

Interview with David McClintock

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Marquette, Michigan

29 June 1995

START OF INTERVIEW

[TAPE 1 SIDE A]

Russ Magnaghi (RM): We're gonna start the interview Dave with kind of a general question in terms of your family, when did your family come to Marquette and how did your father, who was Wayne McClintock, how did he get associated with the university?

David McClintock (DM): My dad had been a coach and an industrial arts instructor at Benton Harbor High School, and he came to Marquette in 1912 when I was 6 months old, and about to be an instructor at Marquette High. Then in 1914 and '15 he was principal of Marquette High, then late in 1915, I believe it was, he came to Northern as the head of the Industrial Arts Department, which I guess was 2 people at that point, and to coach basketball and football at Northern. He coached for 2 years and then just taught from then until his retirement. I went to John D. Pierce, which at that point was the Normal training school beginning about 1916 and went on through to when it became John D. Pierce, graduated from John D. Pierce in '29. Well dad, although he gave up coaching, he didn't give up athletics. He refereed high school sports all over the Upper Peninsula for many years. In the 1917 or '18 he organized the first Upper Peninsula high school basketball tournament and he ran it for a number of years, always refereed the championship game. When they were drawing to see who would play, I remember one time being taken out to Kaye Hall and I did the, pulled the names out of the hat.

RM: Oh!

DM: [Laughter.] I couldn't have been 10 years old!

RM: Huh!

DM: We lived several places around town and 1920, about, we moved into this house on North Front.

RM: Now, could I just go back?

DM: Sure.

RM: You said that your father was originally from downstate. What was his hometown?

DM: It was Wayland, but he lived near there. He was born on a farm just south of Wayland. My mother was born on another farm near Wayland. But Dad was in athletics there in high school. But then he went to Western and came out of Western after two years, I guess they did the same thing as they do here, teachers certificate or something. At Western he was on the football team and the baseball team. Seemingly he was a good friend, Waldo, who had been Northern's first

superintendent or president whatever they called them. He had, Waldo had gone to Western. But dad always spoken affectionately and respectfully of Waldo and that's when the place was small enough that they were probably... The coach that dad played for in football, Spalding, shortly after dad left went to coach the University of Minnesota then UCLA and had UCLA's, one of the first great teams of football.

RM: Oh! So you were, I can ask some questions here if you want?

DM: Sure.

RM: So you went to, you went to Pierce school beginning in 1916. What were, do you remember what the environment was like, classes were like, at the Pierce school?

DM: Well, the classes were rather small I'd say well maybe 20 to 25 kids in the, a good share of them from North Marquette because we were close to North Marquette. Of course we weren't bused in those days, all of us walked to school. Came home for lunch.

RM: Oh!

DM: So we had one critic teacher in each of the classes. But student teachers had all the actual teaching.

RM: Now was there like one student teacher in the class, or would there be several? Would they rotate say during the week?

DM: Normally it would be one for the whole, in those days, quarter not semester. As I recall, and I think probably one reason for that was the school was small, there weren't too many even though putting out teachers was the main business of Northern. Of course in those days, at one point it was Northern Michigan College of Education.

RM: So you lived, you've lived in this house then most of your life? From 1920 to the present?

DM: Till I went into the Navy.

RM: Yeah. Then you moved back?

DM: I moved back when I retired from the Navy in 1965. I moved back. I graduated from John D. Pierce and went to Northern for a year, but I had already decided that I wanted to go to the Naval Academy. So I took courses pointed in that direction, that path. My second year I was trying to get an appointment but the second year, I had a hemorrhage in one eye in the fall and couldn't go to school. The eye doctor sent me to Rochester and they suspected TB and sent me, and suggested I go to Arizona for the winter. So my mother and I went out there and by the time we came back the eye was okay and I finally got an appointment with the Naval Academy and left in June of '31 for the Naval Academy.

RM: Let's just go back to your, that year or so you were at Northern. What was sort of the, you might say characteristic about the place? What do you remember of Northern at that time?

DM: Well it was very friendly campus. We practically knew everybody in the student body. So it's a small, classes were fairly small.

RM: Do you remember the presidents? Your father came when Kaye was president, and then he was here through a number of other ones. Do you remember the individuals, or your father talking about them?

DM: Oh yeah, I remember. I remember President Kaye particularly because he liked to go fishing and dad took him out to our camp at Buckrow [spelled phonetically] where we normally spent the summer. They often went finishing together, and sometimes I went along. Very friendly, very gracious person but as to how strict he was I wouldn't know. But by the time he left, when President Munson came, why he was known as very strict but also very friendly and we all liked him as students. All the staffs were very, very small. The president's office, very few. I can almost count them, not quite all the fingers on one hand there were so few.

RM: Could you name the people who were working, in like the president's office?

DM: There's Doris Bowron for one, B-O-W-R-O-N I think. There wasn't any such thing as a vice president in those days. I don't know of any head of department that had a secretary. But I guess the paper work load was small enough in those days so they could get away with it. Of course the stories go around about the Dean of Women Miss. Carey who, had better not get caught smoking on campus, you had to be across the street. She was right at the dances, make sure you didn't dance too close to your girlfriend. Of course no liquor was allowed, I can't remember right now the name of the guy, my dad carried him out of the Kaye Hall gym and deposited him on the front steps of Kaye Hall because he was slightly under the weather.

RM: [Laughter.]

DM: Now were you at that Don Bottum thing?

RM: Yes.

DM: I remember Raleigh Thorns said that he had been at a dance, told him he was dancing too close to his wife.

RM: Yes, yes. [Laughter.]

DM: They said that President Munson had a case on Miss. Carey, but you can't prove that.

RM: I've heard that.

DM: He was a bachelor and she was a bachelor girl.

RM: Yeah. I've heard that other people have mentioned that. Was he, was President, now someone was telling me yesterday that Kaye was known as 'Papa Kaye?' Did you ever run across that term?

DM: No, maybe the Northern students called him that. But I was still in the grades...

RM: Yeah, yeah that's true.

DM: So I can't vouch for that.

RM: Okay. But he was, from your recollection, like when he would go fishing would he, he was a pleasant individual?

DM: Oh yeah, very informal. Totally informal.

RM: And did he, what kind of fishing did you do? Just fly fishing?

DM: No, trolling for lake trout. Dad's camp was in Buckrow, 13 miles or 10 miles or so up towards Big Bay.

RM: So you were fishing out in Lake Superior?

DM: Yep.

RM: Yep, okay. And then Munson was a little more hardnosed?

DM: Who was?

RM: Munson.

DM: I think so, yep that was my impression. Probably the students, you get a different view on this.

RM: Now did you actually have, like when you were a student there, it was a small place. Did you have any interaction, did the students have interaction with the president or any of the officials or was it pretty much a?

DM: Not very much. But of course you always had interaction with the faculty even in John D. Pierce where even though you had student teachers, you knew that the critic teacher was the boss lady or man.

RM: Now did the, did some of the like, I see Earl Parker was on the Pierce school faculty and he also taught Latin in the college. Was there a lot, some of that cross, you know the crossover with college faculty teaching in the high school?

DM: Oh yeah, Earl Parker. In one of those pictures of that Latin class he's standing right in the back. He taught Latin and it seems to me there was a prof that taught physics or chemistry, I didn't take either of those. When we were in high school there we could take, in the summer, I took a couple of college courses you could do that. I remember taking a course from Pop Lewis [spelled phonetically].

RM: At that time, you said you'd take some math courses. Was Spooner there at that time when you were going to school?

DM: Yes, oh yes Spooner was there. He was one of the early faculty. But I don't think I took courses from him, I think I took a lot from Luther Gant. He came down here from Ishpeming and he was, he took over the coaching duties from dad. But he essentially was a math prof. Later he became the registrar, when he finally married he moved in right across the street here. His daughter lives there. She might be a good source too because, although she is almost 20 years

younger than I am, she went all through John D. Pierce and the college. Her name is Lauriann Coffey and married to the guy that was the mayor.

RM: I have an interview with her tomorrow.

DM: With Lauriann?

RM: Yeah.

DM: Oh.

RM: She's on the Centennial Committee with me and, so we're having lunch and I talked to her about it and she said, "yeah I'm free now I'm done with teaching. I'd like to do an interview."

DM: They just came back from Oklahoma City.

RM: Oh?

DM: Where her, their son and his wife had a, just produced a baby down there. They just drove, got in Monday night.

RM: Okay. Now do you remember on Northern's campus there, do you remember the Heart of Northern? A heart shaped mound in front of like Longyear Hall?

DM: Oh yeah, that was almost at that point we were living on Hematite Street which is now Kaye Avenue, yep right around the corner. Across Presque Isle was the heart, and they had sometimes they had band concerts on the heart. So I, you haven't come across pictures of that have you? Of the heart?

RM: I found, there are a few pictures. Then I found one at the historical society that shows kind of a side view of it, or a total view of it. The best we have, are some very poor aerial views of the site and you can make out the heart. There's a picture of a band on the heart, but you can't really make out the heart.

DM: Right across, east across Presque Isle was Coach Hedgecock's house, the next one was the president's house.

RM: Pierce?

DM: President Kaye. Then the next one was that big corner house which is still there, that was Lautner.

RM: Lautner, yeah.

DM: And we were right around the corner on Kaye Avenue.

RM: And that little house is still there? Is that the one that's behind the Lautner's house?

DM: Yeah, yeah.

RM: You lived there?

DM: I said, what did I say that street was?

RM: Hematite, originally it was Hematite.

DM: Hematite yeah.

RM: Now was the house, you said the house that Kaye lived, and then later on the Pierce family lived in there. Was that the president's house? Or just a coincidence that they both lived there?

DM: I don't, I'm not sure whether...I don't think the university owned it. But they might have, I don't know, good question.

RM: Now you said you remember the heart, do you, if you can recall, can you recall the size of it?

DM: Well I would say, I don't know how to estimate it in feet. I'm guessing 20 to 30 yards from the upper part of the heart to the point, which was pointed towards Presque Isle. Probably 2/3rds of that in width at the longest part of the width. I'm guessing 30 yards.

RM: 30 yards or feet?

DM: 30 yards.

RM: 30 yards.

DM: That may be too much, but I've, it's pretty close maybe 25 yards would be closer.

RM: 25 yards. So did it get, did it come up close to the street then?

DM: The tip which pointed east was, I would say it was quite close to Presque Isle. But the upper part of it, that is back if you want to call it that, was quite some distance from Longyear Hall.

RM: So it was, it was relatively close to Presque Isle and then it went west towards Longyear Hall?

DM: Yeah with the rounded part back, the rounded part of the heart back towards the west.

RM: Towards the west. Okay. So then that piece that remains out there of the heart, there's a piece of it there. That is not, are you familiar with that? With that piece?

DM: No I'm not, I'll go check it out though.

RM: Yeah, there's like a mound and I, I've tried to use that as possibly a base and it doesn't make any sense in terms of the size if that was and end there'd be some problems with it. So you might, I'd be kind of interested to see what you think of it because the heart was taken out, it seems about 1960...maybe 3 they put that parking lot in and the heart was removed. But some part of it remained and I don't know if it was, if that's even, I don't know if that's even a, it might even be a mound of earth that was just, they moved some earth and they put that, they piled it there.

DM: I may be able to tell.

RM: In terms of looking at it and then what you remember in terms of the street and, well that would be interesting to see your comments about that. We're trying to figure out the size of the heart and trying to get some history because so very little has been written about it. You don't know if, do you when they or anything about it, when they put it in?

DM: No I don't. All I, it just seems to me that is was there when my earliest memories.

RM: You said now they had band concerts. Do you remember them using it for any other purpose?

DM: No.

RM: And this would have been about what year? When you were in school?

DM: Well I'd say, either side a few years of 1920. But I can't remember regular band concerts, it just seems to me I had seen a band playing there.

RM: Yeah, okay. Now did the kids from Pierce School go over there and play on the heart? Did that ever happen?

DM: Sure, particularly, oh yeah the recess in the grades and you were coming out of Longyear Hall, not the new Pierce building which was part of it all. I'm pretty sure it was gym.

RM: Okay. What did, when you were younger and your dad was the head of the department and so on, did he ever talk about sort of life in the department? Problems that he had or anything that was going on? Things that you remember about the, about his sort of work over at Northern?

DM: He talked about problems, but he often talked about his students. He seemed to have a close rapport with them and he lent some of them money.

[TAPE 1 SIDE B]

DM: I remember he had one colored man, seemed like he name was James Rickman. There was never any sense of racial, I was brought up to, like he was just one of the guys.

RM: Was he, was this black man working at the college or just somebody that you knew?

DM: He was student.

RM: Oh a student at the college.

DM: Dad heard from him, I think as long as he was alive, as long as my dad was and my dad died in the '70s. Seems to me I saw that that Rickman, I hope I got that name right, has died since then.

RM: Now do you remember where there, what was it, the Manual Arts Department that your dad taught, that was the name of it at that time. Where did they have their classes in Kaye Hall?

DM: Initially they weren't in Kaye Hall, they were in Peter White Hall, the one to the north in the basement there. It was configured for that apparently; it had been built for that purpose because there was a shop area with machine tools in it, work benches. And then up on the second

floor was dad's main classroom, crafting room. Of course all three were connected through, all three of those buildings were connected through the basement and also first floor.

RM: Oh okay. That's right then your dad was there before, he started at Northern before Kaye Hall was built, because you said he came, or maybe soon after? He joined the faculty in '15?

DM: I would say, yes I would say summer of '15.

RM: '15? Okay well then it was right when Kaye Hall was being completed and dedicated.

DM: Yeah.

RM: How did your father feel when they named the building after him?

DM: Well of course he was proud. But he never talked much about it, but you could tell he was proud.

RM: So you went to, you went to Northern then for a year then you went on to the Naval Academy. Could you talk a little about your, kind of your naval career? When did you graduate from the Naval Academy?

DM: I graduated from the Academy in 1935. My wife at the time was the daughter of a staff member, as a matter of fact he was the admirals aid, we have an admiral as superintendent at the Naval Academy. I graduated, I went to the Battleship Arizona. I was on her for two years, then I was transferred to destroyers in the Asiatic Fleet that were based in North China in the summer and Philippine Islands in the winter. I was married while I was in Manila, 1938 while I was out there. My Naval Academy roommate of four years was out there, but he was in submarines and finally talked me into applying for submarine school. So I finally got that approved, but went to submarine school in 1940. But they cut that class which was normally 6 months, this was in the summer of '40 when the Germans were going through France. So they were recommissioning a lot of old submarines so they cut our class short to, from 6 months to 10 weeks. I went to an old submarine in San Diego, but in early '41 I was transferred to a fleet submarine at Pearl Harbor. I was still on her when the war started. But I was way behind most of my classmates in submarines because I was, I think most of them had gone in two years after graduation whereas I opted to go into destroyers. So my wife and I were living out there with our first born son when the Pearl Harbor attack came. But I'd been up here, I came up here. The submarine was back on the west coast getting a, the first air craft detecting radar installed. So I took about ten days leave, came to Marquette. Shot my first deer out by Big Bay, got back out there about, to the west coast, about Thanksgiving Day and shortly thereafter got a radio message. "Put yourselves back together and get back to Pearl Harbor in a hurry." We sailed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, we were due in at 8 o'clock on December 7<sup>th</sup>. You can't come up with a scenario like that if you tried. But we were, we ran into some heavy weather on the 5<sup>th</sup> so we were gonna be about 3 hours late. So we were still, still at about 3 hours run to go. I was on the deck on the top side with two lookouts up there with me. First we got a message "air raid on Pearl Harbor, this is no drill." We got that about 8:15 and about half an hour later, in the meantime we rigged the ship to dive. Half an hour later one of my lookouts spotted a plane coming in and I took a look through the binoculars and it had a red ball on side. So we submerged and then pretty soon we came back. First the skipper



took a look around and didn't see the plane for some reason. So we popped to the surface and the skipper, and the two lookouts and I went to the bridge and almost right away the lookout said "here he comes." He came over and strapped us, but never touched us.

RM: Oh my.

DM: Then we were just about to dive again when he seemed to steady on a north, to the north back towards the jet fleet. They wouldn't let us in to Pearl Harbor, for two days we stayed submerged down there where we were. When we came in on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> my little ship, the Battleship Arizona what was left of it above the water, was still burning. There were, people from the navy yard were working on the hull of the Battleship Oklahoma which had turned turtle trying to, they could hear men knocking down below and they rescued quite a few. We passed a water launch full of dead bodies that they had been fishing out of the water. When we finally tied up at the jet base, where my I gave my wife a call, as far as she knew I was dead.

RM: Oh.

DM: She has been expecting us to come in on the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup>. When we didn't, she didn't know and of course there was, the attack was underway you couldn't get any information.

RM: Yeah. Yeah.

DM: They wouldn't have told her anyways. Well I couldn't go home. She came out a couple times, drove out to the submarine base with our son. During the attack she had stuck him under the table in the little apartment we lived in, figured we couldn't get out but may keep him safe from the bombs. But then we immediately started loading and about three days later we sailed for Japan.

RM: Now, just to interrupt you. What, if you had been in the, on another course. What if you had encountered some of those ships? The Japanese ships? You couldn't have done anything; given the knowledge you knew.

DM: No because we weren't at war.

RM: Yeah.

DM: No, they've often \_\_\_\_\_. Of course they came, did a great circle course and came in straight from the north at Pearl Harbor. I think they launched out there from 250 miles or so. Well, I don't know.

RM: So okay, but then you were, after that then you were in the war then on the submarine.

DM: We were the first, although actually about 3 of them, 3 submarines got to Japan. We got there, oh shortly after Christmas of '41. This was New Years of '42, we got caught on the surface one night when we were charging batteries by two destroyers, they forced us down and gave us our first depth charging. But very little damage. We carried a boat at that time, a motor launch. Semi the depth charges blew that loose. We don't whether it floated to the surface and they figured we were dead or what but. So that was the last time submarines ever carried boats to sea. A little bit later we sank our, January 18<sup>th</sup>, we sank our first ship. A freighter, got back to

Pearl Harbor and I remember one of the guys that met us, he said to me “we didn’t expect you to come back.” Such was their awe of the Japanese because of what they had accomplished at Pearl Harbor. Well I don’t know how much that...

RM: Yeah, no this is good this is interesting. Then did you, then you just went out and through the war you were doing patrol? Pretty much patrol work?

DM: Yeah, and did four patrols on the plunger including that first one. Then by the end of that I had, most people had been transferred and by the end of that fourth patrol I was the Executive Officer of the plunger, the number two guy. So usually four or five patrols was enough so they sent my skipper and I back to the States and we got a new submarine. Recommissioned a new submarine and took her back to the Pacific. I made three patrols on her out of, a couple out of Australia. Then I went over Noumea where the Halsey staff was, I was on the staff there for a very short time and I was ordered back to Australia to take command of the *Darter*, of which I had two patrols in command of her.

RM: What was the name of the submarine that you picked up, that was commissioned at New London and you then...

DM: That was the *Cero*.

RM: Oh, *Cero*.

DM: Yeah, and the that’s...

RM: The *Darter*?

DM: Yeah.

RM: Yeah.

DM: That’s the only thing I’ve rescue when we ran aground.

RM: Oh. Huh.

DM: I stuck that in my pocket. My wife always said I’d been more popular if I’d rescued her picture instead of that ashtray. Just kidding of course.

RM: And then, what battle were you in? Where you saw action?

DM: Well we sank one ship on the first patrol I had her. As a matter of fact, I put my flag up today because it was 51 years ago today.

RM: Oh, okay!

DM: We sank a large \_\_\_\_\_, a lot of airplanes that day.

RM: So this was what, the first ship you?

DM: Sank as skipper.

RM: As skipper? Oh! Well congratulations!

DM: Then we came back into Australia for refit and came into Brisbane on the east coast of Australia. Then finally sailed on the last patrol. Do you want me to?

RM: Yeah! No, no continue! This is interesting.

DM: Then we, on the last patrol we moved that we were going to be headed up into possible Seoul waters and part of the patrol, we were, we teamed up with another submarine. The first part of the patrol we didn't see anything, we were more or less on a picket line of our forces were laying in at Guam and Saipan, to detect any major Japanese force coming. Well then we went back and refueled at one of the islands north coast of New Guinea where there was a submarine contender. Then we headed out for the main part of our patrol which was to be west of Palawan Island in the Pacific, in the Philippines. We were to patrol an area called Palawan Passage which ran parallel to the coast of Palawan Island and we didn't have specific information as to why we were there. But we had been put there to detect the approach of the main body of the Jap fleet which was known to be in the Singapore area. Most of the big Jap ships were down there by Lake 44 because that's where the fuel was, the oil was. But the other submarine, the *Dace*, was patrolling with us, being a little bit senior to the skipper at of the *Dace* who's my grand little at the Naval Academy, classmate, I was in charge. We saw three ships one night, combat ships we thought they were cruisers, that we couldn't catch them. They went up through the what's known as the "Dangerous Ground" an area full of patrol water. The Japs had pretty good charts apparently because they went right through that area, we knew they were going through there. We didn't have good charts, we had, there were no good American charts of it, we had a British confidential chart which was pretty good. Finally, on the night of the, well around the 20<sup>th</sup> of October we got by broadcast radio the fact that MacArthur's troops were landing on the eastern coast of the Philippines at Leyte Gulf. So then we realized why we were there, to detect the fleets coming north. We didn't have long to wait and at midnight on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, actually early morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> our radar operator picked up many ships that, to the south of us, coming at a good speed. At that time, we were right close to the *Dace*, and our two skippers. We were talking to each other with a megaphone. We did that so we wouldn't use radio and give away our position. Almost immediately he made radar contacts so we headed north, they were heading north. They were all south of us. We weren't quite in a position to attack and we trailed them from ahead until we finally got into a good position, we determined that they were in two columns of ships, I stationed the *Dace* about five miles ahead of the right hand column, and we were head of the left hand column. We did that so that we made the first attack, we hoped, I hoped, that the formation, figured the formation would be all screwed up after we shot at them. But they were settled down by the time they got five miles up the line. Here we are, all my trailing them, at least from ahead, we sent word to the Navy fleet at Leyte Gulf to add to Halsey's forces. But we had, our report was the first indication they had that the fleet was on its way towards them. So at, we didn't want to attack during the night because we wanted the daylight so we could see what was there. So just before daylight both the *Darter* and the *Dace* reversed course and headed toward them, and waited. We were submerged going at 3 knots, they making 16 coming at us. So as luck would have it the first major ship in our column turned out to be the fleet flagship, which we put down with four torpedoes and swung the ship around and fired our 4 stern torpedoes at the second ship on column. We stopped him but he didn't sink. But the force went on, minus the ship of course

the flagship and the ship we had damaged, and they left two destroyers to guard the ship we had stopped. About 20 minutes later the formation reached the *Dace* which had made some \_\_\_\_\_. We sank, sometimes plans don't work, but this one did. We sank a heavy cruiser, the first ship that came in. He thought it was a battleship, but it wasn't. Then we tried, when the attacks went on, we tried to get at this stopped ship. In the meantime, it was guarded by two destroyers we tried to get at them but when we'd get close enough the destroyers seemed to detect us and they sent aircraft out of Palawan Island. We decided to try it that night and that night I told the *Dace*, by that time this cruiser, damaged cruiser, had gotten underway and was headed back for Borneo to refuel and then would have gone back to Singapore for repairs. But we were trying to get out.

[TAPE 2 SIDE A]

DM: We were just about to, we had about ten minutes to go before we turned in from the, for the attack. Then we grounded with a preventative crash on what's known as "Bombay Shore." We tried everything to knock it off, we pumped water through it, threw food and everything over the side. Tried backing and even sallying ship, running the crew from side to side. Nothing worked. Then we finally radioed the *Dace* that we run aground, but we very carefully did not tell them to come get us because, well he had a job to do, sink that damaged cruiser. But he on his own broke off the attack, came got there about 2:30 in the morning I guess. By that time, he tried to tow us out that didn't work. We had burned our codes and we kept enough ammunition on board that we thought probably we were gonna have to shoot it out with one of those Jap destroyers. But we had a rubber life raft, and the *Dace* said "We'll transfer the whole crew in those rubber life rafts," and got over to *Dace* and we were gonna go back aboard. Well first the *Dace* tried to, we had set the motion chart, it didn't seem to do much damage. We were on the surface on the *Dace* watching it. So the *Dace* fired, hit the *Darter* with about 20 rounds of her four-inch gun. About that time a Jap bomber appeared and I think he was confused as to what was going on. He dropped closer to my submarine on the reef that we had abandoned and the *Dace* skipper and I and the *Dace* gun crew were on deck at the time getting down so she could dive and get out of the way. The Jap dropped his bombs close to the *Darter*. So the *Dace* remained submerge, we were gonna go back aboard that night and take the *Dace*'s demolition outfit aboard which consisted of three 50 pound blocks of TNT. But, the Jap destroyer arrived in the morning, and we could see them, they boarded the *Darter* looking for any intelligence they could get. About, they disappeared by nightfall so we decided we'd still make an attempt go back aboard with the *Dace*'s demolition outfit but we detected what sounded like submarine echo ranging right close to us so we decided to give up. Headed south for Australia. That's a long story but we made it.

RM: Yeah.

DM: 10, 12-day trip to Australia. 160 guys in a submarine built for 80. When we got down there my crew came back to the States, we split up. I had requested for a new submarine with the *Darter*'s old crew, and they turned me down in Washington where I had to go anyway. But I had a, I was over at the main office with the Chief of Operations briefing a couple of other admirals. Admiral King who was the Commander in Chief of the fleet walked in, I got introduced. Some lady knew about it, he said "Congratulations on your job out there in in Pacific." Then he said "Did you get your new submarine with the *Darter*'s crew?" I said "No sir." He turned to his aid

and he said “take care of that.” That was the end of it. Got a new submarine building, chose one building down there in Manitowoc because it was close to Marquette.

RM: Oh, uh huh.

DM: Got my whole crew back. We had our training summer, most of our training and practice dives in Lake Michigan and then went on down to Mississippi. You couldn't go out the St. Lawrence Seaway then because there wasn't any. Then we left New Orleans and went on through the Panama Canal, did some more training right there. We were just ready to leave for Pearl Harbor when they dropped the A-bomb and the war was over.

RM: Now, let me just backtrack. What was the name of the battleship that you sunk?

DM: Cruiser.

RM: It was a cruiser? Heavy cruiser?

DM: Yeah, Atago. A-T-A-G-O.

RM: Now when that happened, did your submarine come under attack when you?

DM: Yes, but it was, there were so many ships around with this fleet right behind coming through and that they were totally confused. They dropped a bunch of depth chargers but they weren't anywhere near us. So that didn't last long, of course they left us there with the damaged ship plus the two destroyers to guard it. The *Dace*, the *Dace* after she sank her ship, she got pretty heavily depth charged but we didn't.

RM: Now was that, how common was getting depth charged that way? I mean did that happen often?

DM: Oh yeah.

RM: It did?

DM: Particularly, well convoys were guarded by destroyers so we were pretty sure there'd be depth charges if they detected you. Or if you shot at anything in the convoy.

RM: So did they know your, they knew then the, you had to be in certain range of a ship. So they knew right off that you were at least at that range.

DM: Yep.

RM: And then they had...

DM: But they didn't know which direction.

RM: Yeah. Okay. Now how much tonnage did you finally, would you say you sunk? You know in terms of your, either as the you were what the executive officer on the submarine? Then?

DM: Oh god I don't know. I never figured that out. You mean on other submarines?

RM: Your, just yeah. What you might have been involved in, or just on your own.

DM: Well, I just can't come up with a figure really. Cruisers that we sank were about 15,000 tons but, 750 feet long.

RM: Now was it that, the other night we were watching a program on what actually sank the *Lusitania*, whether it was, I don't know if you saw that on National Geographic it was rather fascinating. Was it difficult, when you see these movies and you see the submarine come out there and it fires the torpedo and so on, was it difficult to actually hit a ship? Or depending on how it was, I mean where you were at where it was at, it was relatively, you were relatively sure of hitting the ship?

DM: Not necessarily. Of course if you were, if it was daylight then you had to make an underwater approach and normally you can, normal speed submerged was 3 knots. You could run higher speed for a short time but it, if you ran full speed in 60 minutes the battery would be dead and you would have to surface.

RM: So then?

DM: So then you would, let's say your over here and the target is making high speed no way you're gonna get close enough to shoot. You had to be similar, forward of him so you could intercept the course. You had to estimate the speed pretty closely because we had what we called a "data computer" which was kind of crude at the beginning of the war. You had to fire at the right time so that they would intercept. Normally if the target was important you'd fire 5 or 6 torpedoes so it would overlap. So at least a good share of them were hit.

RM: So it wasn't that it's not a simple as they sometimes portray it in movies, that you just get out there and you line up and you fire, there was a lot of jockeying.

DM: And our, at night in the first couple years of the war we didn't have any surface radar to detect ships. We just had air craft detection. So at night we were pretty blind, you could pick up the ship visually and hope he wouldn't see you because you had such a low silhouette. Then you would get him and estimate his speed. You might be able to decide his speed by running parallel to him out of sight and then hitting him and firing. But that was not very successful. But then when they got radar, then you could actually plot and come up pretty close to the exact speed.

RM: What was the average range that you had to, the closest range in which you could be to fire a torpedo and sink a ship?

DM: Well it was, you'd like to be within one to two thousand yards because the torpedo didn't arm, that is go off there was a little propeller in there that activated the firepower, firing mechanism. So it wouldn't go off until it had gone that far. A thousand, about a thousand yards was point blank range. We'd fired at that cruiser, fired about just under a thousand yards so no way we were gonna miss it because we were so close.

RM: Now when you fired the torpedo, you then as it went out, it then armed?

DM: Armed at about 700 yards, it has to run 700 yards.

RM: Okay, and then it's going to, it's going to explode then at 1000 yards?

DM: No, no. It doesn't explode until it hits.

RM: Makes contact? Oh okay, okay. I thought that but I don't...

DM: First, until early 1944, almost 3 years, the torpedoes worked fine but the warheads didn't. They had a firing pin in the warhead, but for some reason if you actually hit a ship it, the firing pin would crush before it got home so you'd have a dud that wouldn't go off.

RM; Oh my god.

DM: I saw that time after time particularly on the early submarines. One time when I was on the plunger, one of those patrols they didn't have enough of these newfangled torpedoes so they gave us some World War 1 torpedoes, they went off every time they hit with a bang.

RM: Oh!

DM: The skippers would come back to Pearl Harbor sometimes and say this happened. The powers that be had a tendency to say "well he's just making excuses." They even put a new skipper on board, that was just tragic. And the reason was a torpedo cost \$10,000 back in those days and to fire them with, the whole torpedo, with a live warhead there was \$10,000 out the window and they never did that. They would test the dummy warheads with dummy exploders that maybe had a little cap or something so they thought it went off, before the war.

RM: Oh my word. So it was pretty much then hit and miss whether this was going to work and most of the time?

DM: Sometimes it would work and you never knew why. When they finally got to the bottom of it and discovered that this darn pin would crush, if you hit a target at an angle it wouldn't be quite so much of a bounce, and it would work!

RM: But you didn't.

DM: Nobody knew why for the first, over two years of the war. Just tragic. I know that we lost submarines that way. Getting right in on a destroyer and shoot the torpedo, they thought they had them dead to rest. Nothing happened.

RM: Then you would probably take, you would probably be taking a chance in your actions thinking you were gonna take the destroyer out. Oh my word. Say could I just stop now?

[AUDIO CUTS ABRUPTLY]

DM: On Market Street, and that was before they decided. We came back with the fleet for what they call "play aways" for a little recreation, in early November I guess it was. It was while we were that they ordered us over to Mare Island to get this, the first air craft detecting radar. And the reason it was such a hurry was because they sent some of the fleet submarines that were at Pearl Harbor to Manila and they had been earmarked to get this radar, not us. But here we were, tied up in San Francisco, so they said "get over to Mare Island and get this radar installed." My skipper had a, both he and I had served in them. He had served in submarines out in China and I had served in the destroyers, we'd seen the operations of the Japanese. One day he said to me

“You go over to a bookstore and get us the best world atlas you can find!” He said “We’re gonna be at war. We’ll wanna have that. Heaven knows where we’ll go.” 30 days, maybe 30 days before Pearl Harbor, I’ll never forget that.

RM: So it was pretty, when all of this was happening you know you read about it in the history books and papers, but for a person in the Navy you sort of saw this coming?

DM: Well, some of us did. Like my skipper and I, we had both served out in China and we could see what, how the Japanese were acting or tied up in China. My wife was, had been in a, well we didn’t get married till ’38. But in ’37 when the Japanese started it by coming down through, what do they call it, the Bridge Incidents somewhere near Peking when they made their first attack.

RM: Well yeah.

DM: On China. But the Chinese had some armed forces and my wife temporarily was living in Shanghai because she had gone out there with her father and mother. She went to a movie one day, it was in July, late July of ’37. She came out of the movie and walked out of the square and just in time the Chinese, a Chinese bomber came over and was trying to hit a Japanese ship that was anchored in the Huangpu River right on the dock. But the bombs missed and landed right in that square that she had just walked out of. It was very shortly after that that she and her folks were ordered to Manila.

RM: Now was there some kind of a, there wasn’t, we didn’t have a naval base or something at Shanghai?

DM: No.

RM: Was it Shanghai or Singapore? No, Shanghai.

DM: No, we didn’t have a base there but in summer our destroyers trained out of Zhifu which is up on the Shandong Peninsula. I had to be careful what I say because they’ve changed all the names out there so it’s hard to remember. Then Qingdao is where the submarines were based in the summer. We all, in the winter, went to the Philippines and trained throughout the Philippines. The destroyer that I was on was quite, we were always standing by to rescue missionaries or Standard Oil people should that occur, which it never did while I was on the destroyer out there.

RM: Was that sort of reason why they kept an American presence in that area because of the unrest in China? Even before the Japanese?

DM: I really can’t answer that, of course we were friends with China. Actually friends with the Japanese. But then December the 12<sup>th</sup> of ’37 the Japs side got one of our gunboats on the Yangtze River.

RM: Is that the *Panay*?

DM: *Panay*. By that time my destroyer was in the Philippines and the same weekend a big president, president lines... liner went aground on the south end of Formosa, now Taiwan. So we were ordered to go up there and stand by in case they needed assistance. Well I was, my destroyer was in Olongapo which is about 100 miles north of Manila and I had come down,



taken the train down to Manila to visit my girlfriend, and later wife. So I missed the ship, but they went up there with another destroyer and stood by and they never could get that big liner off. But happening about the same weekend there was concern that, "is this Japanese attack the *Panay*, is that an accident or what is it? What's gonna happen?" So they had, they sent these two destroyers up there. Actually they didn't have any trouble. The only thing that they had trouble with was that the crew of the liner, let's see, *President Hoover* I think it was the name of the liner. The only problem they had was the crew didn't figure they were in any danger. They broke into the liquor lockers and some of the, they had to send a landing over from one of these destroyers to keep order over there until a proper ship came along to evacuate the passengers. It was just, it was just a crew.

RM: Oh, I see. Now when the, you were talking about the end of the war and the dropping of the atomic bomb. How did yourself and the other men and so on feel about that when it occurred, you know having gone through all that war and all of that.

DM: Well we were happy that, I'll tell ya, the *Manhattan* that was my new submarine with the *Darter's* crew, just finished that day firing our last practice torpedo at a target. My executive officer came to the bridge and he says "Captain, the war's over" and I said "what are you talking about 'the war's over'?" He said, "We just dropped an atomic bomb on Japan." I said "what the hell is an atomic bomb?" Because you know it was a very closely guarded secret. He said "well if you've got 5 minutes I'll explain to you how it should work." He had, he didn't come in through the Naval Academy, he came through the ROTC. He had taken a course in, before the war, in nuclear physics at I forget whether it was UCLA or the University of California Berkeley.

RM: Berkeley probably.

DM: So he understood how it might work, and of course we were apprehensive, happy it looked like the war was over. Beyond that we didn't really know what to make of it.

RM: And even with him explaining what an atomic bomb might be, you still really had no idea.

DM: No, we didn't have any idea of its destructiveness. There was, this spring down at the...

[TAPE 2 SIDE B]

DM: At the International Seapower Symposium this spring down in Fredericksburg, Texas had a symposium and that was the main subject. Including should they have done it or should they have not. Some of the things that came out, for example, they had Japanese documents that said that if that happened, or if there was an invasion, what they would do immediately is execute all American prisoners of war including all civilians interned. That was one of the things. Then of course the they had the official estimates of how many troops we would lose in a landing. Of course the Japanese would lose even more because they would fight for to the death, as they did often in Thailand battles. After you read some of this stuff that we had access to back then, that President Truman had access to, you can't help but to agree with his decision.

RM: It sort of, just to make a comment. It's interesting you mention that about your executive officer because in May I was interviewing Glen Seaborg, who was one of the people that were in nuclear chemistry.

DM: You were interviewing who?

RM: Glen Seaborg.

DM: Oh Glen!

RM: Yeah, out at Berkeley. And he was teaching, he probably taught this fellow because he was one of the few people involved with and teaching at Berkeley, and Berkeley was the only place that was into nuclear chemistry, chemistry or physics. So that's interesting that tie in you make here now.

DM: I bought a Jeep and got it serviced down at the Jeep garage here and the guy in charge of the service desk is Eric Seaborg who's, his father John Seaborg is an architect in Menominee and he used to do a lot when I was working at Northern, he used to do several small architectural jobs for us. But I talked to Glen Seaborg, he was back here a year or two ago because apparently he had spoken to the class of 1960 and '60 was having a, I guess it was '60 I don't think that could have been 1990 because it doesn't seem that long ago but maybe it was. It sounds logical though with 1960. But anyway, and I talked to him then because I had known him but that's a different story. I served on the National Security Council staff under President Kennedy for a year, and the group that I was a member of which was called "Net Evaluation Committee of the National Security Council." And the Net, when I went to that committee I thought it meant submarine nets, instead we went to study the net effect of a nuclear exchange with the Soviet Union, and it was top secret of course. But really our committee was, we were the working staff, but the committee itself consisted of Glen Seaborg, who at that time was head of the Atomic Energy Commission, J. Edgar Hoover with the FBI, Alan I think it was Alan Dulles head of CIA. But we were working for some pretty big people there and I remember the morning we made our presentation on how this, we'd studied this for many months, we had a report delivered at the White House. Jack Kennedy was there and almost all the staff members. Of course Glen Seaborg was there, Hoover, director of the CIA. But they had us in this cabinet sized room with a fireplace at the White House, they had us in there early with our slides and my boss was at that time a retired Lieutenant General in the army and they always had a retired guy because they did not want this group to be holding to the active armed forces. They wanted to be holding to the president. That morning we got in there early and Vice-President Johnson came in and he was going around plaid naming everybody. Bobby Kennedy came in, the only guy that didn't show up was Robert McNamara who had no respect for the armed forces at all. So that was.

RM: Do you remember what day that took place?

DM: Huh?

RM: Do you remember what day that took place? That meeting? I just ask because when I interviewed Dr. Seaborg he indicated, and then showed me, that he's kept a journal. And if

you're interested and we should have it for that day for that time over at the Seaborg Center, we have a copy of it that you could go back and read his comments.

DM: Well at that time we weren't allowed, we had to destroy our report afterwards and we couldn't even tell our wives what we were doing because it was so secret. The two countries murdered each other in this so called permanent nuclear exchange which we developed an attack then on both sides and then it was put on the big computer. And it was kind of awesome there because standing in that room, with the podium there right opposite the president, and I'm not much of a public speaker anyway, talking to the president about ten feet away. You feel like, he is very much in charge of that meeting. He was the only one who asked questions, and they were very good questions.

RM: Now had he done his homework on it, or were these just insightful questions of his personality?

DM: Insightful. Of course the study that we were doing was at the request of the White House I remember. Secretary of Defense McNamara came down to our office one time and asked my boss, this Army Lieutenant General that he wanted us to do such and such a study for him. The general said "Mr. McNamara, I'd be happy to just get me a memo from the President of the United States for whom we are working." That was the last that we heard of that.

RM: Now when the war ended then, you continued with submarines?

DM: Well, this new submarine, we got to Pearl Harbor and we had Admiral Nimitz at the beginning of the war had taken command on a submarine, so he wanted to be relieved on board a submarine so he chose my submarine that my men had. And they kept us there at Pearl Harbor for several months early in '46 they ordered us back to Maryland Navy Yard to put it out of commission, it was out of commission there for several years then recommissioned. Then I was ordered to the duty in the operations section of the Navy Department. I was there for 3 years then I went to command the division of submarines. Then I went to, the way it works you work normally 3 years ashore and 2 years at sea. Of course I'd been at sea 9, 10, almost 11 years straight. The Naval Academy on through the war, but then when you got to be little bit senior there then you were 2 years at sea and 3 years ashore. So I had command of a submarine division 2 years then had a short tour in the Naval War College then went to command a large submarine contender. From there I came back to New London, had command of a submarine squadron that had about 12 submarines in it. Then went from there to the head of the ROTC unit at the University of Utah for 3 years. That was very interesting. From there I was ordered back to, I had after, I'm getting mixed up. Anyway 1961-'63 I had command of all of our west coast submarines. That was my last sea command. I went from there back to the National War College in Washington where I was Director of the Department of National Strategy. That was my final tour in the Navy, then I came up here.

RM: Then after you retired from the navy then you came back Marquette, then what did you do when you were back in Marquette?

DM: Well I had been back, I guess I came back when they dedicated dad's building and talked with Dr. Harden. So at least he knew me, and his vice-president at that time, I can't even tell you his name now, had been in submarines. But by the time I had moved back he was gone. I went to work at first as an assistant to Van Tassel who was financial vice-president. But after a few months I was talking to Dr. Harden and I told him I didn't think anybody would really, anybody locally had a hand on what was going on with new construction. They were letting it be done by the architects, the state's architects in Lansing. So he called me in one day and he said "what would you envision? What would it take?" So I said "well, I'll think about it." He said "send me a memo." So I sent him a memo saying that a person in charge, an architect, and a secretary. The next day he called me up and said "you're it." And I said "Dr. Harden, I don't know a damn thing about building buildings." He said "you'll have your architect," he said "you've had many responsible jobs, you're it." So, and that was after I had been there less than a year. So I have, that's what I did for the, that was called then the Coordinator of Capital Outlaying and Campus Planning. Very shortly we were able to hire the architect and we would work with the faculty and sometimes with the state's architect if it looked like we were going to get the funds. They would authorize the funds for our preliminary study. We would work with the faculty first to see what they wanted, facilities and space wise. Then the main architect, the one from Lansing went to Lansing real quick to come up with a very rough plan, not a detailed architectural plan. Then with that we would go to Lansing. Well for instance when we were doing the Phy-Ed building, boy I'd go down there with Rico Zenti, myself, my assistant, the architect, and we would have the Lansing architect there and usually make a presentation before the, what was then called the Joint \_\_\_\_\_ Committee of the Legislature. It was a committee headed by a senior senator but had members of the house and the senate. They would question you very closely and approve or not approve the concept. Then you would get some preliminary planning money and you would probably have to go back again with the final plans.

RM: So then you were involved with which buildings? In term of the construction of which buildings on campus?

DM: The Learning Resources Center, Jamrich Hall, the administration building Cohodas, Phy-Ed building, and several of the dorms. So really those were the, the reason for so many of those buildings at that time was the... When I got there, enrollment was I don't know it seems like it was between 4500 and 5000. Then it just snowballed in that period so you had to have dorms and you had to have classrooms. That was really a fun job, it was totally new to me but with this young architect, his name was Paul Mari [spelled phonetically], he's now on his own \_\_\_\_\_ he's retired. We molded him to the point where he thought he might as well retire, it was too bad because well, take that Dome. It has no absolutely no input on acoustics, I don't know if you've ever been in there for a football game. You can't hear anything, of course I'm hard of hearing anyway. Things like that. By that time, I had Paul out of it and didn't replace him with anybody. Northern now, as far as I know, doesn't have an architect. And that's sad.

RM: Now, you were involved with Jamrich Hall? Not Jamrich Hall, with Cohodas?

DM: Cohodas.

RM: Cohodas yeah. What was sort of the story with that? Did the, you know they had Kaye Hall and then Kaye Hall had to come down because it was unsound? Or it was in bad shape?

DM: Well, just before I got back out of the navy, that Joint \_\_\_\_ Committee of the Legislature that I referred to the key people of that came up and had a meeting with Dr. Harden and others from Northern as well. Of course Northern had been, had kept on requesting funds to renovate Kaye Hall, Longyear Hall, and Peter White. That was gonna be tremendously expensive and the things that people would have liked to have saved out of Longyear Hall, that open foyer, that staircase.

RM: Kaye Hall?

DM: Did I say?

RM: Longyear Hall.

DM: Kaye Hall.

RM: Kaye Hall.

DM: It was entirely open as soon as you went in, the front door was entirely open right up through the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. 2 of the exits from the beautiful auditorium that were there were right down into that area, there were really no exits at all. The legislature said in effect "we're not gonna, that's money down the drain, we're not going to do that route. To renovate those buildings, in place of that the things you have been requesting would be made available in the four new ones," that I have mentioned. That's the way it happened.

RM: So then there really wasn't a lot of discussion at this end of it, or any choice at this end, to really even save Kaye Hall or not?

DM: They said in effect that they're not going to.

RM: And so then in place of that complex they gave Northern, Learning Resources?

DM: Well first Learning Resource and the administration building and

RM: Jamrich?

DM: Jamrich, and of course the library was attached, which first had been in the Kaye Hall complex. At that time, it was at the north end and attached to Peter White. That was not much of a building. So then the Learning Resources with the library and it was resting on the Learning Resources Center because initially they didn't, it wasn't going to be that big. But the legislature wanted it bigger, except this one would say "you need so much for the library." Except, two short years ago, I even remember being at the meeting in Lansing. "We built Michigan State a library. Three years later it was too small, well we want you to have that space." So the first floor, does it still have faculty offices?

RM: A few of them.

DM: But it was full of them at the time, and that's why. From the beginning it was meant as expansion space for the library.

RM: Oh, I see okay. So then do you think that in all of the turmoil that developed over saving Kaye Hall and so on, would you almost say that was mishandled and wasn't properly presented by the administration? Because so many people were upset.

DM: I think so; I think that if Dr. Harden had been here I think he could have done it. Of course there was a lot of sentiment with local people, not so much from former students as I recall. And if it had been done fairly quickly. But they kept postponing it and then Dr. Jamrich knuckled under and said, maybe I shouldn't use that term, decided to keep Longyear for a while and I feel that if Dr. Harden had been here it'd been all taken down instead of prolonging it. And I love those old buildings too, but when you listen to the state fire marshal and you saw what would have to be done, it didn't make sense. I know there was one minister in particular who was, minister of the Presbyterian church he wanted to debate me.

[TAPE 3 SIDE A]

RM: So you were saying he was going to debate you on TV?

DM: Yeah as to, whether they should take down Longyear Hall. It just so happened that one of his parishioners was Marion Longyear.

RM: Oh!

DM: Marion Longyear Sonderegger, Dr. Sonderegger wife. I know, you know that's natural. Feel that way with Longyear's and Peter White, provided the first land out there.

RM: So do you think it got, the whole thing then got out of control? What you're telling me is the state said, and even before Jamrich, the state said "these buildings have to come down, we're not going to fund it." Was there also something, there's been some talk about there being a large concert, maybe the Detroit Symphony came up and there was a large concert given, and they found the building was swaying, and then they found connecting beams had not been, the connection between the beams holding the upper balcony areas was unsafe?

DM: I'm not aware of that Russ. But...

RM: But in general the fire marshal thought it was, he had condemned the building?

DM: Yeah, all three of them.

RM: So then was it that is was just poorly handled? The presentation to the public, then all the outrage and the anger and all of that?

DM: To me it was a case of instead of acting it was reacting to the criticism of, and I feel if Dr. Harden had still been there he could have presented the case as it was. That's hindsight and I can't be sure of that. But he had the self-assurance and I think Dr. Harden could have done it.

RM: Now, there's some talk and I'm just remembering now. Oh! Before I forget, when did the demolish of that complex take place? Do you remember? Was it 1970... the end of 1972?

DM: I think it was before that. I know the president's office was moved over to the, what do you call it?

RM: University Center?

DM: Don Bottum building. That was done when Ogden Johnson was in here as president, so that must have been, we must of, I think Ogden Johnson was there maybe '67 to '68 I can't be sure.

RM: Yeah it was about that time, that was it.

DM: So we were getting ready to, for the demolition. But I can't, I would say it started '69, but that's...

RM: Well I was there '69 and there were still classes in Kaye Hall. It might have been more like '71, '72 sometime around there. But what we're getting at here is this was kind of prolonged, well in '69 I know we moved our offices to the Learning Resources Center in November, around Thanksgiving, and I think Jamrich Hall was opened about that time as well. So what we're almost saying is that, by January of 1970 there was really no longer any use for Kaye Hall, that complex. Everybody in the science building was out, the library was out, most of the offices were out. The only offices left were administration. So that, and if that came down in '72 that was dragging the, like you said the actual demolition of it was dragged out another two years.

DM: Yeah, it seems to me it was earlier than that, but I can't, it's hard to put a finger on it.

RM: Were there problems with, one of the things that they talk about was the library. The Lydia Olson Library had water in the, there was a spring or something under that, there was water?

DM: There was what?

RM: There was a spring, or there was some faulty construction of the foundation and that was?

DM: You mean under the Learning Resources Center?

RM: No, no, no. under the old Olson Library?

DM: You mean where it was in the center? When it was just at the north end of campus?

RM: Right, right.

DM: I don't recall that Russ. But they had built, and I don't have any handle on when that small library that was an offshoot of Peter White was built, what year.

RM: Well that was, you mean the Olson Library? That was I think '51, 1951 it was built. Who, when you were working on the buildings and all, had the, by that time the basic plan of the university had been pretty much set the way it is now with the Harden Drive and all of that. That was pretty much in place, when you got there and you started your position?

DM: Well, not really. They, you see Dr. Harden brought in Doxiades the world famous planner. He came up with a grandiose plan which was based on 12,000 students, and it would take in a lot

of property north east of the university. All that property was never purchased. I had charge of buying that stuff down where the dorms were put in, what is that Tracey Street?

RM: Tracey Street. Schaeffer and Tracey. So did that finally, they bought some of that property in there?

DM: Yeah, we bought it house by house. If they wouldn't sell, we could condemn, but that never happened. Every piece, we really didn't have any people who were unhappy. They could either sell to us at a negotiated price, or they could keep the house and move it. A few still, you find a couple houses way west down towards Skandia that came from there.

RM: Oh really? Huh.

DM: Yeah. I remember we had one guy who wanted to move his house out onto 550 but that darn bridge there was only 24 feet wide, that's one reason they're building a new one.

RM: So then do you feel that all of the turmoil caused by Bob McClellan was necessary?

DM: Well, let's see what he did, we had a real estate agent who worked for me and they had trouble with a deal where then they would come up and we'd talk about it, what we should do. But if I remember correctly he had some of the people in one of his classes, I don't know whether their initial purpose was to ask the people how they felt about selling or whatever. But in a fact these people would say to our agent, "these student's Mr. McClellan's class have said we don't have to sell to you," and that's where it started. You could condemn anyway so it really, if you had to and they really objected to selling, but nobody did. But that's why it started.

RM: Now let me just ask here. Prior to McClellan's involvement, or this class involvement with him, everything was going along smoothly there were no complaints from the people there? They sold or they moved their houses?

DM: Yeah, then we begin to get problems.

RM: Now was the trouble then with the houses that remain in that, over in that area?

DM: Yep, I would say that yep. But they, it wasn't just one area because somebody in this house might have agreed to sell and the next one not and. It's, I don't know I had a talk with Bob, I think he's moved away hasn't he?

RM: Right, he's not here anymore.

DM: One night at a party, we hadn't talked to each other for years and I think he blamed me for his problems. But it seems to me he sued to board on the basis of academic freedom or something like that. Whatever happened, the results of that were never released. But it was just, it was annoying because we were working for the university and it didn't seem to anybody from the administration that you would be trying to f\*\*\* something they're trying to do which is for the advancement of the university. Don't quote me, maybe I'll get sued. [Laughter.]

RM: What then, that happened. At what point did the university kind of collapse to Doxiades plan to go to the lake? When did that come about? Was that all sort of in the, in this turmoil?



DM: No it was, well when that Doxiades plan was presented it was obvious to President Harden, I guess he was still there, that the foreseeable future the university was not going to be that big. So the, well they were gonna buy with that Doxiades plan as I recall it we would have been buying property over on Presque Isle Avenue there.

RM: I think it was gonna be...

DM: So I don't, I would say no. I would say no, but they were really not related is what...

RM: So at that point, you know when they starting buying the property there at Tracey Street, in that area, was that really the kind of the march to the lake to realize the Doxiades plan, or was the purchase of those lots in there just part of the expansion of the university in that area?

DM: That's a good question, but it may have been the start of the Doxiades plan but I really, I never related it to that when we were buying that stuff. But I think the buying of it when it came to a halt and we could see we weren't going to expand as much as had been predicted or planned. But the expansion just slowed down and it stayed around 9,000 or so. But I really can't relate, I know the question you're asking but I can.

RM: Because you had purchased, you were involved, had you been involved in the purchase of a land from the armory east to Tracey Street? You know where the dorms are right now? Magers Hall, Meyland? Or was that before your time? I guess what I'm asking is...

DM: I don't think there were, there were practically no houses in there except that were along Tracey I think on the west side. Wait a minute. There were very few houses in there because that used to be the fairgrounds.

RM: The fairgrounds yeah. Now I'm just wondering, if the purchase of the land by Tracey and Fisher and so on, if that was just a continuation of purchases of the land where they had put, you know from Lincoln east?

DM: Well that's a good question and I never thought about it that way. But I guess the answer would be yes. As I recall, we hardly owned that property when I got there, the fairgrounds I mean.

RM: Yeah, okay. So then it seems like if I can kind of sum it up, let's see if I'm correct. It seems like they had the Doxiades plan, they possibly started buying the land to realized that plan, then it wasn't so much maybe the McClellan incident but it was the realization that we weren't going to get 12,000 plus students. And all that came together and then they stopped the purchases and the whole, I think then the Doxiades plan was just shelved. It was never, was anything ever realized of that plan? Any parts of it? Maybe the Dome?

DM: I never thought of it that way.

RM: But at least while you were there the Doxiades plan became a dead issue.

DM: Yep.

RM: So it was a nice, it was a plan that this guy came up with and then nothing every really came of it?

DM: Well I'd have to look at the plan.

RM: Yep. But I mean in your mind, there's no, I mean you would have to recall something and it doesn't come right off the top that there was some connection. Because I've been getting the sense, one thing I had heard in the past was that the Doxiades plan had caused a lot of trouble on campus and so on. Then when you actually look at it, there doesn't seem to be any realization of the Doxiades plan. It's there, it's talked about and talking to other people they said, I forget who it was I talking to, and they said "no the Doxiades plan was put aside and they had other plans that were brought up to do certain things on campus not as grand as that" and that was kind of it.

DM: I hadn't thought of it those terms; I'd have to look at the Doxiades plan.

RM: Yeah, yeah okay.

DM: I think certain small pieces of it were, but the grand expansion over towards Presque Isle Avenue three was more, it was more of a shelved when it became obvious that we didn't it after all.

RM: Then the other thing happened, Harden left and Jamrich came in so there was a lot of change. See what I'm getting at is I think too many people have made a lot of this conspiracy and very complicated situation and I think the various parts that were going on may be independently of each other. If you don't look at them correctly you think there, Bob McClellan caused the demise of the Doxiades plan and so on and when you actually look at it that was one thing happening and there were other things happening and the realization that they were not gonna be the students.

DM: The McClellan Controversy just had to with houses that were gonna be purchased anyway. No, I don't think his actions caused whatever happened. It's just unfortunate that it all came up that way it was at a time, when oh I think that'd be the Vietnam War. It was right in there at we had a plan to build the Dome. I went out with the basketball team when they were playing out of their league, but they played the University of Utah and the University of Illinois on that trip. But anyway while we were in Salt Lake City, Rico Zenti and I went up to Idaho State where they had the only college indoor football field in the country. We were very much taken with it and they had built it for 3.8 million and we came back and we got the basic plans for it. We came back and the president liked the idea so we got an architect and they drew up plans and the architect figured it would cost 4.2 million. But we were gonna have to bond it just the same as you do for the dorms. But in those days the interest on bonds, municipal bonds, were very low so it wasn't going to cost much. I think maybe each student would have had to pay maybe \$15 a quarter, or maybe they were on semesters by then I can't remember. So Dr. Jamrich decided to put it to a student vote. Which I always felt was too bad because the students that were there at that time, not one of them was ever gonna pay a cent, they'd have graduate before any of these bond would have required payment. But he went that way and the students voted it down so when we got 30 million, of course we got more but this basically was the same thing, was to seat 12,000 people

in the football field, a lot of offices. And I always felt sorry that didn't go that way. I know that weekend that were out in Idaho State they one night played a basketball game in there and the next night they had an orchestra concert, it was kind of a multipurpose thing. This thing out here should be multipurpose but the acoustics are so lousy that, I don't know. Did they have graduation in there?

RM: Yes, and they're bad.

DM: Were you there?

RM: Oh yeah.

DM: I was just wondering how the acoustics were? Terrible?

RM: No it's like sound just bounces all over the place. They have some equipment and some dividers that basically are visual things, but they're not acoustical. So for instance you sing the national anthem and so on it's like the sound is bouncing all over and you can barely hear the orchestra right in front of you so it's very bad. I know they can't have anything like rock concerts and things like that where you can bring them in. And there has been talk that if you did want to do that you would have to bring in an engineer, and acoustical engineer. There are things that could be done I guess you could drop some kind of cloth and so on. But it would be very, very expensive.

DM: When we were planning this Dome, we didn't call it the Dome. I was out in Los Angeles, my daughter was getting married, so I went around to UCLA and they have a...

[TAPE 3 SIDE B]

RM: Okay.

DM: The athletic director told why, why I was interested in their athletic facility. And he took me up in the balcony and sat down. Now he said "what do you think is the most important thing here that you're looking at?" I said "I don't know" and he said "acoustics." And in that building you can just hear no matter where you are. It doesn't matter, athletic event or what. I guess I can say that's one reason I'm sorry to see the architect phased out at Northern, I always felt he could have prevented that from happening in the Dome.

RM: Now when did you retire from Northern?

DM: In '76 I think it was, the early part of '76.

RM: So the last building you were involved with was the Physical Education building?

DM: That was not quite finished when I left.

RM: Now did you find it easier to work with Harden, President Harden or with President Jamrich? Or it didn't really matter in the long run?

DM: Well, I really wasn't there with Dr. Harden. When we really got going on things, even though he had set up the arrangements.

RM: So what year did you start with Harden?

DM: I would say early '66.

RM: Oh okay.

DM: About 6 months after I got there. But Dr. Jamrich was just like Dr. Harden as to new buildings, he talked to me directly not through the vice-president for finance. As a matter of fact, when they built the administration building there I had the office over in the northwest corner and he had the one on the east corner so we were right across the hall. He was over there and I was over in his office. It's just too bad that that sort of relationship didn't stay. I sometimes didn't see eye to eye with him couldn't see some of the, when they did that vote and had the students vote instead of explaining well "you're not going to pay for this anyway, it's just a small amount." But I wasn't up there where they were throwing rocks at me like he was, so or where they might, it's just a figure of speech.

RM: Right, right. Now can you comment on, one thing is, a question that people ask or I've even thought about it. Was there any particular reason why the Cohodas building was built the way it was? Kind of in a vertical shape rather than more horizontal? Was that, who sort of came up with those plans? I guess the other thing is, it seems to be almost built, especially the first floor, like a fortified building. Was that due to, I don't know if you thought of this, but was that due to the times? Because at that time when the plans were being built that was Civil Rights, that was Vietnam, that was student unrest. Was there anything like that that went into the, any concern for that that went into the plans?

DM: No, we had the general area where it was and this was the architect's proposal. Our architect was Swanson and Associates from Detroit and no, it was nothing like that. No special security, just tried to come up with flexible space, you know most of those walls can be moved around. The one thing that we did, and we get a lot of, I've gotten a lot of flak over the years, was the stone that was used. Actually we were looking for something like the sandstone that we had had, probably was an unfortunate choice but I still remember the day the architect had purposed the material that they had written off. And the K-Mart building, the Kresge building down in Detroit was built that way and the architect took me and Jamrich, maybe Jack Brownhurst [spelled phonetically] I'm not sure. We went over there and looked long and hard at the Kresge building and frankly we liked it. So we got a lot of flak for that over the years, maybe the decision was made too fast.

RM: In the process of developing the Cohodas building was Jamrich any way directly involved in it? Making any decisions on for instance, did he call the tomb for the type of construction material on the outer walls of the building or anything?

DM: Well he approved that, but that was, I can't even remember how far along the planning was at the point where he okayed that. So no, I would say he was really not. We worked with heads of departments to see, and the architect also, to see what seemed to be the most efficient way to put it together.

RM: So he wasn't you might say personally involved almost meddling with the building of Cohodas? Jamrich was not that personally involved?

DM: No, he, of course we probably asked him lots of questions about it but no he was never, he was never into it like that.

RM: I guess, and we've been talking here for almost three hours you're probably getting tired of this, sorry to keep it this long. But it's been so interesting. To kind of finish up with just some comments, your comments, your observations. What do you think of recent developments on campus in terms of the buildings and some of the plans that you might be familiar with; what sort of happened at Northern campus in recent years?

DM: Let's see, they really haven't had any major buildings except the Dome since that, and that largely because we quit expanding the number of students. You want to re-ask that question again?

RM: Okay. Maybe in a broader sense, since you've been around Northern in one capacity or another for so long, how do you view the university today in how it's grown and developed. In sort of retrospect as you look back from the time your father first came and when it was a small college and sort of the way it's grown and developed? Both physically and then educationally, just kind of your comments in retrospect of that.

DM: Well on the academic end I really don't have an opinion. But I rather liked the campus I think it was a mistake and I tried to get Matt Sorrell to tell Dr. Vandement I know there were a lot of alumni think it's a waste of money to put covered walkways between buildings. I think a lot of students come up here, they like the rugged outdoors. I talked with Paul Sumi and tried to get Matt Sorrell to tell Dr. Vandement that a lot of alumni thought that that was a waste of money. And Matt said "well the president think that those covered walkways would bring in a greater sense of community throughout the university." Well, I'm not sure. I don't say I buy that; it may be so. But I think this one that they have put in was 1.5 million and they're gonna put 10 of them in that's 10 or 12 million. I don't see it. But I like a lot of, I like the set up and I'm glad they have redone the University Center. I'm certainly happy to see that old statue of Abraham Lincoln come out and I think that in one of those painting that I hadn't seen for years I remembered the little, the blue...

RM: Blue Boy?

DM: Blue Boy. Let's see the artist named Rosa...the \_\_\_\_\_.

RM: Horse Fair?

DM: The Horse Fair. Those things that were somewhere in the old Kaye Hall complex. Those bring back memories and of course the Kaye Hall repertoire could have been saved but the thing you wanted to save couldn't be saved that open area going all the way up to the top. That's one of my prized pictures that early picture of the faculty on the stairs. There's one of them down in Hardy's down there, my dad is standing right next to President Kaye up there. That's about those same people that are in that picture are in that picnic picture.

RM: Is there anything that I missed that you would like to add to the, something you thought that you would want to say or?

DM: I'll probably think of it next week. [Laughter.]

RM: [Laughter.] Okay.

DM: But no. I was gonna retire from the navy and I looked around. I visited Detroit, I visited Chrysler. My uncle down there knew very well a vice-president of Chrysler and at that time Chrysler was building liquid fuel missiles for the army, red stone missiles. At first they appeared they would be building the missiles for submarines. It looked like I was gonna get a job down there but the more I thought about it, the long commutes from Detroit, all of it. So we had it narrowed down that I was gonna retire either in Salt Lake City, where we loved the university there and the community. A lot of people don't like it there because they claim they can't get along well with the Mormons. We got along with them fine, I have lots of Mormon friends. But in the end, my Dad was still alive so we elected to come back here. I haven't been sorry. About 3 months after we got back here I was working at Northern, I got a letter from the University of Utah offering me the job of registrar.

RM: Oh!

DM: It was very tempting but.

RM: If they had asked you sooner, you might have gone?

DM: I might have but we always liked it here. The first winter my wife said "I don't know how long I can stand these winters up here." Next winter I said "Well I can get 10 days off here in January, let's go to Florida for 10 days." She said "You go, I like it here, I never want to leave!" But that's after she got to know the people, you know. Where do you come from Russ?

RM: I'm originally from California. San Francisco.

DM: Oh you're right from?

RM: Yep.

DM: You lived right there?

RM: Yep, and then I.

[AUDIO CUTS OUT ABRUPTLY]

END OF INTERVIEW