

Interview with Anita Meyland, Marquette, Michigan April 23, 1992

Second Interview Session: **TAPE 3 A&B**

SIDE A:

Anita Meyland – Since last time...and this time, I still think, I want to convince you the interplay between the community and the college.

Russ Magnaghi – Ah-huh.

A.M. – How it got to be our college and that has kind of dropped out lately. So, I had picked a couple things that brought us into the community.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – First of all, I want to tell you when we came here, the street car was still running. It started way down on Front Street somewhere near Getz's. It came up Front Street to East Arch, went East Arch to Spruce, ran down Spruce, then it came back on Hewitt, from Hewitt it turned down Third Street, went all the way to Wright and then it turned up one block, so, it was right in front of the college where the students could get out. Then, it followed down Presque Isle and wound itself up at the Island [Presque Isle Park]. The reason, I bring that up is that's why we have students coming as far as Champion Hills, is way over on the south side.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – And also, it was easy access to people that lived at Middle Island Point. It had all year round homes there because they could take the street car and get off at the Island. So, all those things show you how there was an interplay between the community and college. [There was a train that went up the Big Bay Road. At the end of the line was the depot at Presque Isle Park; still there today 2021]

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – Then one event, that I think you would enjoy, was every summer the faculty--chiefly the faculty wives--had a picnic at the Island with all the children--from the babies to those that were in college. So, again it kept the older people that maybe had gone to college somewhere else during the year in contact with Northern.

Myrtle Hunt was "the coffee maker"; she use to come out to the Island with great big coffee pot but it was a community affair.

The other community affair was at Christmas time. This is to show you how wonderful it was to have Kaye Hall. The foyer of Kaye Hall extends from third floor right down to the first. At Christmas time, the whole college would assemble there and also people from

the outside. They'd be caroling on the steps of Kaye Hall with trumpets and people would come inside. Forest Roberts [Theatre] would stand on the first riser of steps dressed like Santa Claus; he'd be ho-ho-ho-ing. He'd have a sack of gifts and he'd hand out gifts to faculty. This was a time when they had sororities and the sororities would decorate the inside of that foyer. I have a letter from them--the alumna; the sorority decorated with cedar piles [boughs] and lights. One year, they thought they'd go a little bright and they put in red lights. Miss Carey made them take out the red lights and put white lights in them. So, that was another community affair.

When people talked about Longyear Hall, now they say, "Oh, I remember Longyear Hall; you use to turn to the right at the Blue Boy [reproduction/Gainsborough]; it was hanging right there--that was a very noted picture. At the head of the stairs were the Weavers [reproduction/Van Gogh] another large picture.

We didn't care whether the statues were marble or whether they were plaster cast. On the platform, you had these tall, tall statues, this is in Kaye Hall--Lincoln on one side and St. George on the right on the other. On the third floor as you went into the art room, in the corner was David--the boy, David fig leaf and all and Venus De Milo with her arms chopped off. [Study prints, statues and reproductions a gift of Peter White to Northern].

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. - And after Kaye Hall, I was kind of roaming around and I went to Birdseye. You know what Birdseye is? That is another story you should get. But anyway, I went to Birdseye and there was kind of a junk room opposite the restrooms. There was a tarp lying there and I picked up the tarp here was Venus De Milo in the dirt and the boy, David in the dirt. I opened one of the cubbies in the bathroom; it didn't have a lock on it. Who should be in the toilet cubby was Lincoln--Statue of Lincoln.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – So, it shows what disregard there was for that type of thing. I mean for us, we knew they weren't marble. But it was our representation of that art feeling which has left Northern entirely. The students had dressed up Lincoln, I don't what you're saying Nancy. They...

Nancy: I know they had painted up one of them and it might have been Lincoln. [Lincoln and St. George were restored for the Peter White Lounge in the University Center and are now at the Beaumier Upper Peninsula Heritage Center].

A.M. – Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

R.M. – Alright. Could you tell us--you mentioned it earlier--before I had the recorder off.? Could you tell us a little about the gathering; the faculty gathering daisies for graduation?

A.M. – Well, didn't I just tell you that.

R.M. – No, no. Yeah, but I didn't have the recorder on.

A.M. – Oh. Mr. Meyland was kind of a long [late] sleeper. He was also happy when spring or summer commencement came because he could sleep in. He didn't have an eight o'clock class but he said--that too soon--the telephone rang. Every year Mr. Gant would call and say Gunther we have to pick the daisies". So, Gunther would roll out of bed and he and Luther Gant would pick the daisies. The wild daisies and put them in milk cans or something. Then, they'd take them to Northern and put them on the platform for commencement. They use to argue whether they wanted the cans across the front or in sections and what not. So, I use to get tired of daisy picking. Can you imagine yourself going out and picking daisies? After all, we did have florists in town you know.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – Then, there's another gathering I want to tell you about. Before the football season came in the fall. Northern would stage an afternoon for the men of Northern. So, Mr. Meyland went somewhere between four and six--I guess. When he came home, and I said—"So how was it?"--because it was just the men faculty and the students.

He said, "This sure is some place". He said, "They threw something at us--like a half a pie and an apple. So, we got the half of pie to eat and the apple. He said, "it wasn't a pastry pie they kept calling it--pasty." So, that's how he learned what a pasty was; he thought it was half a pie.

R.M. – (Russ laughing).

A.M. – They sat on the floor and ate it. So, those are things that, and I don't think Mr. Meyland was the only faculty member that was shocked to think like that. But this is where men were men. And pasties were pasties--that was an annual affair.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. And this was before football's...

A.M. – It was in the fall of the year.

R.M. – In the fall...

A.M. – They introduced the football team, I guess, just then. It was in the men's gym.

R.M. – Okay. Good. Now Nancy did you have some reminders or something?

Nancy - I think she... (Nancy & Anita talking lightly in the background—in audible).
...probably the faculty picnic.

R.M. – Okay. Maybe you can enlighten me here. Last time you talked about the college closing down for a period of time for the potato harvest.

A.M. – Yeah. they had Potato Days.

R.M. – When did that...what years was that going on? You know, when you first got here in the 1920s?

A.M. – Yes. We came here in '24. I can't tell you the exact dates but it was going on for two, three years after that. It wasn't only digging of potatoes; the students earned their tuition that way.

R.M. – And so...what the college would be shut down for a week or...?

A.M. – Oh no. Just for a couple of days.

R.M. - Couple of days.

A.M. – I don't know whether they just let those go that could harvest but anyway they were Potato Days. But we also shut down for deer day [Opening Day of Hunting Season].

Of course, potatoes were very much a story about how Cohodas got started. Cohodas would buy up all the potatoes to keep the price down; he would buy the potatoes from the farmers and then would throw them in a ditch to keep the price up and so it must have been the era of the potato.

R.M. – Oh, I see.

A.M. – I was also going to say, when I talk about the glories of Kaye Hall, what a wonderful place it was to stage things. I think contrary wise, the Cohodas building and even the Jamrich Building, there are no places where you can really have well a thing--like a Christmas Party. Can you imagine stepping in the Cohodas in that blank entry. Nothing there. Even going into Jamrich, there's no place to have anything like that.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – You know maybe come in and walk on those stairs and go down--so that part of Northern has been lost absolutely. The Lee Hall Gallery is kind of trying to revive receptions and things.

R.M. – Now in general, there was more...so what you're saying is that...there was more use of the buildings and thus interaction of the community and the college because of that space.

A.M. – Yeah.

R.M. – There's open spaces.

A.M. – And the buildings were built with that in mind and recently they've forgotten about that. When they built Cohodas, they had all the chance in the world to have a beautiful entry hall.

See that's what they're were trying to do with Longyear now. Some place where people will come. "This is Northern!" "This is where I brought my children." And right now, there is no such place. They tried the Don Bottum's Center [University Center; Northern Center].

Phyllis Reynolds and her husband dedicated that place for quiet meditation. Well that never worked. It's too close to the rest of the hallway. You can't meditate when you smell the food coming out the...

R.M. – True.

A.M. – the Cat... it's the Cat's Meow...so....

Nancy – The Lion's Den.

A.M. – No what, what..the Cat's Den?

R.M. – No, Wildcat Den.

A.M. – Wildcat Den.

R.M. – Wildcat Den. Yeah. Okay. Last time you mentioned--they had their special days in the spring time of the year when the fraternities got together--they had the Medicine ball.

A.M. – Oh yes, yeah. Rush Day.

R.M. – Rush Day. Were there any other days like in the, say in the fall of the year, anything special?

A.M. – Well I just told you about the men's get together.

R.M. – The men's get together. Okay.

A.M. – Then the sororities rushed you know. They all had their private rushing parties and they had events. Jane Hiebel comes to see me quite a bit. She was telling me how she had come here from Minneapolis; she was a big city girl. She had taken music and had entered a college in Minneapolis. Her father was a shoe salesman so they moved to Marquette. She said the minute she got here, Miss Carey picked on her.

First of all, this was when there was a transition from black or dark brown hose to kind of nude colored hose. Naturally, Jane wore them. Miss Carey called her in and said, "Nothing doing, you go back to dark brown." Then the next time, she called her in--she said, "There's too much openwork on your shoes". She had shoes that had openwork down there. So, she told Miss Carey, her father was a shoe salesman and that was "the best seller for the year".

R.M. – Oh.

A.M. – Then, she said, she got called in because evidently, she had quite a music education; she played for all the gym classes. She really played her way through Northern by playing for gym.

My daughter was in college at that time. She'd come home and I'd say, "How was it today?" She'd say, "Oh, it was more of Jane's 'bump, bump, bump, bump bumping' again [beating out the rhythm]". Jane evidently had a lot of rhythm and was a good dancer because the fellas would come and tap her on the shoulder. What do they call it when they steal dances?

Nancy – Cut in.

A.M. – Cut in, yeah.

R.M. – Cut ins.

A.M. – Miss Carey watched her. So, she called Jane in and she said, "no fellows would cut in on you; you'd better watch your step." Are you a decent girl? Can you imagine that?

R.M. – So then Miss Carey was then on top of everything or...

A.M. – Oh, absolutely.

R.M. – into everybody's business.

A.M. – She used her own scale of morals and didn't keep up with the times. So, it was hard on the kids.

I remember the last thing I bought, when I stopped teaching, was a raccoon coat that almost touched the floor; it was a monstrous looking coat. I came up here with it and my people were so happy because they knew it was cold up here.

I wore that coat to the college. Miss Carey said "Would you have a cloth coat?" and I said, "Yes". She said, "I wish you would wear that cloth coat when you take work at the college because I'm afraid your coat will be stolen in the locker room." Well, I never stopped wearing it. These...it was little, piddly things like that. Coming from a place where every other girl had a raccoon coat you know. The first pay check you got for teaching in Milwaukee went for a fur coat.

R.M. – Oh. (Russ lightly laughing).

A.M. – Up here it was...well you only wore it on Sunday.

Nancy – Wasn't Miss Carey Dean of Women?

A.M. – Yeah. Yeah. She also taught English. In fact, Miss Carey and Mr. Meyland were very, very good friends. She showed him entirely different side of her life--when she talked to Mr. Meyland. I think he was sort of her escape. He was very fond of her. Miss Carey had that terrible accident. I thought Mr. Meyland would lose his mind when she was...I don't mean there was anything going on but there was admiration there. She on the social committee with him.

R.M. – Oh, I see. I see. Now did the...probably we're repeating some of this, but how involved was the faculty with the social activities of the college back in those early years? You mentioned a little about having to go out and pick daisies. Were there any other examples of that?

A.M. – I told you about making the punch, didn't I? That was another activity that could have been given to students to earn money. But the faculty did that. We never got paid for it.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – So that was just one duty we took on. Then there were other things the faculty members were asked to do. First of all, most of the faculty wives were patronesses to

the four or five sororities. We gave parties--rushing parties. No compensation for it. It was an honor to do all of that. I did that for the Tri Mu because Mr. Meyland was partial to the Tri Mu. I did to the Sigma Sigs because Charlotte was a Sig.

I did the Delta Phi Mu because I was patroness of the Delta Phi Mu. So, I think that's where this table came in. We had one of those round tables when we first came up here. We wanted to buy a dining room set; so, we went to Marshall Fields. By the way, I'm hearing from my granddaughter--how terrible things are down in Chicago.

R.M. – Oh, yes.

A.M. – The whole town smells. Marshall Fields and Carson Pirie's--they all—their basements were all flooded. She also said a lot of small businesses along the route were going out of business because they had to turn off their electricity for a month, or for a week and they're on such short gains in their businesses that their closing. But at any rate, I don't know how I started telling you this again.

R.M. – You were saying you bought the table at Marshall Fields.

A.M. – Oh yes. We went to Chicago. We were living in Lautner's house; we went to Chicago in the summer to buy a dining room outfit so. Those were the days when the floor walkers wore a rose or something to indicate who they were. So, we walked right up to a floor walker in Marshall Fields. He was very courteous and asked Mr. Meyland what he did. He told him he was a professor in the English Department. He said, "I have just the thing for you." So, he took and said "This is an English dining room set." The carving is English and the shape of the table so that's how your jobs overlapped in the purchase.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. When you said, the faculty and the wives--people had to do all of this. Was it just part of life or did people complain about it or nobody...?

A.M. – You just did it.

R.M. – You just did it, it was just -----

A.M. – You complain--I complained like hell about making that punch.

I got that syrup splashed all over my--you had to boil the sugar to a syrup and it boiled over. Boiled over on your range and then you'd have to wash those horrible milk cans when they came back that the punch was in. Then, this goes over to the shelves and being the woman in the pair--that fell to me. It wasn't my job. I wasn't teaching at Northern.

R.M. – Yeah. (Russ laughing lightly). Could you tell us a little about, you mentioned her last week and it's quite fascinating, a little about Mildred Magers?

A.M. – Oh yeah. Mildred Magers always prided herself; her father was a professor at Northern. In fact, in her later years, she donated to the library--the Olsen Library.

They had an open house. Mildred Magers, she was very proud of the fact that she was a professor's daughter [father died of the flu in 1919]. I sometimes compare her to Charlotte. Charlotte was always kind of mad that she was a professor's daughter because whenever she got a good grade the kids would say "Well your father is [inaudible]".

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. - But Mildred Magers capitalized on that. She also capitalized on the fact on whether she had--she was...What do you talk about these people that praise themselves? She set herself up. I guess she was pretty intelligent but her Mom never said much about her as far as her teaching was concerned. In fact, I think she taught Contemporary Lit most of the time. [Mildred Magers was the first woman who earned a Doctorate and taught at Northern 1928-1958].

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – But she was that way towards the rest of the women and the faculty too. They kind of...they liked her but this idea that because she was a professor's daughter; she was beyond them.

By the by—she had a very ignominious death; she dropped dead on the campus. [Mildred Magers died of a heart attack, 1958]. But Magers Hall was named after her; I think it was named after she died. I don't think she was living.

R.M. – Hmm. Talking about that, did they name--when they were naming the buildings that way--did they name them while the individual was a live or...?

A.M. – In most instances. I know I was traveling back and forth to DeKalb, Illinois when my son-in-law was in Northern Illinois University. Charlotte was having three children and I traveled down there quite a bit. So, one time, I was going to Illinois and [there was] a bus station on the south side of town. So, I got there to board the bus for Chicago.

This bus had just come in and I don't know but Mr. Wahtera [Professor NMC] was at the depot. And he said, "Oh, you'll be happy to tell Mr. Meyland, when you see him that their naming a building after him." So, I had to go onto Chicago. I went on to DeKalb. I telephoned him there--telephoned home to Mr. Meyland to tell him--that a building had

been named in his honor. He hadn't heard when I told him. It was dedicated three weeks after he died.

But, he knew it was being built because Harden use to talk about the grove of trees in front of his building. He said, "Those trees will never be cut because Mr. Meyland they're yours as far as trees were concerned."

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – No, they didn't know. Then naturally, some of the faculty didn't have buildings named after them--kind of ridiculed them. The buildings were named--the main buildings were named after the professors. The little dormitories were just named after the other monkeys...that was a report coming from the Lucian Hunt. Who was the comedian. Lucian Hunt was sort of a common comedian at Northern. He wasn't as high class as Don Bottum who was a punster.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – There was an epidemic one time of an intestinal illness. It was a diarrhea epidemic; so, Dr. Hunt--to show you how they can get very low brow too--Dr. Hunt tied a lot of corks on a string, and hung them on his bulletin board and said if you need them--use them.

R.M. – (Russ laughing).

A.M. – Nancy I tell that at [inaudible]. Of course, that was hysterical. Some of the social faculty wives wouldn't even laugh at that.

R.M. – Miss Carey wasn't around at that time.

A.M. – No. I think she had gone by then. But the woman that came to take Miss Carey's place really knew her place. She was rigid but not to the point that Miss Carey was. Northern didn't fall down till the next Dean came into our lives.

R.M. – Now, at the same time there probably--there was a Dean of Men. Who were some of the Dean of Men and how did they interact with the students?

A.M. – The last one I remember was Red Money who was an athlete. He was, at Hedgcock for many years as Dean of Men.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – It seems like most of the Deans came out of the Athletic Department. Oh, I must tell you this about Hedgcock. Hedgcock use to take his team, it must have been

basketball team, to the Lower Peninsula to play. He had an old ram shackle Forrester. He piled a whole team in the back of the Ford but he'd always stop at St. Ignace at the Smoke Fish Shop you know and buy smoked fish. A couple of the fellows that drove back use to tell Mr. Money they'd sit in the back seat. Hedgecock would have his package of smoke fish on the seat next to him. He'd take a smoke fish and he'd take the skin off, thinking he was throwing it out of the window. It would blow back into the car and hit the boys in the face in the back seat. You see those tales goes down as folktales.

R.M. – (Russ laughing). Okay. One thing I want to ask, was there a reason why there weren't any buildings or there wasn't a building named after Lou Allen Chase?

A.M. – No, that was very funny and that isn't the worst one. There's nothing on the campus to tell you that President Munson was ever President. They started with Kaye. There was nothing named after Chase at all. There wasn't anything named after Munson. I always thought that was kind of terrible that some building or some area could not have been Munson Field. I guess the naming was very much up to President Tape that did all of that. He was a builder of the buildings.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Tape or Harden? Or did that start before Harden?

A.M. – No, that started before Harden. Harden named the road that Circle Drive—Betty [Elizabeth] Harden Circle Drive and I think Harden did that himself.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. Okay.

A.M. – And I don't know how the dormitories...I often wondered how Gries Hall was named because Gries was the Warden of the prison.

R.M. – Oh.

A.M. – But, at one time I think he either was Interim or something he taught at Northern not very long. But the dormitory was named after Gries who was quite a politician. See a lot of those names were named because of politicians you know. And Gries was quite a politician or he wouldn't have been Warden at the prison.

R.M. – I see. Okay.

SIDE B:

R.M. – Let's see this running (at this point the tape stops – the recorder clicks and silence). (From 30:38 to 32:00 is missing from the interview that is why Anita starts out with this campus).

A.M. – ...this campus. Mr. Meyland and I were kind of little different and never adhere to any one religion. Until my daughter got to be church age, then we sent her--we let her choose where she wanted to go. So finally, after being Methodist and a Lutheran and a Presbyterian, she landed in the Canterbury Probe at the St. Paul's Cathedral. That's when she joined the church; I joined with her. I'm not a tithe paying but I am sanctioned [noise/inaudible]. In the middle, I got in there though, because I was in their woman's movement.

R.M. – Let's see ---

A.M. – The college was very closely affiliated with Patriotic Organizations when we first came here. But that was natural because it was right after WWI. So, they always had the Armistice Ball for all the locals. They wore all the medals they could scape together. It was quite a formal thing held in the gymnasium at Northern.

R.M. – They held that as a yearly activity then?

A.M. – That was November 11th Armistice Day.

R.M. – And so that would be another of these activities that tied the community and the college together?

A.M. – Yes.

R.M. – Would it be possible, could you take us on say at some point—the time you remember, say a walking tour of Longyear Hall? You know what was the building like in terms of -----

A.M. – Oh? I told you that last week, I said most of my activities were in Kaye Hall.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – If this was Kaye Hall here. Okay. Then, there was a corridor going from Kaye Hall to Longyear Hall. And if you had a class in Longyear Hall you had to walk that corridor. You even felt the floor was shaking as you walked it. Then you got to the end of that walk. As, I told you, there was a door that went to the outside and next to the door hung the Blue Boy. So, when you came onto the Blue Boy, you made a turn to the right and you walked up some very rickety steps and then you got into Longyear Hall which was chiefly the History Department.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – In fact, sometimes the History Department was angry because they got a rotten deal; that building was really in bad shape.

R.M. – So even at that time it wasn't in very good shape...

A.M. – Yeah. Pricilla Densmore (Appointment Secretary)...I don't know how...Pricilla Densmore...she was gone...no, she was connected with John D. Pierce, I guess then.

But even in my day, it was just an old rickety building but it did have classes. Most of the History Department was up in those classes. I think Dr. Chase was downstairs--with the rest of the others upstairs--because he couldn't walk up the stairs.

R.M. – Okay (said lightly). Ah-mmm.

A.M. – Another thing, I wanted to tell Nancy to put down, was the fact that Kaye Hall--the foyer--was for entertainment and things. But then, right next to the foyer was the girl's locker room on one side and the boy's locker room on the other. But, as you walk down the corridor before you turn into the foyer--you went pass the library. The library was so controlled. You had to be so quiet that when you came to that door, to get into the library, you immediately stopped talking because once you were inside--it was just like a prison.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – There were certain attitudes that if you weren't studying and you wanted to sleep--if you put your head down--a librarian would come-- "This isn't a place to sleep; Are you here to study?" You rarely passed a book from one person to another. It was a regular San Quentin.

R.M. – (Russ laughing).

A.M. – Then, there was secondary library that wasn't so bad. So, you could possibly do your studying in the second library--you would go there--rather than the main one.

There were two old maids called, Olsen. They ruled with an iron hand. Then, they built the Lydia M. Olsen Library [1951-1969] and we had some very fine things there. They had a gallery and a lot of things happening at Olsen Library. All of a sudden, they tore it down. We don't know; we were told--which may have been gossip--but the underpinnings were not strong enough for the book world but it just disappeared.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. That went at about the time of Kaye Hall [1972-1973]?

A.M. – Just about the same time.

R.M. – Same time. Okay.

A.M. – Then, the next thing they tore down was the President’s house—you know. They built a new President’s house. The first President’s house was across from where Lee Hall Gallery is. The parking area there--was the President’s house--was on that parking area.

R.M. – You mean right on the campus?

A.M. – Right on the..., right on “What’s street is that?” Well, you know where our Lee Hall is ----

R.M. – Yeah.

A.M. – Where here’s Lee Hall Gallery and over here, now is a parking lot.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – Well, right next to the parking lot, was the President’s house and that was torn down. I don’t know why. Then the President’s house was built in that swampy area by where the President’s house is now. It must have been real estate deals; I don’t know why.

R.M. – So, you’re talking about the house Jamrich was in.

A.M. – Yeah.

R.M. – So where was the house, where was the President’s house before?

A.M. – I’m telling you ----

R.M. – they went to...

A.M. – across from Lee Hall Gallery.

R.M. – Okay.

R.M. – And then before that, they didn’t have one?

A.M. – No, they didn’t have one. And it was Mrs. Tape who planned the first President’s house. I told you the Tape’s lived in a little apartment on Hewitt Avenue. Then from that, they built the President’s house. She had a lot of the planning to do and then when she got depressed Mrs. Harden was in charge. Mrs. Harden had to get...had to entertain...everything that she hadn’t built herself.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – It was very hard on her because it wasn't built for anything.

R.M. – That was the house that I remember as Jamrich's house.

A.M. – Sure. And then Jamrich's built a new house right where they are now.

R.M. – Okay.

R.M. – Can you talk a little about the...like a person like...a Luther West and some of the people in the sciences. Some of those folks....

A.M. – Luther West was a pain in the neck. Luther West also attended a summer at Harvard or something but he had the big head before he came here. He had some position. He came here with six or seven children, I guess. They all got scholarships; he always saw to it that they got the scholarships. He did things like, well first of all he wrote a treatise on Northern.

And I, we didn't think that he had been here long enough to know about Northern. But then, he also was kind of deaf but he was musical. So, he wrote a song for Northern. Northern had a very good fight song that everybody knew and the alumni knew. So "Come Northern Let Us All Your Glory Share." [Correction: Come Men of Northern written by Conway Peters, (Music) in 1923, Hilton p.68] It was a wonderful fight song. Well, he wrote some kind of semi-religious tune that nobody could sing. It absolutely killed the fight song. So I don't think the fight song ever came back.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – We had a couple people like that who made a place for themselves--did a very odd thing. Dr. Thomas the Head of the Music Department or the English Department. He had no musical talent or he had no musical education but he was music minded. So, he would buy records and he would invite the faculty over--to say the name of a composer for dinner. The big entertainment was, you'd sit all night listening to his records by that person.

R.M. – Oh. (Russ laughed lightly).

R.M. - Did you ever go to these affairs?

A.M. – I had to, yeah...and that was such a prissy household. Mrs. Thomas was a very immaculate housekeeper and he was a very fussy eater on account of the illness he had, I guess. But she always--when she entertained--she had six or eight people. She told me she never had more than eight people because she just had eight cups and saucers and eight big plates not more.

That wasn't exactly up to my snuff because...I had a...Charlotte had a spaghetti party in this house at one time for her sorority and another sorority. Some of the girls brought silver. When they cleared the table; they took all the dishes out to the kitchen. And believe it or not, we had a card table and there was a mound of silverware, you know forks they ate spaghetti--with spoons and forks. My silver got mixed up with that. So, I had to stand there when the girls picked out their silver to take back home but that they had brought. I lost three silver forks; three sterling silver forks.

R.M. – Oh?

A.M. – Some girl evidently didn't remember what her silver looked like so. So those things went on--well that would never have happened at Mrs. Thomas's because her entertainments were regulated.

R.M. – Ah-huh. Ah-huh.

A.M. – We had a kind of a division among faculty wives but it was unfortunate to come here when there was a lot of Michigan...University of Michigan and Michigan State home ec [economics] graduates they kind of took over and marry in at Northern. It would be the bane of my existence.

R.M. – So they would ----

A.M. – Oh they were so punctilious [showing great attention to detail or correct behavior]. About eating the right food, and as I said having eight cups and eight saucers, never having more company and having all your dresses made just this way. It was restricting. I wasn't the only faculty wife that rebelled; there were quite a few others that came here. Just couldn't take it; they were extension workers [MSU] you know.

R.M. – Oh?

A.M. – They were graduates from the University of Michigan, State [MSU] and came up here and married faculty members; then they moved.

I have the letter Nancy, I wish you could find the letter I wrote when Mrs. Florence died. Some time you will find that and I want him to read that. I told you that one of our faculty wives died a year ago; Mrs. Florence retired and kind of went into a coma but I was to write her obituary for the study club to put in their files. I started it by saying, that once there was a Camelot and once there was a "College Heights". Camelot of course the happiness era.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – College Heights was when the young people came to Marquette for the college. They usually bought a lot in the new subdivision right near the college and they set up around College Avenue. We were up in the four hundred-block; we had the house that Mr. Lautner had built for an investment. It was a Sears & Roebuck house.

R.M. – Oh? Ah-huh.

A.M. – And we lived there and our next door neighbor was Mr. Bottum who bought a house--very frugal in his "Bottom Line" [his book].

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – He tells how frugal they were. I don't know they furnished their whole...their furniture...maybe one to two hundred dollars or something. Next to them were Slicks and there were a couple lots...then came Ferns, who was in the Manual Arts Department and the very closest neighbor was Hurst [Victor] who in the Athletic Department.

R.M. – Athletic Department.

A.M. – Don Hurst was here. Across the street even before these houses weren't all built. Dr. Lowe's house and Dr. Brown's house and close by were lots—that was sort of the college confines.

R.M. – Hmm. Mm-hmm. Was that the house the...you said the Hurst house, was that the one that Mrs. Hurst lived in?

A.M. – When she...

R.M. – Yeah, when up till her...she passed away.

A.M. – She had a big doll collection.

R.M. – Yeah, so that but that was the house because I was there one time.

A.M. – Oh really?

R.M. – I just want to get in my mind where the location was.

A.M. – Did you see her doll collection?

R.M. – Yes, she went and showed me.

A.M. – Oh yes.

R.M. – I guess it was a few years before she passed away.

A.M. – Yeah.

R.M. – I don't know why we were there. Okay.

R.M. – So all the faculty then or quite a few of the faculty lived in that area near the college, College Heights.

A.M. – College Heights or College Avenue.

R.M. – What was the interaction at that time of the hospital, kind of...?

A.M. – Well, that was another reason on this obit I wrote. I said, it was an ideal neighborhood for these young people to raise their families. First of all, it was John D. Pierce [Lab school at Northern] which had just been built for them. So, the kids could go from Miss Bates, I always say like Nancy she could have gone from Bates to Bottum, from kindergarten through college or high school because Bottum was Head of the high school. That was the education thing; they had John D. Pierce.

R.M. – Hmm.

A.M. – Then, they had St. Luke's Hospital was right there. So, if they needed the attention they didn't go to St. Mary's, which was a Catholic hospital on the south side. But they went to St. Luke's Hospital which was sort of semi-religious hospital at that time. We lived very close to the hospital. In the morning, we had open windows that faced, I guess that's Hematite [Hebard Court] or something that runs past the old St. Luke's. At eight o'clock in the morning, the Superintendent, Miss Van Bracken would bring her nurses out on the front porch of the hospital and they'd sing religious hymns.

R.M. – Oh?

A.M. – That's how religious it was.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – And I became pregnant when we lived there. My mother was so happy because the hospital was just a stone's throw from where we lived. I had a room reserved and everything. Then I couldn't go there because a new doctor had come to town; his name was Dr. Beltz and he was Jewish. The very religious, Miss Van Bracken would not work with him because he was Jewish. And he knew I needed all the attention in the world at that time. Believe it or not I had to go to the Catholic hospital on the south side.

R.M. – Hmm.

R.M. – So the Catholic's let him operate there?

A.M. – Yeah. Which was very hard on me. First thing I...oh, and the nuns were just marvelous to me. I told them... they gave me a room that was an annex to the chapel. The first thing I asked them to do was to take down all the bloody Jesus pictures.

R.M. – (Russ laughing).

A.M. – Those pictures where they squashed thorns on his head and his face bleeds you know. So those are experiences that really tie up with Northern.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. What was the it like down at that end of town there? You talked about the streetcar line. What were there...like stores or shops or eatery down around North Third Street and Fair and some of that area, Kaye and College?

A.M. – Not very much. There were standard things. First of all, there was a place called "Chicken Shack", you know on Wright Street. Right within stone's throw of Northern...

R.M. – Wait, wait ---

A.M. – was this great big Palestra.

R.M. – Okay. You mean Fair Street?

A.M. – Fair, yes.

R.M. – Palestra. Okay.

A.M. – Which was like we have now, our new one and all the activities skating activities and stuff were held at the Palestra which is run down building. But across from the Palestra..."What street would that be? Third I guess"...was just a little shack. They called it the "Chicken Shack" and that was where you went to eat between classes and that's where you raised poopy.

R.M. – (Russ snickering lightly to what Anita said).

A.M. – And it was just a common...I think it closed at six o'clock maybe.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – Outside of that, you had a standard bakery. At that time, the bakery was on North Third. It's called Our Own Bakery, I guess. The man that ran the bakery would deliver your bread--so he delivered us a five cent loaf of bread. Then, there was another bakery, mighty nice bakery up on Third Street and there was another bakery Downtown. There were three bakeries in town.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – That was before the IGA's had come in. There were Red Owls but no IGA's. Usually had a corner grocery store--like LaBonte's and places they would deliver. Downtown was pretty much the way it is now.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. Where did the students live? Were there dormitories or did they live in apartments or?

A.M. – Most of them rented from land ladies. Land ladies would pick as many as five or six students and they had beds all over the house. My very best friend now is Lotta Stewart; she was Lotta Osterberg. Her mother always had students. I guess there were four members of the family and two; there were seven people around their table. But in addition, they had two teachers that lived there and they leave in April.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – So, most of the women made their extra cash on students.

R.M. – Oh I see. Mm-hmm. Do you remember were conditions pretty good? I know sometimes people complain about the accommodations students live in.

A.M. – No, because it was all in the hands of the students. If the land lady wasn't good to them or didn't have clean beds--they didn't come back to her the next year. So, there were certain land ladies that could get all the students they wanted. And there were others that had a hard time getting them. And they were all over town; they weren't just on top of the college.

That's why I told you this stuff about the streetcar. Because you could live a distance from the college and even if you didn't have a car--you could get there.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – When I lived on Spruce and East Arch, I started Art at the college. I just stepped out of the apartment house into a streetcar and a ride out to Northern.

R.M. – What did they do once they got rid of the streetcars; did they use buses there or?

A.M. – Yeah. Buses were very slow in coming in. There wasn't enough money there I guess. That's why streetcars discontinued because cars came in--see. There wasn't enough driver's shifts for the buses.

R.M. – So then did that put a strain on the students that they moved closer, did they move closer to the college or...?

A.M. – I can't give anything on that... I wouldn't know.

R.M. – Did they have in the summer time--did they run courses? Was Northern active during the summer?

A.M. – Oh yeah. Northern first was active, as I told you, when it was a teacher training college and these young women would come from Houghton--right out of high school. They'd take a short course at Northern and then they'd go back as full fledged teachers in rural schools.

R.M. – Mm-hmm.

A.M. – Then Northern got to be a year college when it went to be a Northern, Normal and then students really boarded near the college.

There was an old dormitory there but it was never used; that was, it got to be a nunnery after it was... There were a lot of people living in Marquette. Women, a little bit older than I, went to the dormitory when they went to Northern.

R.M. – Oh.

A.M. – That was a long building that was between College and Kaye. **[Note:** It was bought by the Catholic church. It housed the church, nunnery and a school]. It was torn down and that got taken by the Catholic Church it's sort of a nunnery. Then it just became condemned.

R.M. – Oh?

A.M. – But that was where they stayed years ago.

R.M. – So that was across the street from Longyear Hall then?

A.M. – Yeah. It's where St. Michael's school [is].

R.M. – Okay.

A.M. – That whole block is Catholic.

R.M. – Oh, and so that use to belong to the University and that was the dormitory?

A.M. – After the University gave it up, the Catholic Church took it over. The Catholic Church owns that whole block. It has St. Michael's school, then the church on the other corner and the priest house in the middle of the block.

R.M. – I see. Mm-hmm.

A.M. – It was John Walsh who saw to it. He lived on College Avenue; he's quite powerful. He saw to it that the Catholic Church acquired all that land instead of it going to Northern it went to the Catholic Church.

R.M. – Oh, oh, oh. I see.

A.M. – Just a little small town politics.

R.M. – So that property then originally didn't belong to Northern or did it...?

A.M. – Well, I don't know when the dormitory was there whether that belonged to Northern. I imagine it did.

R.M. – Ah-huh. Okay.

A.M. – The best place to go for a thing like that is the abstract office; you'd get a lot of information. If you went to the Courthouse and looked up the abstract.

R.M. – Okay, are there any other stories about and memories of some of the faculty and some of the activities that use to go on campus there? Even some that are--that you would consider a bit off color like the story you told of the corks. Were there any others things like that?

A.M. – Well, yeah, as a faculty wife you'd be the last one to hear.

R.M. – Oh? (Russ laughed lightly).

A.M. – Because I am embarrassed to tell it in front of Nancy.

R.M. – Oh.

A.M. – But no, we were very pure and we were very pure when it came to drinking. It's quite shocking to people in recent years when there was a college has a convention or anything they set up a bar. Oh no, that was way against it.

R.M. – So in the old days then, they wouldn't serve it at a dinner or something; they would never serve wine or...?

A.M. – Oh never, never, never. Even now, if you do have a bar come in, you have to guarantee a fifty dollar bar sell. In other words, you have to guarantee the College fifty dollars before they set up a bar for you. I know that because when we had the Upper Peninsula Craft Conference at Northern, they always set up a bar. And we knew that we'd have to pay fifty dollars—to sell drinks to that account.

R.M. – Mm-hmm. Sort of a minimum. Back in 1949, was Northern...were you and was the University involved in celebration of the Centennial of Marquette?

A.M. – Oh yeah. Definitely. I remember in October, I went to some Tri Mu's party at Northern and I wore a costume. From that day on, I was never without a costume. I was, I guess the only one that wore one at that thing.

Yes, especially the girls they had...what they called the Gibson Girls. We had a choral society in town just like we have now. And they wore white blouses and black skirts so they were Gibson Girls. That was a celebration.

R.M. – Ah-huh.

A.M. – Oh yes, the college was very much in it. It had a huge parade and they had different organizations that did different things. So, the college was part of the '49.

R.M. – Let's see I guess that's...seems are there any...Nancy are there any things that I sort of missed or?

Nancy – I thought, well I think she's talked about some of those things but just that individual people? Do you want to say any more about Don Bottum or know?

A.M. – He already knows that he's "the punster". He was well liked, no matter how strict he was--he was well liked; he was in competition with Case, Chase.

R.M. – Hmm, Chase.

A.M. – And I told you about Ebersole coming to the History Department.

R.M. – No you didn't. Wait a minute.

A.M. – Oh, well.

(At this point the recorder was shut off and this part of the interview was over).