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Interviewee: Herbert Lee "Herb" Torgrimson

Interviewer: Annie Pontrelli

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Annie Pontrelli: This is Annie Pontrelli, interviewing Mr. Herb Torgrimson on July 25, 1991. Herb, why don't you go ahead and tell me about your affiliation with the university the years you were there and then we'll just kind of go from there.

Herbert Torgrimson: I came to the university in 1939, hired as a repairman—what they called a repairman in those days—taking care of plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and so forth at the University. I worked at what they called the repair shop doing plumbing, electrical and so forth.

I came in 1939. In 1945 I was injured when Bob Clark, my foreman, and I were putting up a heater in the Men's Gymnasium—a pool heater for the water. I hurt my back and I was off work for about a year. Finally went to Seattle, was sent to Seattle, and had my back fused. I have seven vertebrae that are fused.

When I came back, I was unable to go back into the repair shop and Tom Swearingen—who is the...what they call the Maintenance Engineer—took me into the office as a draftsman. I was in the office there as a draftsman for all the time that I was, that Tom Swearingen was there and then moved on into other jobs at the university.

Made supervisor of the craftsman-Craftsman Supervisor. I was head over, head of the foreman, over the carpenters, electricians, plumbers, the garage, janitors and so forth. I was in that position until about 197...let's see it must've been '73, '74 when I went into this. Appointed Security Chief and the governor appointed me as the Chief of Security at the University. I was in that position until 1977 when I retired.

I've been retired 14 years now. Ten of those years I lived in San Jose, California, and it was hardly a month that passed while I was living those ten years in northern California that I didn't get a call from the University asking where this was, where that was. Varied things that...where all the plans are? Like they didn't know where to look for them. Most of that stuff was in my head. I returned here two years ago and lived here in Missoula. Came back because of my children were here and I'm getting older.

As far as I'm concerned, personally, I came from Three Forks, Montana. I was raised there and went to high school. My dad was an electrical engineer when we were all growing up. I came over here to Missoula when the CCCs were started in 1934. I worked out at the Fort Missoula as a draftsman. I was in that, stayed in that position. We built up camps all over the state of Montana and Idaho and I made drawings of those camps. As a draftsman.

Until about 19-, oh, it must've been, '38 when it went out of existence and I was out of work, so I went home to Three Forks and stayed there one winter and came back in here and got a job at the Northern Pacific Hospital as an Operating Engineer. I went over to Helena and I got licensed for stationary engineer work and I was hired and I worked over at the N.P. Hospital for one year until May of 1939. I landed the job out at the University.

I taught myself, with help, of course, through...from Swearington, who was a Forestry Engineer, to survey. I surveyed nearly all of the buildings that are in, at the University, that were built at the time that I was employed there at the University. I was inspector on nearly all of the buildings. I made up what they called a Punch List Sector. When jobs were done, I went through and checked everything in the building for all the construction details and so forth. That had to be reviewed and repaired by the contractor before the state of Montana would accept the building.

I made site plans for, I would say, half of the buildings at the University. Then they were (?) for buildings, so I would give contour lines to give the architects information on the elevation and so forth (unintelligible). And then when the contractor came in, I used to set the four corners of the buildings with surveying instruments.

I served under (unintelligible). I was there at the University for about eight presidents. Plus, in between nearly all of those, there was a backing president. I had known Clapp who was the president in 1921-1935. I knew him through one of his daughters. I was a young man and used to hang around the University and I met Hartnett (?) and Isabella, relatives of his. So, I had seen Doctor Clapp. I was out there during Sisson, Melby, McCain, McFarland, Newburn, Johns, Pantzer, and Bowers. I retired while Bowers was still there.

AP: That's a lot of presidents to have in one period of time.

HT: That's right. When I came there, there were 16 of the permanent buildings there. When I left there, it was a total of 45. I was there when they built 29 of them.

AP: Oh, my gosh!

HT: I think that there's very few of them here that were built after I...This doesn't give them all because it's the—

AP: Now what were some of the buildings that were built during your time there?

Herb, just a second.

HT: Again now?

AP: I just asked what were some of the buildings that were built during your time. I know that several—

HT: While I was there? The ones that were built while I was there was Aber Hall, the Alumni Center, the Art Annex Pool, the Business Administration, the Chemistry-Pharmacy building, Dunaway Hall, Elliot Village, Family Housing, the Field House, the Fine Arts building, the Forestry Greenhouse, the Health Science building, the Health Services building, Jessie Hall, Knowles Hall, the Law building, Liberal Arts, the Library, Lodge, Miller Hall, Music, North Corbin Hall, Physical Plant building, the Science Complex, Turner Hall, University Center, and the Women's Center. Total of 29 buildings.

AP: So you've witnessed a lot of changes—

HT: Oh yes. Yes, that's right. This was put out in 1980. Look here. Here's the map that I made.

AP: Oh, look at that.

HT: What is the page number?

AP: Eighty-five.

HT: Eighty-five. See my initials there in the corner?

AP: Yes, that's great.

HT: I drew that. Now what year was that?

AP: That was a map of the campus in 1947.

HT: Forty-seven when I made that.

AP: Oh gosh! All the changes.

HT: Yes.

AP: I'm sure you've had—

HT: (unintelligible)

AP: Excuse me, go ahead.

HT: Another interesting thing, look at the trailers that used to be here.

AP: All of the trailers in veteran's housing.

HT: Now the veteran's housing is down the street. This is trailers that were here originally. So, this came in after the war. After the war, one of the first things we moved in were the trailers. I don't have all the maps here, but the next thing was the strip houses that were out where Dornblaser Field...The old Dornblaser Field on South and Higgins—there was strip housing in there and all along South Avenue and a lot of the area where the present family housing is was strip housing. These strip houses were moved in from Farragut, Idaho, and from some place in Washington. Those buildings were all moved in here and many, many students got their education because of the cheap housing that we had out there.

I don't know what they call that building now. The Federal Credit Union Building used to be in there. Now that area—that was the original area of the Pharmacy Garden.

AP: What was that?

HT: Pharmacy Garden. It was a garden they were experimenting with herbs and so forth and digitalis with cane, which is a pain killer. I think it's a pain killer. Digitalis came from a flower and the pharmacy school was raising that and testing it at that time in that garden there. Foxglove.

AP: They don't have that anymore?

HT: Oh no, no. That's gone.

AP: Let's see. What are some of the other ones here?

HT: Jumbo Hall. See that was a temporary dormitory.

AP: Now was that the barracks that were brought in by the army?

HT: No, no. This was a separate building that was brought in from Washington. They were not barracks. But there were a lot of storage buildings. There was a storage building behind the...Physics building—what they call the (unintelligible). They've changed the names on some of these. There was an office building. Here was an office building. These were all temporary buildings. There was a whole lot of them that were brought in, and they used them for temporary classrooms and so forth.

AP: Did they get rid of those temporary buildings in one, in one fell swoop or did they get rid of them (unintelligible)?

HT: No, no. They were taken out...taken out as times went. It had to be removed when they built the music building. This one was taken out when they built Elrod...not Elrod—

AP: Miller?

HT: Miller Hall.

AP: Music practice houses—look at all of them.

HT: This was a president's house for many years. This house here. That was the Music Practice House. There's a picture of that house in this book.

AP: Of the old President's House?

HT: Yes.

AP: It was on campus?

HT: Yes. Right there, right there.

AP: What's this? It's hard to see that.

HT: You've seen this?

AP: I have seen this book, I just haven't studied all the pictures so that I would remember what that particular building is.

HT: (unintelligible) Now here—

AP: That's Main Hall.

HT: Offices. Let's see where we are. My office was right there, and Tom Swearington was right there. There was three of us—Tom Swearington, myself, and we had a secretary by the name of Esther Smith. So Physical Plant Office of Administration consisted of three people.

AP: Times have changed—

HT: Then we moved down here. See, the President's House, the President's Offices, have practically always been right here. So we were right next to them here on the first floor. Then our offices were moved down in the basement. We were down in here. My window is right there.

AP: But it's still in Main Hall.

HT: Yes. Still in Main Hall. Then, Physical Plant was moved to the Field House. As you come in the upper entrance of the Field House, it was the first door to your left. We had three or four offices. In fact, we built that—all those offices up there with those block walls and so forth. We built that in order to be moved in there as offices. Those were classrooms on past there, that were for wrestling and self-instruction and so forth. I think they are offices for the Athletic Department now, and across the hall from us there would be the Security Office.

In the early days, there was no police. What we had was we called the watchmen—night watchmen. They came out at five o'clock and were on until eight in the morning. They regulated the heat. We had time clocks, so they had to check into every building to make sure for fire and for water damage and so forth like that. That's what those night watchmen did was check into those buildings every night to make sure there was no fire or no water damage.

They also opened and locked, opened and closed the buildings. Ordinarily at midnight was when the buildings were closed and locked up tight because of vandalism and so forth. And I imagine they still do that around midnight. (unintelligible) Kids get in there and vandalize and so forth. It was then when we moved down to the Field House that we first hired the police. Which were Peace Officers the, which is exactly the same thing as your Highway Patrol, City Police, County Police, all are what they called police officers—Peace officers. And nowadays they have to go to school over in Bozeman. I think there's a six week—some kind of course over there—I don't remember at the time. I remember when we got them in over there, but I don't remember the time (unintelligible). Now they are...all the security people are police—peace officers. They originally didn't carry guns, but they do now at night.

Now, I saw where they were trying to get legislature, authority to carry arms during the day. I don't know if they've made it or not. I don't know if they do or not, but I now that they were asking for it—the authority to carry arms during the day. I don't know that it's necessary or not. It definitely is necessary at night.

AP: Are there any incidents that come to mind?

HT: There was only one time that I know of, and it was before I came, that somebody tried to steal drugs out of the Pharmacy Department. The Pharmacy Department then was in the upper floors of old Science Hall. That building is gone now. Let's see. There it is right here. This building is gone. It was to the south of the University Hall, right next to Dorsey Hall.

That building, that was the reason...I mean, there's pictures in here where it was the original Engineering School. That's what the building was built for. And then when they started the college at Bozeman, engineering was taken out of the University here and taken over to Bozeman. So, originally the Engineering School was here, but it was moved over there because it was, well, they kept confusing the mechanical arts students with architecture and the mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and so forth, which is fine.

Originally, the University was called the University of Montana and the library stacks all had U of M on them, on the ends of all the stacks. For years, we were the Montana State University and Bozeman was the Montana State College. Then they, and (unintelligible). The names were changed so this was the University of Montana and that's the University, what they call Montana State University.

AP: Well, I think they changed it a couple times.

HT: Yes, oh yes, but it was originally the U of M like it is today because the emblem of the U of M was on the ends of all the library stacks.

AP: Are they still there?

HT: I can imagine that some of those stacks are still in there. They could be. I don't know if they moved them all or not. See, we didn't move those. The library was in this building here, which was Psychology. I don't know what it is now.

AP: I think that's the Social Sciences Building now.

HT: Did they call it Social Sciences? See now, after the library was built, where the...Lord, I don't know. It changes so much. Anyway, we moved. The Physical Plant moved the stacks into the library. Then we set them up in the library, but when the new library was built, that was contracted, so we didn't get in on that one. It was contracted. It was just got to be too big of a job, but I can imagine that they moved some of those stacks that are probably over in the new library today. (unintelligible)

AP: Now I noticed that this was a stadium that was behind—

HT: That was Dornblaser Field.

AP: That was Dornblaser right behind Main Hall. Do you know when they took that out?

HT: It's in here, I think, but it's in this book when that was moved. I think it's right here.

AP: Oh, there it is.

HT: There it is.

AP: The old Dornblaser Field was built here in 1925, site now occupied by the Mansfield Library. In 1968, the field was moved to its original location on South and Higgins.

HT: Well, anyway, we built it—the one Dornblaser. We moved it from here out to South and Higgins Avenue and we built it there, but there was no permanent bleachers. They were all

steel—steel bleachers on both sides. The track was built on it and we built the change houses, that block there, and the ticket booths. We built those, but everything else was temporarily built. There's still some of it left out there, because we use it for track, and (unintelligible). The baseball diamond used to be out there next to Dornblaser.

AP: Oh really?

HT: Pioneer League, which they are trying to get going here again now in Missoula, that was there but it went belly up, there just was not enough backing in Missoula for a baseball team. There's too much sports here with the Grizzly football team and so forth. That seems to suck up most of the money that people put out for athletics and so forth. Baseball, I don't even think the University, I don't think, has a baseball team anymore. See, they used to have the University Side baseball.

AP: Did they?

HT: Oh yes. That was why it was originally built there. Originally the golf course was in the present location. It was operated by a man by the name of Morris McCullen. He was the, he had the bookstore at the Student Union and on the side he operated the golf course out there that's in the present location, but it went in, out of operation for a number of years. He just couldn't make the code until this new one and we built the new one there. And it's only nine holes and they was built about the same time as the Dornblaser Field was moved up there. Also, two years later was all of the housing, permanent housing that students was building out there. We had to put down chain link fence, if you notice, the golf course is all enclosed in chain link fence.

The people would...cheapskates. Instead of going down to the Clubhouse and paying to go in, why they would just park all over (unintelligible) or Pattee Canyon, come in on the golf course there or on Higgins Avenue and then walk in and play golf for nothing. It ended up...I don't know how many thousands of dollars. I surveyed the fencing and purchased the fencing and the Physical Plant crew erected that chain. I don't know. It must be eight to ten foot tall chain link fence all the way around to stop these cheapskates from going into the golf course.

A lot of people didn't like it. People lived up there on the hill, you know, one side on the, south of the golf course there. They didn't like that one bit because they couldn't walk into the golf course anymore.

AP: Do you have any memories that come to mind of some of the building projects you were involved with? Any mishaps or any strange little incidences that occurred, that come to mind?

HT: No. Not during construction. Everything went well. We kept our fingers on that. Tom Swearington was the engineer most of the time most of those buildings were built. We kept a pretty good finger on construction there. I can remember only one time when they built the

Liberal Arts Building, Plester(?) came in there to do the job. He tried to shorten, short the amount of plaster and so forth because he was supposed to use at least half-an-inch of plaster. In some places it was an eighth of an inch thick and we made him tear out, oh I'd say, 15 rooms of plaster and replaster because he was trying to beat us out of that job.

At the time when the Liberal Arts Building was built, an architectural firm by the name of Gus Link (?) in Butte. He was the architect. At that time, he had practically every architectural contract in the state of Montana. It used to be—perhaps it still is, I don't know—the one that...the contractor that gave the most money to get a governor elected got the jobs on the highways and billing contracts. Now, I don't whether they still do that or not, but I know of highway construction contracting outfits that went broke because they backed the wrong governor. The governor never got elected, so they couldn't give them the jobs (unintelligible), but this is the way it was run in those days now. I don't whether it's that way anymore. I don't hear that it is, but it was really something. The years go by.

AP: Yes.

HT: Oh yes. The one who gave the governor the most money to get elected, he was the one that got the jobs for all the road / highway construction and building construction.

AP: I hope that isn't the case.

HT: I don't think it is. No, I don't think it is anymore.

AP: Sounds kind of crooked.

HT: Yes, oh yes. Well, that's politics. I'm telling you, my family had their share of dirty politics when it was run by the Anaconda Copper Mining Company in Butte. They ran the state for many, many years.

AP: Is that right?

HT: Oh yes. Yes, yes. That was really something when those Copper Kings were in here. But they was big money.

AP: Did the Copper Kings have a strong tie to the University? I mean, did they combine a lot of—

HT: No. No, no. That was the funny thing. Stanford University, about half the money came from the hole over in Butte from the copper that was...There's a book out *The War of the Copper Kings*. Have you ever heard of it?

AP: No, no.

HT: If you read that, it's about Daly and Clark, the two of them. And Daly was the winner of it, the ownership of the mines over there. Clark, who was the original man in Butte in the mines there, he lost out, so he pulled all his money out and Montana never got a nickel of Clark money.

Stanford University, about half the money came from Clark out of the Butte mines, all out of the Butte mines. Daly, oh I think Montana got some things out—

[End of Tape 1, Side A]

[Tape 1, Side B]

HT: —he'd send me. I spent quite a lot of time over there talking to Mrs. Prescott. Her son then—the one that is alive and living out of Dallas—he worked for the county, the Highway Department of the county. Then when Mother died, why he...Although he always lived there, he never got married. He always lived there, but you never saw him much.

Later whenever there was any trouble, if the kids bothered things over there, the water was off or the electricity was off...That property all went through the University water meters and electric meters. So, whenever we'd have to shut down anything, water or electricity for a repair or something, then we would knock them out for a while. So I always was the one who had to go over there and talk to them. When the kids would raid his garden or something like that, you know, why then I would have, I would be (unintelligible) with, oh, Clarence over there in the office over then. Then I would have to go over and talk to him, you know, quiet him down. Whenever he had trouble, he always came to me. Nice old guy.

Personally, I think the Prescott house should be saved, but I think it should be moved. I think it belongs in the, needs to be saved as a house and it does it have value. It's history, but I can't see where it belongs—why it should be left where it is today. I think that that place should be space for another 11-story dormitory or office building. That house could be moved very easily. There's nothing special about the house and it isn't very big. As far as houses are concerned, people let houses be torn down here in Missoula that were beautiful homes. The best one was the house directly across the street from the Hellgate High School. That was torn down. It was a beautiful house.

AP: Which one was that? That wasn't one of the president's houses was it?

HT: No, no. No, no.

AP: Hellgate High.

HT: See, it's gone. Now there's housing there now. Apartment housing. It was one block. The whole house sat on one whole block.

AP: So kind of on Eddy?

HT: Yes, right across the street, it was one square block. It was a big house, and then there was the big garage with rooms up above for the caretakers. It was a beautiful home. It was amazing that they let be torn down. I wish they never did. The other house that was really nice they moved up to the mansion up here, which is a nice house. That came from Greenough Park. That sat on a square paper down there.

AP: I remember that house.

HT: That was a nice house. The Prescott house is historical and all that, but it is not in the same class as those other houses. No, not at all, but I think...Personally, I think it should be moved.

AP: Where would you move it?

HT: Well, it would be up to these historical societies to find a lot someplace. Then move it in someplace where...I think it could be a tourist attraction someday, but it should be, if it was...It's no good sitting alone. It should be with a group and it's possible that maybe that should be moved out to the historical thing out at Fort Missoula, which I think would be a very good location for it. A lot of people would get to see it. A lot more than they ever would if they leave it in its present location.

Get that jog out of that road and straighten that road up (unintelligible) There's room there for another building. Like I say, another 11-story would go in there very, very nicely. Either a dormitory or office building. See anymore, they don't have to have offices, but they used to on the first and second floor because of the elevators they had, and it doesn't make a difference which floor you're on in the building. The elevators are so rapid, it doesn't make a bit of difference.

The tunnels. Many people at the University never knew, never know, that the campus is laced underneath the ground with tunnels. Walk tunnels, which you can walk all over underneath the ground there. They carry the steam lines, electric lines, the television wires, and in many instances, the telephone wires. But you can walk all over the campus from building to building nearly automatically because now they have nearly all of the buildings plugged in so that you can walk into buildings from that tunnel. But many people don't know that and it's just as well that they don't because we never had to, never I can, never had trouble with anybody getting down in the, into our tunnels. Students, you know. We'd raise the devil if they did. But they are there.

The oval. One of the worst things I think ever had happened was the day that they took the road off from around the oval. That was the nicest thing that cars could drive around that oval and then back onto the street again. You'll notice in this book, the picture of the oval with the cars are all around it.

AP: I see.

HT: That was the nicest thing and it's a darn shame what people do to themselves. It got so that we couldn't keep them, stop them from parking there and pretty soon they had plugged it up. So, what did we do? We closed it up. Plowed it up and put in grass. People do this to themselves all the time. They won't give an inch and when you force them into it, then they lose everything, but it was really nice to be able to drive around the oval so that you could drive through the middle of the campus.

AP: Do you remember what year that was that they closed that?

HT: No, I don't. No. Now the other road, there was another road that was closed was Maurice Avenue. It used to run around, run right straight through the middle of the campus. It ends there at the Music Building now; can't go through there anymore. Used to be able to go straight through that thing. The Highway Department, when they came in and were building the Madison Street Bridge, they had it surveyed. They even had it surveyed to take that road right through the middle of our campus. McFarland was the president then and he was a different guy, I'll tell you. It's mentioned in here about McFarland. He was really something.

We, on McFarland's orders, not by the Board of Education, we closed the streets and plowed it up. Physical Plant did that to stop that Highway Department from running the highway through, right through the middle of the campus. Then, they had to move it on down to Arthur Street, one block down, which doesn't hurt a darned thing, but they were really...they wouldn't give an inch. So, McFarland, he just took upon himself to close that. So, we went in, we cut out all the curbs, cut out the asphalt, hauled soil and put it on. Which makes the campus today.

Also, Van Buren Street. There used to be a road from Van, that came across old Van Buren Street Bridge. Do you know where that is? Now, that used to be road across there. That used to come right straight in from the campus, right to the oval and it connected with the oval. And that was finally closed up because, well, when the oval went out, well that road was also closed. We had to put lawn in that place too.

In the old days, the way transportation and so forth was, I think you needed those left in. Today and later years, the cars began taking it up and they just ruined it for everybody because they...one of the worst things that I ever seen was down at the Field House, the main entrance of the Field House, the football players would come. They would come to practice, and they would park right in front of that entrance so you couldn't even get the truck up into that entrance because they was too damn lazy to walk. Here they'd go out and then work their tails off out on the Practice Field! But yet they had to park right at the front entrance and block it so you couldn't get deliveries into the building.

So, we ended up closing it up so they can't, couldn't park there anymore. You know, it's terrible what people do to themselves. It's truly awful. It's the same thing as people breaking street signs up and stop signs. They figure, "Oh well. It doesn't cost me anything. It's not mine. It belongs to the city. It belongs to the government."vBut the darn fools, they don't understand that I'm the government.

AP: Yes.

HT: They just don't understand that.

AP: Taxpayers pay for that.

HT: Yes, the taxpayers pay for that. In the end, they pay for it. People are stupid, you know, but they do it to themselves. They do it all the time.

The trailers, the strip houses—that was really something when those came in, and we directed them and contracts are built on some of them. That was after about 1945. It was after the war. The Second World War. The strip houses that were built out on the golf course was built by contract on a system that they call Cost Plus. It was government paid for. So, what do the contractors do in order to...for the contractor to make money, he made so much per employee they had. They would have three or four guys for each job hired and Uncle Sam paid for it because that's the way that contractor made money. He got his percentage on the number of employees that he had. It was really something. They got it built, but Uncle Sam sure takes a beating on this that way, having a contract like that, when they're open like that (unintelligible).

Those strip houses were moved in from Washington. Nearly all of them, pretty much. A lot of them came in from where the atomic plant was built there at Richfield and so forth. Where the atomic bomb was built. A lot of those buildings came from there. They were trucked in.

At the same time, after that way, we got Fort Missoula land out there. I don't remember, there was, it must've been 400 or 500 acres we got out there at Fort Missoula and we had the number of buildings out there that the state had appropriated and the cell block that the prisoners were put into.

AP: The prisoners?

HT: Yes. When World War Two...Out at Fort Missoula, it was a prisoner's camp for Italians. It was Italians. We had Italians here. In the Dakotas they had Germans. We had Italians out here. It was all a fenced in area just like a prison and they had a cell block. I don't know what they're using that for, but the Psychology Department used it for a good many years. They called it the Monkey House. They had monkeys out there that they experimented with—the Psychology Department. I don't know what they're doing with it today. I haven't been out there to see. I don't know that they still have the old stable which was there. We used it for storage out there.

I can remember when I was out at Fort Missoula, them watering the trees that runs along the side of the road, the old fort Missoula road. They watered those trees with a tank on a wagon that was pulled by mules. I can just see those prisoners when the army was there. See, it was an army base. Prisoners—that was one of the jobs they had to do was water those trees. I remember those trees. Those are great big trees today.

Arthur to Mount Sentinel—it was a—

AP: There was a road there?

HT: I'm having a hard time remembering what I was thinking. Fires! They burnt Cook Hall. That was the darndest thing you've ever seen. That was my doings there. I made the arrangements. Tom Swearington was my boss at the Physical Plant. I made arrangements with the city fire department to make a controlled burn. They can still read about it, have...so they learn how to control fires.

The Assistant Fire Chief—Kelly was his name. Kelly and I, we had it all figured out. I didn't know anything about fires, of course, but I went ahead and made the arrangements and so forth and figured out that one morning at eight o'clock or seven o'clock. It was early. Kelly came out and couldn't get the darn thing to burn. So he went in there and put the fuel oil, dumped the fuel oil in on the building. What he should've done is chopped a hole in the roof so that he could get a draft going through the building, and he didn't do it. He didn't know how to burn a house. I tell you. He went in there, put that fuel oil in, and when that fire took off, I'm telling you, it was really something. It just scared the devil out of everybody.

We cracked windows in the Forestry building and the new gymnasium. The heat cracked the windows. We had all the firewood apparatuses were there with all the firetrucks and all the firemen. So, we had everything right there on the ground when the fires got going. Still we lost and we had to repaint the sides of those buildings. We'd blistered the paint on the building. Plus broke all the glass.

AP: So, you were burning it to get rid of—

HT: To get rid of it. It was a cheap way of getting rid of it. That was the last time we ever took—we took a lot of those old buildings down—but after that we used a backhoe or a crane with a ball and took it down that way. They're expensive though to remove, you know, that way. So the fire would've been a heck of a lot cheaper. That was the Cook Hall fire.

Now the Fine Arts fire. We had a fire in the Fine Art building. That's the old Student Union, the University Theatre. That building there. Up at the top floor was Art, and it was loaded with oil, you know, from oil painting and thinners and so forth. It was a kid from Iran. He didn't get a good grade, so he started the fire and burnt that whole top floor off. This is an example of what diplomats get away with. He was the son of a diplomat from Iran and that kid...the United States State Department came and took that kid and shipped him back to Iran and that's all...that's all that they did. Anybody else would've gone to prison for it.

AP: He didn't have to pay for the damage?

HT: No, no. Hell, no. The State Department came and took him because his father was a diplomat.

AP: That is isn't right.

HT: No, no, it's not. The other fire was a Physical Plant fire when the warehouse building burned. Oh, that must've been 1975 or something like that. Seventy-five or seventy-six. Yes, 1975, '76. (unintelligible) They never did figure out how that started. They said it was arson, but I don't believe it was arson. I think that one of our employees was in there during the day sometime and because we had all...Even down the corridor, there was cases of toilet paper stored along the walls and so forth. It was a storage for the most part, our department. I will always believe that somebody was in there, left a cigarette, was doing something, put a cigarette down and then walked off and left it, you know.

It took hours because it didn't, the fire didn't get going until about three in the morning or something like that. So I always believe that it was probably a cigarette. But we lost thousands and thousands of dollars of equipment and supplies in that fire.

Forestry Garden—I talked about that. The Forestry Department, the Forestry Garden, they had a tree planting garden. That's where the physical plant is today. Plus where the Field House is, plus the parking lot that's next to the Law building, that was First Street Tree Nursery.

AP: Is that what they called Aber Grove?

HT: That's right. Aber Grove was in there. Aber Grove. No, no, no. That's not Aber Grove. I'll tell you later about Aber Grove. That's gone too. They had that nursery there and it was moved when we began, when we built the Field House. Then, that was all moved out to Fort Missoula. We got that land at the same time we got that other Fort Missoula land and all along Spurgin Road, out there where the State Forestry is now, that was the University originally and that's where our Forestry Garden has moved out to. It's over on Grover Street. You know the recent Forest Station for the State of Montana, where they, reforest them after fires and so forth. Have you ever been out on one of those out on Spurgin Road?

AP: No, I haven't had a chance—

HT: The nursery is still there going through Spurgin. Of course there's a number of them all around the state, I imagine. Heron or some place by Thompson Falls.

The ASUM, Cook, Simpkins, Carpenter's Shop, storage buildings, classroom buildings—all of those buildings which are shown on here, they were all frame buildings and were put in...most of them that were put in wartime buildings, like the carpenter shop. When we had the Carpenter Shop in at that time and also the ROTC Building. They were buildings from World War I. Cook and Simpkins. The history is all in here, by the way.

A year or two after the Field House was built, the horse group here in Missoula began having horse shows, and they had them in the Field House. We built the arena in there with a high-walled fence around it. It was a four foot high plywood fence. They used to have the horse

shows in there. Directly to the roads where the present Grizzly Washington Stadium is now, there was a metal building there that was the horse barn—that was the building that we moved down and painted our (unintelligible). It was the one that caught on fire there that I was mentioning. That was the same metal building. That was during McFarland's time, President McFarland. He'd done a lot of things, you know, and they didn't last, but they were nice. Those horse shows were really nice.

At the same time, they built the ice rink. We had a, where the swimming pool is, you know the swimming pool today, and then to the west of that was the ice rink. It was a rink size. And we offered it for about three, four years and it got so expensive we couldn't do it. When they talk about, here in Missoula having an ice rink, they don't realize what it costs. The electricity to keep that ice during the summer, you just can't afford it. I just can't see Missoula that has enough population, enough money to support an ice rink. It's a nice thing, there's no doubt about that.

That ice rink now is where the, I think, ceramics and so forth building over there, right across from the pool is where they do ceramics.

AP: I believe so. I haven't been in that building for years, but I know it was one when I was in school.

HT: Garbage dump. Right back of the Field House, a heating plant, is where the Field House...Know where the swimming pool is today used to be the University Dump. We handled all of our own papers. The wet garbage that came from the Residence Hall kitchens was hauled away to people had, that raised hogs, so they took away the wet garbage, but all the dry garbage, papers and so forth, anything that wasn't edible for animals, we hauled it and we burned it. We had an incinerator there right behind the heating element and for years that was one of the jobs of the Physical Plant was picking up garbage, waste paper from University office buildings and taking them down there and burning them. That was done away with when we built the Field House. Then, they began open landfills.

The original landfill, there's two landfills. One went across the Bitterroot Bridge on Highway 93 to Lolo. You'll notice just as you get across the bridge, those gravel piles to your right, that was one of the garbage dumps. And the other one, the city garbage dump, was where the Missoula City Sewer is today. That was the dump for many years. And until finally they began. See, those were operated by the city in conjunction with a few private...There used to be about three or four privately controlled garbage units. It got so they had to landfill, cover the garbage, and then they went into private ownership. That's what it is today, Waste Management. B.F.I. (unintelligible)

That's a big company. I know that when I was down in San Jose, that B.F.I had the garbage contract. It's a big outfit running garbage. It's a New York outfit. Of course, it's locally run.

They're still operating here in Missoula with the same people we had dealt with garbage for years and years. The city, I forget the names now, Bower. He's still operating—

AP: Oh, Max.

HT: Max Bowers. Many, I did a lot of dealing with him over the years on garbage. Originally he furnished the garbage—those big metal garbage containers sitting out there at the University. He originally furnished them and it got too darn much to pay rent on them. So I ordered them and we replaced all of those (unintelligible). The dormitories bought theirs and the Physical Plants and all of those are our own.

I didn't get to go through this at the time, but in 1953, during the Depression, the State of Montana did not have money enough to pay their employees, so they issued what they called warrants. Discount warrants. The people that got those checks could take them to the bank, and they were discounted five percent. The bank would give them 95 percent of their check and the bank kept the five percent for a year or two until the state had enough money to pay the bill. This was done in the 1930s. I didn't get in on it. At that time, I know I was a young man then, I was 20 years old. I can remember people fighting over jobs that paid one dollar per day to work in the fields, what they call rowing (?) peas over around Bozeman and...Rowing (?) peas was actually back bending work, was hand-picking the weeds out of the fields—the pea field.

See, there was a pea cannery over in Bozeman and that was quite a business, but that was about the only thing that was running around there that kept operating, that pea factory over there. Hamilton also had a pea factory down there. I'm sure it's out of business now. It was quite a thing during the Depression and it sucked up a lot of cheap labor. I can remember people fighting over those dollar a day jobs. I was very, very lucky.

When I was 16 years old, I got a job at the, what they called the Sacajawea Hotel at Three Forks. It was a 60-room hotel there, built by the Milwaukee Railroad. What did, was the railroad, would make up these groups of tourists to go up to Yellowstone National Park. They would come on the train to Three Forks and then they'd stay at the hotel. I was a bellhop there when I was 16 years old. Worked for a dollar a day, plus my tips, and I was the richest kid around there. I was making about 100 dollars a month during the Depression. When people were working for 30, were glad to get 30 and 40 dollars themselves. They would take them, bring them into Three Forks to stay overnight. They'd go up to Gallatin Gateway by a bus. The Parks service had these great big open buses, and they'd take them up there to the Gallatin Gateway. They built a beautiful hotel up there, and they'd stay at that one night. Then they'd take them on into the park for three days, and then we'd come on back and they'd stay overnight at Three Forks—

[End of Tape 1, Side B]

[Tape 2, Side A]

AP: Times were hard back then.

HT: That was how come I happen to come into the CCCs—the Civilian Conservation Corps—during the Depression. At the time, I got 30 dollars a month from the government. Twenty-five of that went back to your family. This was to keep the family eating. It wasn't that in my case. My dad was an engineer in Milwaukee and he made good money. Many, many people saved that money. Twenty-five dollars meant a lot of money to families. Most of the kids that are in the camps that came out here were from back East, way back East. They were really poor, really poor kids.

I remember one incident. We ate out at the Fort Missoula. I lived out there for about a year and then moved into Missoula and rode the bus back and forth to work out there. Those kids, they had terrible manners, really awful. We were at the table one day and a kid—he was from New York—he wouldn't ask for things. He'd stand up and reach, over in front of you and everything. One day, the kid was and he put his hand out. I took a fork and I stabbed him right through the hand! That kid never did that again. I never seen kids who had manners like that before.

Another thing that [Carl] McFarland put in was the carillon bells. Have you heard those? Do they still operate them?

AP: They are. I know, as a matter of fact, there's a big push to renovate them.

HT: Are they? Get them back. We were there, and we helped build that thing and put the bells in.

AP: Where are those bells from?

HT: A Dutchman came. They were shipped in from Holland. They were shipped right in from Holland and installed. A man came from Holland to install them, tune them, and so forth. Our Physical Plant people—we had to put the wires down to the console. They're connected by wire. When you push the lever on there...there's no keys and such like on a piano. What there are is sticks that are like a keyboard. You hit those with your fist. They're hooked by a wire to a little lever that hits the bell. It's quite a hard job to operate one of those carillons. It isn't like playing a piano. You hit those with your hands, with your fists. It's not easy. It is not like the electronic carillons today that are hooked up to a keyboard. These are the real ones at the university there.

At the time we built that, Stanford University was the only one in the West that had a real carillon. There's a number of them back East, but Stanford was the only one the West that had them. All the others were electronic. The clock faces that are on Main Hall: that used to be solid blackboard with the hands on it. At the same time we put the carillon bells in, we fabricated

those. They were drawn up by an architect here in Missoula, Bill Fox. Those open faces were put in at that time, so that you could get the sound of the bells out. At the time, Dornblaser was back in there, back of the Main Hall. We only put three faces in. I notice now that sometime while I was gone, in the 10 years I was gone, that they put that fourth face on it. It's the one on the back towards the mountain, now. It wasn't there originally. We only put in three.

I notice that there's a note about the editor of *The Kaimin*. My daughter, Christine, she's a graduate of the Journalism School. She was the second woman editor of *The Kaimin*.

AP: Great. What year?

HT: I don't remember what year. My daughter, Christine, was the second woman editor, which was a real oddity.

AP: You bet. That's great.

HT: After the war, we used to hire...Not after the war. The Physical Plant, in operations, used to hire lawyers, young lawyers going to law school. Bob Pantzer was one of them, the president. You've heard of Bob? You know Bob?

AP: Yes.

HT: I was over at Steve's. We talked about him the other day. We're the same age. We were kids together. We were both 25 years old when...the first time I saw Bob Pantzer, he was out there measuring and locating where the electric cable came that fed the Chemistry-Pharmacy building. It came from the Turner Building. That was the first time that I had ever seen Bob Pantzer. He was our law student then.

We also had a law student by the name of Archie Vaughan (?). When the surplus equipment came in after World War II, we had...there must have been 100 truckloads of mattresses, sheets, kitchen equipment, food. All that came in on the trucks was donated by the surplus of the United States government to the university. Archie Vaughan, I can remember I hired him—he was a law student—to help unload and distribute that stuff. I can remember we'd have a big truckload, a big van would come in. We'd dump it into the stalls under the old Dornblaser Field. Archie would have to distribute it around campus (unintelligible). Archie Vaughan was a banker in Billings. He's retired now, but he's still living in Billings, as I understand. He's quite active in University Affairs. I know that he's over there. I haven't seen him, but I understand that he's been very active in alumni things. I'm sure, for the centennial, he'll be over there.

One of our night watchmen was a law school student. They'd help out. They're the ones who'd do the running for you, if you wanted something, to know something, wanted something delivered. Those kids, they worked a bit, just for two or three hours a week. It'd help the kids through school. They were good kids.

In 1960 to '75, it was the marijuana time out at the university. I can remember it didn't matter where you were, you smelled that in the air, the marijuana smoke. It was terribly strong. The University Center had just been built. It was awfully strong there. You'd smell it all around campus. I was security chief then. I always had marijuana plants on my desk. Those darn kids in the dormitories would have a pot and here would be the marijuana plant, 18 inches high. Our security people would keep bringing those darn things in. I always had marijuana plants in the office from the security men. Then we'd have to get rid of them. It was really something. When they finished the library—the new library—all of those flower beds that are around the sides of the building. That following spring, marijuana plants were growing up all over the flower beds. Some doggone kid had spread marijuana seed in those flower beds. I'm glad that you don't smell marijuana anymore. Once you smell it, you never forget it. It's really a distinctive odor. I don't smell it anymore out there. I imagine there's a still a little of it, but it's not much.

In the early days, the dormitories each had their own kitchen and dining room. The kitchens were in North Hall, which is Brantley Hall now, Corbin Hall, I don't know whether it's still named Corbin Hall, and South Hall, which is Elrod Hall. Those three each had their own individual kitchens. They all had potato peelers, mixers, and so forth. The Physical Plant, we always had to maintain that stuff. When they remodeled or anything, we were always in on the remodeling. It wasn't until the lodge was built, which is the one on University Avenue. That was the original lodge that was there. The lodge there was mainly a dining area for students until they built the new student union and moved it over into there. Nearly all the feeding used to go on in what they call the lodge then.

Is the Red Star still in there?

AP: Yes.

HT: Still upstairs there. The Red Star did practically all the feeding. Do they still feed up there? Still have a kitchen?

AP: Yes, they do.

HT: I've lost out on a lot of that.

Deaths. As far as the Physical Plant, I only know of one. His name was Cy, and I can't remember his last name. He died in the heating plant. It was when we burned coal. He went up in the hopper. The coal was coal dust. It was real fine ground coal that we burned. We stored it outside the building on the concrete platforms around there. We had a scoop pick bring it over. There was an elevator where they'd elevate that into this great big hopper. Occasionally, it would form solid over the top and not fall down into where the coal stokers could use it. This Cy didn't know better. We'd all been going about to never walk on that darn coal that was on top. I don't know what he was thinking about, but he walked out on that thing. It collapsed and went

down into the coal. We had to empty that out. I don't know how many tons of coal we had to empty out until he...The man came down the hopper. Terrible. As far as I know, that was the only death that we ever had out there.

We had a number of accidents. We had a ditch collapse, along there by the railroad tracks, when we built the new Physical Plant, the one that is there today. A man was buried right to his neck. He came out of it all right. It's a wonder we didn't lose that man. We had one laborer—they were changing tires on a truck. There's a rim that comes off on big truck tires that you put the tire on. He was putting air in there. He didn't get that rim on properly and the tire blew. It just bent him backwards. He was bent over the tire. He bent over backwards and broke his back. He was a cripple for the rest of his life.

The Whittaker Ranch. This hill up, there's Whittaker Drive up there. All of this used to be what called Whittaker Ranch. They couldn't make a living on that. It's dry land. The mother worked as a cook out at the university and the two sons worked at the heating plant. Think of what that woman...The woman couldn't sell that land. Look what they done to this land. That was the Whittaker Ranch. That poor woman didn't have anything. The father had died and she couldn't farm or anything. It's a shame, the potential that was in on that hill. Think what that's worth today, and that poor woman had nothing.

The dormitories, in the early days, were supervised by a woman by the name of Monica Burke. She was very efficient. Her assistant was Eleanor McArthur. Those two women did a beautiful job at running dormitories. Finally, she married Tom Swearingen, who was my boss at the Physical Plant. Everybody knew her as Monica Burke. She was a really efficient woman. That woman knew what she was doing.

In those days, everything was segregated. Boys and girls did not mix. Period. It was really something. Even when we would have to...I was a repairman. We would have to go into those dormitories and repair water faucets and electrical things. They were really strict with us, I'll tell you, going into those women's dormitories. Today, they're living together practically. In later years, I'd walk down a hall and here come a naked girl out and walk right past you! Honest to God, it was something. You learn, though, that you didn't pay any attention to it. You were just a piece of the furniture. When you're working like that, you get sort of that you do that.

One thing that I was always impressed on the people that worked for us was that you went into an office...I know this happened to me. I didn't have a pencil or paper. I wanted to mark something down. I went down to the secretary's office and borrowed a pencil and paper from the secretary. One thing I always pushed to the men: you never open a desk. Never do anything in the faculty offices or any of the offices. If you need a pencil, you don't take it off of that desk. You never touch anything on the desk. We never had anyone that got into trouble for stealing or messing up an office. That was one of the first things we talked to people about: that you never touch anything in their office. Never take anything, pick up anything, take it home or take

it with you. You're really liable, all alone in the office. We all had keys to all of those buildings. There wasn't a place in that campus that I didn't have keys to. I could go anyplace at any time.

Bob Clark was the...when I came there, he was foreman of the repair shop. Originally, the repair work that was done in the dormitories and in the buildings was performed out of the heating plant. A man by the name of Teddy Kessler...There were two brothers, Germans. They didn't speak very good English. They both worked at the heating plant, the Kesslers. Ted was taken out of the heating plant and set up the repair shop. He and Orville Keith were the first repair people up there in the repair facility. It was down in the basement where the old, original heating plant was, in Science Hall. That was the original heating plant. That's where our shop was years ago. Bob Clark was the foreman.

When I came, then there was two of us. Teddy Kessler retired. Orville Keith went back to the heating plant as an operator there at the heating plant. It was just Bob Clark and I in the Physical Plant. The repair department. Plus, there was a carpenter shop, run by...the foreman was Walter Smith. He had one carpenter by the name of Henry Burser (?). The two men were the carpenters. That was the carpenter shop. The janitors, the foreman over them was Lawrence Toner. Toner was there for about 35 years or something. Everybody liked that man. He was really something. He was over all of the janitors. In those days, we didn't have too many buildings, so there wasn't too many. And over the laborers, the labor crews. They're running the trucks, the delivery, running mail, and so forth. Lawrence Toner was...the truck driver was...Rangitsch was his name. His sons run the Rangitsch Trailer. His sons and his people are up there.

I mentioned to Bob Pantzer...Andy Cogswell. I can remember when he was Dean of Men. He's from a well-known family in Helena, the Cogswell family. Dean Stone. I knew Dean Stone when he was head of the Journalism building. The mountain there is named Stone Mountain after Dean Stone. Rowe was the head of the Geology Department. The Geology Department, at that time, was directly under the floor below the President's Office. That was the Geology Department. There was [Naseby] Rhinehart. We knew him when he was a kid out here playing football. Then he went into the trainer there. He was a nice guy, Nase. He just died recently.

AP: I know.

HT: He was a nice guy. His children, they never caused trouble. Never had any trouble, until the young boy, when he graduated from high school, went over to Great Falls. He got mixed up with those colored people from the air base there, Malmstrom Air Force Base. There's an awful lot of colored guys there that do maintenance on that. He got into trouble with them over there. Nase went over there and straightened that boy out. In Montana, the colored people were not very welcome. A colored man didn't dare even walk through Butte. It was terrible in the early days. It was really bad. Nase—everybody liked him. He was just that kind of a guy. Really nice people.

Shallenberger, he was head of the Physics Department for years and years. I don't know how many years. When they were building the atomic bomb, Shallenberger would be gone for two of three weeks at a time. He was in with the physics people that designed the atomic bomb. He was head of the Physics Department here.

J.B. Speer, he was the Registrar of the university. He was, originally, head of the Physical Plant. Before 1921, he ran the Physical Plant, what there was of it. There wasn't many buildings, only about three or four buildings. There wasn't much to it, but J.B. Speer was the head of it. In 1921, Tom Swearingen—he was a Forestry graduate, forestry engineer. A graduate from the university here. He was hired as the maintenance engineer. That was the Tom that I worked under.

Kirk Badgley was the accountant. Even after the computers came in, we missed Kirk. If you ever wanted to know anything about how many dollars went here or there, all you had to do was go to Kirk. He had it wrote in books. It was handwritten in those days. You didn't have to wait around like you do today to get an answer to something. They'll tell you, "It'll take me two or three days to get it out." Kirk could come through, and in 15 minutes you'd have the answer. It was small. He had his fingers on everything.

This is the old way of doing things. This is the kind of a guy I was out there. I had my fingers on everything. I had all of those foremen. The people couldn't understand how I could...They came into my office at nine o'clock every morning, all of my foremen. They'd ask questions, and I'd have the answers for every one of them. I don't know how I did it, but I had the answers. This is the way that Kirk Badgley operated. I don't know. It's just there. That's all there is to it. I know I was able to do that. I know the girls used to wonder, "How in the devil can you do that?" Without any records or anything. I know exactly what each crew was doing: the electricians, the plumbers, the carpenters. I knew exactly what they were doing all the time.

There was never a day, or hardly ever a day, that I didn't walk through the shops. I kept myself in pretty good shape by walking. I always, nearly every day, took a tour through shops, so I knew what was going on. About twice a week, I walked the campus. I always had a car available (unintelligible), but I didn't use it very often. Not unless I had to go out to housing, out to Dornblaser, or something like that. I would walk the campus and check, daily, on the jobs that they were...maybe caught a little air in the ceiling someplace or the plumbers were doing something on the waterline—irrigation and so forth. I would walk a couple of times a week out on those jobs, so I knew what was going on.

One I always like was Bob Sullivan. He was Dean of the Law School for many years. He was hired there after Dean [Charles W.] Leaphart. Leaphart was the dean there. He was acting president at the time too, Leaphart was. Sullivan was always nice to work with. I knew him first in the old library, the old law library, which is right next to Main Hall at the right. Is Psychology in there yet? Psych used to have that building.

AP: I think they are still there.

HT: First it was Psychology. We worked there and then, when they built the new Law School, I worked up there with him. We had to finish down in the basement. We did that with our own crews. A lot of the remodeling was done by our people, the biggest portion of it. I don't think there was ever a time when we didn't remodel the President's Office when a new president came in. Every time, we had to go in there. We'd tear that old building all up and do it up for the new president. Our crews did nearly all that work. We didn't contract very much in those days.

Another one I liked, Henrietta Whiteman. An Indian, she was head of the Indian [Studies]. She was a nice lady to work with. I think she's still out there.

AP: She is.

HT: She was real nice to work with. That didn't have very good standing when it first came in, when Indian Studies came in. She did a nice job. Those people were real nice. I think that's one of the nicest things in the world is the way they're finally getting around to educating those Indians. I can remember, years and years ago, those poor kids: they'd go to school and then they'd miss school for three, four, days, mainly because the parents wouldn't make the kids go to school. Those people were living in teepees...or shacks. I can understand why those people that had lived in a teepee all their lives could not see the value of an education.

Not many Indians got educations, years ago. The ones that did, (unintelligible). They were smart people. Most of them would always end up out on the reservation after they'd been out and got a good education because they couldn't get hired. People would not accept an American Indian. It's beginning to change now. I know quite a few Indians and they're well educated people. I met one up in Spokane here not long ago. He's a judge. I think the answer to it is the parents. That's who is the problem in the Indians. Montana is not so bad. They're getting education. They got their own college and everything. I think it's a real good deal for those people to get educated. Down in the Navajo, down in Arizona and so forth, it's terrible. I've been down there and seen them and some others. They live primitive like they did 1,000 years ago, those people. They're always fighting and they can't keep the kids in school.

It all comes back to the parents. Just like I've always believed: there are no bad children, but there are a lot of bad parents. It's the secret of it. This parental mess is why this happened to the colored people in the big cities. It isn't the kids; it's the parent. They're working. They don't give a darn about the kids. I don't care what kid it is: you leave two kids together and they're going to find out some deviltry to do. I don't give a darn. It's just natural for children to do that.

[End of Tape 2, Side A]

[Tape 2, Side B]

HT: That's all my notes that I've gone through.

AP: What did you like best about your years at the university?

HT: The best thing: I loved my job, for the simple reason that every day was different. I can't understand how anybody could sit and type all day. I was a good typist. I took high school typing and I was a good typist. When I went in the office...the police chief hired the security chief. He'd sit there half a day typing things out. I made up my mind that I'm never going to do that. I've got girls that can do that a heck of a lot easier and better than I can. I never touched a typewriter again. I had real good relations with the girls, all of the girls, in the office. I never had to wait on them. Whatever they were doing, they took mine first because I was good to the girls. I had four daughters myself, so I got along good with the girls.

AP: Good.

HT: I've got one son and four daughters. I never had problems with the girls. They were always...seemed to have been back. They were still back there. I had a lot of good relations with young people out at University of Montana. There was a Tommy Lou Worden. She was an alumni. We had good relations. There were a lot of them like that. (unintelligible) A lot them, I can't remember their names.

There was one woman that taught out there. She was a teacher of some kind. Her husband's a judge. That woman used to pester the hell out of me. (laughs) I'd meet her on the Oval. She was one of those women who would stand about nine inches away from you and talk. It was just a habit that woman had, but it used to really bother me. She'd come right up to you...I don't remember her name. Doggone woman—

AP: What do you feel your greatest accomplishment was during your years at the U?

HT: I know one thing: that they'll never get my name off of things at the university. My name is all over plans down there for 30 years. Everything that I did out there has been recorded in drawings and is under my name. They didn't pay enough money and I decided that my name was going to go on there. Draftsmen don't do that today. They don't put their names on it. It has to be the boss that puts the name on it. My name is on every piece of work. My bosses liked that because they didn't have to do anything. I went out there and I surveyed all of that stuff. They sat on their tails in there. They had to sign them because they were licensed engineers, licensed civil engineers. But I did all the work and I did all the drawings, so all they had to do is put their name on it... When you had government money, you always had to send in site plans to the federal government, so they knew exactly what was going on. There were contour lines on there, so they knew elevations and everything. I prepared all of those.

The irrigation, I'll bet you 90 percent of the irrigation out at the university, I surveyed and staked. It's all in steel pipe and all graded so that it drains, so that it doesn't freeze in winter time. Today, irrigation is put in in plastic pipe and you blow it to dry it out, to get that water out, so that it doesn't freeze. In the old days, there was no plastic pipe. It was all steel pipe and all graded, all drained. Thousands of sprinkler heads out there, I've seen nearly all of them. Originally, we used to do it with hoses. When I came there, it was done by hoses. It was during the Depression and after the Depression. People didn't have many. We lost an awful lot of hoses. They were stealing hoses all the time. Hoses were expensive. We began putting the stuff underground and finally did away with all the hoses.

You won't find a hose around there. The only hoses you'll find are what the janitor might have in his janitor closet, so he can hook it up and wash the steps out there. That's the only hoses. We used to have truckloads. I can remember there'd be two or three truckloads of hoses that would have to be picked up at the store. We would drive over to the store. We did away with all that, putting it underground.

They'll never get rid of my name out there. I know that because it's all over everything.

Relations with Swearingen and Parker were very good for the simple reason that, whenever I was going to do anything—I was given a pretty darn free hand out there—I let them know ahead of time what I was going to do. I'd get in trouble once in a while, but, when they knew what it was, they always backed me up. (unintelligible) I caused trouble out there a time or two. There's rule and regulations of what can and can't be done.

For example, people wanted to run overhead wires. They didn't have money to really do something and run wires around or wires outside the buildings. No way were they able to do that. I would not allow it. I got in trouble over that, but they always backed me up. You'll notice that there are no overhead wires out at the university, which is the nicest thing in the world. There's no overhead wires. But it wasn't easy. Some of them...they'd have a few dollars to do a little job. They just couldn't understand why I wouldn't let them run overhead wires.

I remember once another time I got in trouble with Clancy Gordon. Later, he was a real environmentalist, but when he was there young...they were doing some kind of an experiment. The acid they were using, out of this hood, they just blew it out the window. Here, it'd come in the upstairs. We were right above. I went over there and closed them down. Clancy was mad at me. In the end, I was right. I know I was right. That smoke would come out of there, out of the...the Natural Science building was there. The building's still there, right next to the University Center. I don't know what they call that building now.

AP: (unintelligible)

HT: That used to be called Natural Science. Botany was in there. Biology—

AP: Oh, it is still there.

HT: The building's still there—

AP: The Botany building.

HT: Is it still botany? He was in the Botany Department. I closed them down. We had to get a contract on that to get duct work to run through to take that metal pipe up onto the roof and exhaust it out there. Put a fan on it and it exhaust. That smoke would come out of there yellow. You couldn't even see it. It was dangerous. This is what they do. Because they don't have the money to do the job, they just run it out the window. He wasn't thinking about the guy in the classroom above.

I remember one time...Ted Parker didn't like it very well, but he knew I was going to do it. The Craigheads—have you ever heard of the Craigheads? The Craigheads were doing work on the grizzly bear in Yellowstone Park. They were the first in the country to use the spotting of the animals by satellite. We had a station out at the university. I let them put it up on the roof of the Health Science Building. Ted, he didn't want anybody on those roofs. I know this has changed now because I saw in the paper here the other day, on the lunar eclipse, they were all over the roof of that building. Before that, no student was allowed on the roof of the building. I allowed Craighead to put his station up there. I allowed him to put that up, and they were able to track those bears. That was the first...it's quite common now the way they track them. They collar the animals. You read about it all the time, how they put it on the elk and the wolves—

AP: You mean the tags?

HT: No, the radioactive...not radioactive, but the little transmitter on the collar on the animals, so they can spot them with the satellite. Craighead was the first that started that. I knew the two brothers, the Craigheads, quite well.

AP: Herb, the last question I have here is, if you had the chance to go back in time, what would you do differently or what memory or experience would you want to relive?

HT: One thing, I should have gotten a college education, but I didn't. It was Depression time, 1932, when I got out of school, when I got out of high school. There wasn't any money, period. Even though my dad made good, there was five children. So I never went to college. I think that I did very well because I was on many committees, and out there at the university, I was given quite a free hand. I had my feet under the president's conference table a good many years out there, time and time again.

I was offered an administrative job, the last time by Bob Pantzer, and I turned it down. I just had a few years to still be out there. I know that working with the faculty is difficult out there. You can make a lot of enemies. I figured that I better stay where I was, being number two, and

let the boss take the heat. That's what happened to Parker. They'll get it in time. They all do. I always figured that I should have had a college education. At least, I should have gotten a bachelor's of some kind out here at the university, for the years of service that I did. For example, Bob Pantzer, he offered me the job there not too many years ago, but I turned it down.

AP: Anything else?

HT: I don't have any other regrets though. I did all right. As far as money was concerned, at the time that I worked there, I was making more money than...it wasn't much money, but it was more money than they paid to the college professors. As I say, it wasn't much money, but it was good money because of the times. 2,000 or 3,000 dollars was the only difference per year, whether I was boss or second. It wasn't worth it because that's how much the bosses made more than I was making. I've done alright. I have a nice retirement, a nice home. I own the home. I don't owe a nickel to anybody.

AP: Good!

HT: I've got a lot of friends around. I visit them once in a while. I still got a lot of faculty—old retired faculty—that I see. I went to try and get out and see Dietrich. You remember Dietrich?

AP: Yes. He's on my list.

HT: Nice guy. (unintelligible). But everybody's getting old now. I'm not getting any younger.

AP: Anything else?

[End of Interview]