienced another boom with the installation of an electric 100 stamp mill. The mill turned out to be a mistake and was sold to a wrecking company. As late as 1927 the Japanese leased the property near Pony but not much activity went on. As late as 1948 Pony had a population of 1000. Pony is still worth seeing today.
because of its ghost town flavor.

251-260 This concludes tape #4. The next tape will go east into central Montana to look at Castle, Neihart and Landusky.

[END OF TAPE]