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***TRANSMISSION AND TRANSIENCE: DURABILITY OF MEDIA IN  
THE ELECTRONIC AGE***

***Keywords:*** *Radio, recording, archives, communication theory, social marginalization, history of the media, “electronic ephemera”.*

***Abstract:*** *Radio was the first electronic mass medium, and as such it dominated much of the twentieth century. Radio can be seen as a form of electronic ephemera, conveying content but leaving no lasting primary source for future historians to access. This essay examines the relationship between broadcasting, recording and the larger question of the durability of the historic record.*