

Oral History of Helena Hogan Shea, Class of 1930

Interviewer: Barbara Anton

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Transcribed by Karen L. Schneider (Class of 2000) in April 1998 and February 1999.

Tape 1, Side 1

This is an interview with Helena Hogan Shea (Class of 1930) at the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women in Providence, RI, conducted by Barbara Anton on January 12, 1998.

Barbara Anton: This is Barbara Anton at the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women. And, we're here at the Center on January 12, 1998, interviewing Helena Patricia Hogan Shea, Brown Class of 1930. She goes by the name of Pat.

Helena Hogan Shea: My middle name.

BA: Her middle name. Have you always gone by Pat?

HHS: Named for my father, whose name was Patrick.

BA: So, you wanted to go by Pat.

HHS: Hm-huh. Well, there was another reason too. There was another student at Pembroke who was a year or two ahead of me with the same name...

BA: Helena Shea.

HHS: Before I was married.

BA: Helena Hogan. I noticed that - Helena Mary Hogan. Well, I was just figuring, when I was thinking about you this morning, that you graduated sixty- eight years ago this May. That's really amazing.

HHS: It will be sixty-nine years. I graduated in '30.

BA: Yeah.

HHS: So, in sixty - this year will be sixty-nine.

BA: Oh, that's amazing. Was it, it wasn't common for girls to go to college in your day? Was it in your day? Why did you end up- how did you end up at Brown?

HHS: Well, I went to Cranston High School and we had a couple of divisions in the school - a

commercial and a college preparatory. And, several of my teachers had come to Brown and it was sort of assumed that you'd do that. Some of my relatives had gone to college and my mother was very ambitious of her five children. And, so, we sort of had that in mind to go to college, which we all did.

BA: Oh, that's wonderful. That's great. So, you always knew, there was never any question, but was there ever any question about going any place except Brown?

HHS: Rhode Island College, possibly, because of the tuition here, which actually wasn't that high. The highest that I paid here was \$350, I think. And, I had a scholarship.

BA: Oh, I was going to say, did you have a scholarship throughout the whole of your four years?

HHS: Well, the first year, I think, I had \$50. [laughs] And, after that it increased. It was never total, however.

BA: Your parents had to?

HHS: Well, no, I did.

BA: You did, oh, you worked. Where did you work?

HHS: Well, when I was in high school, I tutored some of the younger ones in Latin because I had done very well in Latin in high school. And, I worked summers as a waitress. And, I was, after I got to college, I had long time summer jobs. Work all summer at Watch Hill. Also, while I was at Pembroke, I tutored students and I worked in a restaurant for a little while downtown on Empire Street. I guess that's it.

BA: So, you did whatever you had to do in order to pay that tuition.

HHS: Yes, I did and I worked many hours a week at the John Hay Library. I liked that job. I worked in the cataloging department and my job was to print the numbers of the backs of some of the nicer volumes, which I did in gold.

BA: Oh, my goodness.

HHS: And, I wondered often if the some of those are still surviving.

BA: I bet they are.

HHS: It was the Harris Collection, which wasn't used too much. And, I liked that very much, so I did a lot of that. So, I managed to get by without any financial help from my parents.

BA: And, you lived at home. You were what they called a "city girl."

HHS: That's right. Only, it was more or less country, in Cranston at that time.

BA: Did you take the trolley to get to get to Brown?

HHS: Sure. I took the trolley and most mornings, rushed up College Hill, because I'd get there faster than waiting for the ride through the tunnel coming back because we had chapel, as you probably know, five days a week.

BA: The first thing in the morning?

HHS: Absolutely! And, I'd get there kind of breathless, but made it. Then, it was changed to four days a week, year or two later. By the time we were seniors, I think it was probably three days a week, but we had a cap and gown on for every morning in chapel starting in September.

BA: Now, well, do you think, was the change made because agitating for change? They didn't want five days?

HHS: I don't think so. I'm really not aware of any reason for the change. Instead of having chapel at the top of Pembroke Hall, of course, when Alumnae Hall opened the next year, we had chapel in this building.

BA: What would happen if you didn't attend chapel?

HHS: Well, you had to sign in. I'm not sure - I seemed to have always made it. I don't think I was ever penalized for not having made it.

BA: Now, what happened at the chapel? Was there, did you get lectured by the Dean?

HHS: No, not really. We had a prayer and a hymn and, then, it was Dean Moniss who made announcements about changes - things that were going on. We even had discussions. I remember one discussion. I was so impressed - it was some discussion as to whether or not people should have class rings. And, one of the seniors - I don't remember which one - argued in favor of class rings. She said that, if you had a class ring and were wearing it and you met someone in a far country, like in Asia or China, and you saw another ring like yours, that was fine, that was a good reason to have a class ring. [laughs] I really was very impressed by this reason and I got a class ring, eventually. But, I remember that, I was so impressed by those really brilliant seniors. [laughs]

BA: An argument. Now, speaking of Dean Morriss, did you have any contact with her as an undergraduate?

HHS: Well, she was really quite friendly, I thought, with everybody. At least, I always found her friendly. I remember when I was a freshman, I was in an English class and the instructor - I found out years later - he was an instructor, I imagine he was a graduate student and he was teaching our English class and somehow, I thought that he was funny and I use to giggle a lot. And, one day, he said to me, "What is so excruciatingly funny?" And, I said, I laughed a little more. And, that was a new word to me, I think. And, he suggested to me I go to see the dean.

BA: Oh my! Oh!

HHS: Oh, but she was very friendly. I don't remember that she criticized me. And, from then on, we were quite friendly. I remember talking with her about lots of other things. Like I thought that

maybe they should have a some kind of social course here to teach us manners and other social graces. And, especially if you were mamed and were running a home. She told me that she wondered often, why no one in her family ever got married? I mean, we were quite friendly, when she turned to this point. No, I liked her very much. She was a very nice, gracious lady and had a Ph.D., which also impressed me.

BA: It's funny, some people have different experiences with her, I mean, I guess that is natural.

HHS: Yeah, I mean, I remember nothing unpleasant at all, even my [unable to decipher].

BA: Did he make you go?

HHS: Yeah. Oh, I went. He told me to go see the dean, so I went. Well, he mamed a class mate of mine, went on to get his Ph.D. and taught at Dartmouth. And, I think they're still there.

BA: What did you major - did you major in English?

HHS: No, in Psychology.

BA: Oh, Psychology, I knew that, yes. Psychology, right. Who were some of the instructors then?

HHS: Professor Delabarre was the first faculty member that I encountered. He taught a kind of philosophical psychology. Psychology was just developing and he had been at Harvard with Professor William James, who was so famous, but I didn't understand mostly what he was talking about. He use to ramble on. He was a very nice, I thought he was a very old man, but we had an afternoon seminar and it would go on and on and on and at about seven o'clock his little daughter would arrive and say, "You have to come home."

BA: Oh, my goodness.

HHS: "Because dinner's ready." Well, after that year, Professor Leonard Carmichael arrived on the scene and he became a very famous person in his field.

BA: So, you had courses with him, then, too?

HHS: Most of them. And, I have one little thing that we published together.

BA: Oh, wonderful.

HHS: It was something I did. I forget whether I was an undergraduate or getting my Masters degree. But, he took a study that Alice Walter and I had done, made it over and had it published. I had [difficult to understand] .

BA: Wonderful.

HHS: And, then, I became friendly with Mrs. Carmichael. And, after he left Rhode Island, he went to Tufts as president. I went to his inauguration, yeah. And, then, he retired and went -

where'd he go next? - President of University of Rochester. And, then, when he retired from that, he was head of Smithsonian. And, when he retired from that, head of National Geographic. And, I was invited every year to some sort of meeting he had in Washington, but I hardly ever went to it, at his home. He and his wife were very nice, very friendly people and he was very distinguished. I've got a wonderful man. Very aspiring. So, I stayed with the Psychology department, having gone through the first course - it was all about parallelism or something with Professor Delabarre. It was something else, I didn't think that was psychology.

BA: But, did you always know that you wanted to major in Psychology? Did you always have social work in mind?

HHS: No, I did that because I graduated in a time of depression and they needed social workers. Very much so. But, at the same time, I decided I would take some courses, which I did. So, that by the time 1935 came around I had enough courses in Psychology and Education to have a Masters degree.

BA: I don't know if you are aware of the fact that Pembroke Hall, just celebrated its 100th birthday? It was in November 1897, that Pembroke Hall was, that Sarah Doyle handed the keys over. What was Pembroke Hall like at the time?

HHS: Well, our classrooms were there.

BA: Everything was there.

HHS: Second and third floors and the offices of the Dean and secretaries were on the first floor. And, in the basement was the bowling alley. I think I majored in bowling because I'm not an athlete.

BA: And, physical education was required.

HHS: Absolutely. And, I remember in the gym, having to climb up ropes - I was never very good at that. I was not very good at bowling, but it was easier for me. And, also swimming.

BA: How about swimming? A lot of people complained that they...

HHS: Yeah. And downtown.

BA: You were good at swimming? You went downtown to swim?

HHS: The Plantation's Club. That was the pool that we went to. I don't think we ever went - I don't ever remember going to the men's pool there, when it was somewhere around the campus. Around the middle of campus somewhere. I forgot which building that was in. But, I never went there. But, they had swimming, permission to go to the Plantation's Club, which was a very nice club. Do you know where it is?

BA: No.

HHS: Well, what's part of Johnson and Wales now.

BA: Oh, for goodness sake.

HHS: Is a very nice building, it's around the Performing Arts Theater. Set back and a very nice ladies' organization, very nice lunches, if you remember. And, a swimming pool, which always surprised me because I thought all the members were old ladies, but I was twenty, or nineteen, and I knew some of them later - they weren't so old.

BA: Right. You never joined?

HHS: No, they closed up.

BA: Oh, but that was really inconvenient for you young women to have to go downtown to go swimming.

HHS: Well, not if it were on the way home, which you could manage, because you had to go downtown to go home.

BA: Yeah, so you could just get in an hour of swimming or whatever and that would do it.

HHS: But, I think that, I don't think I did anything else athletic. I think I saw somewhere a reference, when I looked in the yearbook, to fistball, but I don't recall playing that. I don't know what that is even.

BA: Swedish. There's a Swedish thing. A Swedish clubs or something is up, kinds of...

HHS: Oh, Indian Clubs. I did that too. Yeah, I don't think the young ladies of today would have liked to have Indian Clubs as a course.

BA: No, I don't think so either. Times have changed. So, Pembroke Hall was a lovely building, though.

HHS: Yes, it was. And, what was the anniversary? The 75th anniversary of Pembroke Hall when they brought someone from England?

BA: That was the 75th anniversary of Pembroke College, of the Women's College.

HHS: Well, how old was Pembroke Hall then? It must have been about the same age?

BA: Well, it was 18 - the Pembroke Hall was about - oh, are you talking about the 100th anniversary of Women of Brown when the President of Ireland came or the 75th?

HHS: No, it was earlier than that and Grace Quinn was president of the Alumnae Association at that time. That was quite a while ago, but...

BA: Yeah, it was in '67, I think.

HHS: And, somebody from Pembroke College in London came over in '67.

BA: Is that [difficult to understand].

HHS: I don't know. I can't remember, whether...

BA: It was 1966 or, the first women were admitted in 1891, so 75 years would literally be 66.

HHS: Yeah, maybe that was it, but Pembroke Hall was built about, right after the first women came in. Isn't that true?

BA: Pembroke Hall? Yes, in 1897. 1897 and the money was all raised by Sarah Doyle and the women. The women paid for everything. They raised all that.

HHS: Well, Pembroke Hall was very nice. The classrooms were all there for my first year. After that, I was over on the Brown campus quite a lot with my hat on.

BA: You had to wear your hat and gloves?

HHS: I don't know about the gloves. I probably wore them if it was cold.

BA: But, you had to wear a hat?

HHS: And, one of my friends had a raccoon coat and she used to let me have it when I went to the campus. And, she wore my coat, which wasn't so fancy.

BA: Oh dear.

HHS: She didn't go to the Brown campus that much. She stayed on this side.

BA: Now, in your classes, in Psychology as a major, was that considered a women's major or were there lots of men in your classes to?

HHS: Well, it wasn't a very large department. There were quite a few men, I guess. I remember most Rosemary Perrell, a student when I was a graduate student and taking my courses in the Psychology department. She used to get the coffee ready.

BA: For the whole class?

HHS: No, we'd have seminars, small groups, and she was always there doing that, which I thought was quite nice.

BA: I wonder if she remembers that?

HHS: I wonder.

BA: I mean, become Dean.

HHS: I guess she majored in Psychology, didn't she?

BA: I think so.

HHS: Yeah, because she was there a lot. All of the time. I was just there part time because I was

working and taking courses there. And, in the Education department also.

BA: Was that a big department?

HHS: Yes, it was, as a matter of fact.

BA: Because a lot of women went on to teach.

HHS: To teach. Professor MacPhail, Professor Ekstrom - you know the Ekstroms, today?

BA: Ruth? Lincoln?

HHS: Yeah, her father-in-law was in that department.

BA: Oh, I never realized that.

HHS: Yeah.

BA: Now, you were also here when, I mean this Alumnae Hall, where we're sitting today, I'd like - did you go to the dedication? Do you remember that? 1927.

HHS: Yeah, in fact I was surprised about it because it had started before we got here and all of a sudden, we realized we had this wonderful building. It was very nice. I don't remember much about the dedication. It was a while ago.

BA: Yeah, right. But, it must have been beautiful. What are your memories of the building?

HHS: Oh, I thought it was beautiful. Beautiful furnishings, beautiful carpets, and beautiful chandeliers, all of which had equal history after that. But, it was really quite elegant and we had some very nice teas and parties there.

BA: Is that what...?

HHS: The students used it for was teas and dances and chapel.

BA: Oh, that was right. In the big hall.

HHS: We went to chapel. We had an organist. And, I'm not sure, I don't think there were any classes held here.

BA: But, the Deans' offices were downstairs in the basement? They moved?

HHS: I don't recall that they did because Miss Morriss, she had an office in Pembroke, so I think that Miss Morris did not move then. But, it was a very nice building and we did have dances there and performances - like the Masques.

BA: Yeah, the Masques, yes. Were you ever involved in any of those activities? The Masque?

HHS: Well, a Spring Day, I was chairman. And, I was on the committee of some of those other

things. I didn't do the Masque. It was very nice.

BA: They use to be performed out on the stairs right in Alumnae Hall.

HHS: Yeah.

BA: We have lots of pictures of that in the Archives.

HHS: Yeah, I would think so. But, Spring Day was a little different. I'm not sure why it was different, but we had a faculty member who would speak to us. And, I guess we - that was when I was a senior I was chairman of that. I use to have newspaper clippings about that. I don't have them anymore, I wonder what I ever did with them.

BA: Where was that held? Right here?

HHS: In Alumnae Hall.

BA: In Alumnae Hall. Yeah. And, all the women students were invited?

HHS: Everybody. Everybody. We might have a date in that book, when Spring Day was held.

BA: I've read more about Ivy Day and the Masques and so forth. But, the Spring Day.

HHS: We also had Ivy Day.

BA: Yeah.

HHS: I think we were imitating Vassar, maybe. But, there are notes there in the back that talk about the date. Are there dates back here?

BA: Oh yes.

HHS: Sometime in May, I think, it would have been. Of course, we went to school all through May.

BA: Spring Day! May 16th. Oh, yes. Oh, it was sort of a funny day. Not serious at all.

HHS: That's right.

BA: So, Professor MacDougall.

HHS: Now, he and John Spaeth were the people who were, and Ben Clough, who were involved in Carberry. And, John Spaeth was a professor of Greek and Latin here. And, I was, my first Latin class - I took Latin for a couple years here - was assembled and he came in as the professor. That old man and he was so serious, I must have been kind of silly, I don't know.

BA: The giggler.

HHS: He married my best friend. She had been my friend since we'd been in the eighth grade.

BA: Vema?

HHS: Vema Follett. She died a couple of months ago.

BA: Oh, she did. I didn't hear that. She has been a member of the Associates. I did not hear that. Where was she living? I can't even remember.

HHS: Middletown and she married John Spaeth and I am the godmother of her daughter, Peggy. And, I got to know John and realize he was not an old man and he was a wonderful person. Now, you know that Vema's granddaughter, Rebecca, graduated from Brown ten years ago, Phi Beta Kappa, and Rebecca Zeigler. Because my goddaughter, Peggy, married someone named Lee Zeigler and they lived on the west coast and he was at Stanford. Rebecca graduated from Brown, she is now married to someone who got his Ph.D. at Stanford a few years ago. He's black, he's from Zimbabwe. And, I noticed from reading your letter that one of your graduates here, lived in Zimbabwe or taught there?

BA: Yes, one of our post-doctoral fellows, yes.

HHS: Yes, well, now, Rebecca's husband is now at the University of Zimbabwe, and teaching there, Agricultural Economics. And, they're in Herrari and living right near one of my cousins who knows them. My cousin is an administrator - a nun - at the Catholic Hospital in Zimbabwe. And, Peggy, Rebecca's mother and Rebecca's father had been out there and I have pictures of them with Rebecca and with my cousin in Zimbabwe.

BA: My goodness.

HHS: But, at any rate, I thought it was interesting that that graduate student you had here had been teaching there. Is she back there now?

BA: No, she's in Cape Town now. She had another job.

HHS: Because I was thinking that she and Rebecca would both be graduates of Brown. And, they might have known each other. I don't know. Rebecca's been out there a couple of years. No, more than that. She graduated ten years ago.

BA: That would have been in '87? Something like that. '87? I think Teresa graduated from Brown in '87-9. Yeah, but that would be interesting. I wonder if they did know each other when, because...

HHS: Well, Rebecca spent most of her time, until she was married, in California, where she met her husband. But, she had been out there in Zimbabwe, teaching for a year or two and this year, now that she's living out there, a high school classroom in California where she taught, will be out there for the year. And, she's had exchange students, black students, into California where she taught. She's very active young lady.

BA: Great. Interesting that they both - see, that's where the class ring would have come in handy. They could have seen the class ring.

HHS: You're so right. Well, I'm glad that I found something that could have happened. Maybe they don't have class rings now.

BA: Oh, they do.

HHS: They do?

BA: Oh, yes, absolutely, yeah, very popular.

HHS: Oh.

BA: And, they sell them at the Brown Bookstore.

HHS: Do they?

BA: Oh yeah.

HHS: Ours had to be ordered from Bellcore in Attleboro.

BA: Yeah, Bellcore, that's where mine came from too. So, were you a member of Phi Beta Kappa, did I see that someplace?

HHS: I'm in Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi.

BA: Very good.

HHS: Because psychology was treated as science. And, everything else was, apparently, treated as human. I don't know.

BA: So, you graduated and then you went right, you got a job right away, as a social worker?

HHS: No, I think I was a student teacher.

BA: Oh.

HHS: For a semester and there were no teaching jobs, so then I went into social worker where some of my classmates were. I worked for the Family Welfare Society on 100 North Main - it's got another name now; I don't know what they call it. But, after being there for a while, I decided that, perhaps, I would like to teach, so I had six months of being a student teacher and taking courses.

BA: At Brown?

HHS: At Brown. One of them was with Mr. Allen, who was assistant superintendent of schools in Providence. And, I was taking courses in testing, psychology testing. And, there was a vacancy - a temporary one - in the school department because one of the psychologists was ill for several months, so I went to work there. And, I got involved with the school department in other ways and, eventually, I had a job teaching for a while.

BA: At what level?

HHS: I was teaching handicap students who were in high school. One of them was young Norman Case, his father was Governor Case. Norman was almost blind. I hear from him every now and then. He's in Vermont. Graduated from Brown, went to law school at Harvard Law School, married, had a family - still blind, still practicing law.

BA: Good for him.

HHS: In Vermont. A wonderful, wonderful person. I hadn't seen him for many years, but he used to - he came to Rhode Island and he spoke to a group from Providence because he had a summer home there and he had a lot of friends there. He still has no vision at all. Very nice, very patient kind of guy. And, I think his wife was at Pembroke when he was at Brown. She was a great help to him as a reader when he got to law school.

BA: Great. He's lucky.

HHS: Bright, great sense of humor, had measles and was out on the water in his father's little boat. And, the goiter really did something terrible.

BA: Is that what caused the blindness?

HHS: So, I always thought.

BA: Tragic. Now, when you were teaching, were you living at home with your parents?

HHS: Yes, I was at Central and Classical High School, just downtown.

BA: Right. Good students in those days? Bright students?

HHS: Yeah, there weren't many in the class, we called it Psych Conservation. Norman Case was the brightest, he was very bright and then, maybe, eight or nine students that was all. Because they really had to be tutored and some of them took courses at Central High School. And, some at Classical High School. But, I had to do a lot of typing - at which, I'm not very good - so that a lot of the homework would be done, would be presented to them on large type, a special kind of type that they use for those students. Some of them were good. Norman was very good. But, some of them were not. They were quite average, but then at the same time, I was so interested in getting into doing some more psychological work. And, Dr. MacDonald - I don't know if you know who he was? Charles MacDonald? He was a neurologist and he was on the staff, on the medical staff at Brown. And, also had something to do with state agencies. And, while I was working for the school department as a psychologist, my boss, Mary Green, suggested that I might like to work on Saturdays with Dr. MacDonald. So, I did. He had clinics in Providence - Rhode Island Hospital - and also in Newport. And, I had down there that I was given an appointment at the Rhode Island Hospital for a few years. Let's see - it's in there somewhere. At Rhode Island Hospital.

BA: Is it in here? Now, so at his clinics, what did you do? Did you see patients?

HHS: I did psychological testing.

BA: Oh, the testing.

HHS: Let me see.

BA: Rhode Island Hospital psychologist 1959 to '63, Department of Psychiatry and Neurology. Oh, that must have been exciting then.

HHS: Well, yes and no, because I had no contact with anyone except Dr. MacDonald and the patient that he was seeing. And, then, when I went to work for the State of Rhode Island, part of my job was to accompany him to Newport Hospital, where he was on the staff. And, we use to go once a week, maybe, or once every other week for a half a day. And, I did the same sort of thing. If there was any question about the amount of intelligence that a person had or, eventually, when I got into doing some personality testing, we would get that kind of patient. I worked with Dr. MacDonald for a long time - several years. I was not on the staff of Newport Hospital, but I was on the staff of the Rhode Island Hospital. But, I was sort of on the edge because I had nothing to do with the other members of that department. So...

BA: But, you were the expert in testing? And, the testing part, you mostly got during your masters program? Is that where you got most of that training?

HHS: Yes, because I got my masters degree in '35, and, for a long time, I did more and more testing in the schools, in the public schools, or I was replacing someone who was ill. And, eventually, when she came back, I went back into the regular classroom, only teaching Psych Conservation to students. I was not a regular teacher at any time. And, I left that to work for the state. Of course, Dr. MacDonald also worked for the State Department. But, that was a long time ago. I get those dates confused sometimes. And, I didn't go back, I didn't go to Brown, I mean to Boston University until 1950. Because, in the meantime, I had gone to work in Washington.

BA: Oh, you worked in Washington.

HHS: Veterans' Administration.

BA: How did you get that job?

HHS: I applied for it.

BA: You applied, you saw it and applied for it?

HHS: Yeah, I wanted to get away, out of Rhode Island for a little bit. So, in '48 and '49, I worked in Washington and took courses there, with some psychiatrist who taught at Catholic University or gave special courses. And, I stayed there '48 and '49.

BA: Were you doing testing there?

HHS: And, personality work and studies. And, then, I went to Texas and worked for the VA there for a year.

BA: You were seeing the country .

HHS: I was a social worker '30 to '32, and I was with the Providence Public Schools from '32 to '36. And, then I went into the Department of Social Welfare for the State as a psychologist. And, in '48, I went for a year with the Veterans' Administration and I came back to the State and I gave, in '48 and '49, I taught a class at Brown in Psychology and testing because the person who taught that was ill, she had a breakdown. And, I don't know what happened with her, but I taught for a while. I was an instructor part-time in 1936, then again '48 to '49. But, I came back from Washington and returned to the state of Rhode Island because I had a leave from them for a year and I had to come back. So, I came back and I stayed with the State for a long time. Actually, till I retired.

BA: So, you did work, all the time, from the time you graduated? All the time?

HHS: Yes, I did. And, when I retired from the State, I went to Butler Hospital for a year as a grant researcher. And, that I liked very much, but that was not doing any psychological work. It was writing grants.

BA: What did I, didn't I read that you were an alcohol researcher? Is that what you were doing with Butler?

HHS: Yes, but when I came back from Washington, I went into the Division of Alcoholism which was just being established. And, I was a psychologist there and, eventually, the administrator until I retired. And, I was working with the patients or as administrator and then writing some things. And, at Butler doing research and writing grants. That was it. That was a surprise to me to go into the field of alcoholism, but while I was away, they made changes in the department and the psychology department was absorbed, you might say, by a new division of Mental Health for Hospitals and Retardation, so that there was not really my original job and they were setting up the alcoholism division, which I liked, but I had not worked in alcohol. So, that was that till '74 when I retired. I spent that year at Butler.

BA: So, that was when you officially retired, but you didn't stop being active.

HHS: No.

BA: Certainly with Brown you've been active.

HSS: (?) I felt that Brown had been very good to me and that I should repay them, not with millions, but with whatever I could do. So, I liked Brown and there were lots of things going on that I could do. In the 1940s, we had something called, the Fabulous Forties. We had a great - did you ever hear about this?

BA: No.

HHS: It was a huge affair. All campuses, full of all kinds of goings on. I don't see it mentioned anywhere.

BA: Was it a weekend event?

HHS: I think it was just on a Saturday, but I remember there was a Mrs. Molten - do you know her name?

BA: No.

HHS: She was quite active in the Brown Alumnae Affairs and she ran that and I, I don't know what - we did a lot of things, seemed to me, it was a fair, something. All these campuses. I was doing some of it. I don't remember what, but it was of some interest.

BA: Was there a dance, too, or no?

HHS: No, it was daytime things, things for children and all sorts of things.

BA: Now, this was during the war?

HHS: 1940. The beginning of the Forties. We were not involved in the war at that point. There must be some mention of this.

BA: Yes, I will look it up, but I've never, never seen that. I can look it up in the - when we finish the interview, we can look it up in the guide to the Christine Dunlap Archives. There may be some mention of it there.

HHS: Yeah, it was a great big event and I think they called it Fabulous Forties or something Forties that began with an F.

BA: Hm, I never knew that.

HHS: But, we worked on that a long time, you know, the Association and things going on.

BA: So, you remembered that.

HHS: And, eventually, I was president of the Alumnae Association.

BA: That's right. What year were you president? Says it on the thing.

HHS: It's in something there.

BA: So, you were helping Doris Stapleton then?

HHS: I was very friendly with Doris.

BA: Oh, here, you were president of Alumnae Association, 1970 to 1972.

HHS: That was later, of course. Also, I was Chairman of the Pembroke - what did we call it? - the Pembroke, no.

BA: The merger?

HHS: Oh, that. Yes, I was involved in that, but that was later.

BA: I'd like to hear about that at some point, about the merger.

HHS: This was the ...

BA: The Brown Corporation Committee on Alumnae?

HHS: No, this was something else. Something, I'm so terrible - the Pembroke College Fund, from '60 to '68. And, then, in '70, I was president of the Alumnae Association.

BA: Right.

HHS: And, the other things that were there, the Merger Committee and all of that.

BA: So, you were very involved.

HHS: Yes, I was.

BA: What did you - let me ask you about the merger. What were your feelings about the merger?

HHS: Well, I was a little unhappy about it. I thought this was our campus and I had a fear - well, I was involved in it and I had to sign some papers as president of the Alumnae Association. I was a little disappointed. I liked the, I liked having our own group. And, one thing that bothered me, we use to come to lunches and things like that in the dormitories. The first time I came into one of them - I'm not sure which building it was - there were men sprawled all over the floors in the common rooms and people...

[End of Tape 1, Side 1.]

Tape 1, Side 2.

BA: Was this connected to the merger?

HHS: Yes.

BA: Charlotte Thomas, was she working with Dean Pierrel at that time?

HHS: And, she came to my house, one Sunday, and asked me to sign something. I don't know if I was signing my life away or what I was doing, but I signed it - it had to do with the merger. And, I guess Rosemary had sent her. Is she working with Rosemary now?

BA: Probably.

HHS: I did it. I wasn't too happy about it. I liked it the way it was and I'm not sure that all of the trustees and fellows knew how some of us felt, but it seemed to be a better thing to do, so they did it.

BA: At that time, lots of schools were merging, doing the same thing.

HHS: Yes, that's right.

BA: But, at the same time, a lot of your classmates and most of them after you, including the '50s, were very, very upset. They felt they lost too much.

HHS: I didn't know that because I never have discussed it much, not in recent years, anyway, but there were people who thought it was a good idea, and we had very little to say about it, actually, so it was done. And, I signed it away and that was that. But, I was suppose to because I was on merger committees, but I don't think we did very much, you know, the merger, except to sign things.

BA: There was, there was, is a minority report that was reviewed before everybody would sign them.

HHS: No, I didn't know that.

BA: Yeah, oh, yeah. When I first came to the Pembroke Center in 1983, I had proposed maybe we could do a program on the merger, those for and against, and a colleague warned me that it would be too volatile at that point!

HHS: Well, of course, we've kind of softened. BA: Oh, yeah, I think so.

Illis: And, forgotten - this is the way it is. And, I'm also so sorry that we don't attract younger members to the Pembroke Club.

BA: Yes, I know.HHS: It doesn't mean very much to them.

BA: No, they don't know, but the name Pembroke doesn't mean a thing, they don't know what the Pembroke campus is. That's why the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women deliberately took the name Pembroke, to keep it alive, the name.

HHS: We also didn't understand too much, I didn't, about the Pembroke Center coming here. I mean, all of a sudden, someone has got our name and is sitting in our building over there.

BA: Oh, oh dear. [laughs]

HHS: And, we never have really gotten together too well and I wish we could have. Now, I don't think we understood.

BA: Probably not.

HHS: At least, some people from Pembroke were active here. I wasn't one of them. And, I think that today might be a bit late, although, I think it would be nice. Do you get our notices about our seminars and everything?

BA: Ah, yes, I got your, I think I got your last newsletter at the Pembroke Center. The only problem with me is that it's during the day.

HHS: That's true. And, also, for your students there and your graduates, would it be hard for them?

BA: Oh, the post-doctoral fellows? Ah, yes, because, it's depending on who they are and where they're from. If they live in Boston, they commute. We prefer them to live in Providence, but we can't force them to. Oh, and Terry Barnes coming from Zimbabwe, she'd have a little problem.

HHS: We're having a series starting soon about why people come to Rhode Island. It's going to be a set of seminars - four or five. And, we're also having a speaker on the 28th of March, I think - Judge Williams - who is a worldwide authority on Wickenden. And, he's a local lawyer, but he was made a judge a year or two ago and that's on a Saturday or Sunday, so if you're free, we'd love you to come.

BA: Yes, I enjoyed the luncheon that I went to, but I also was distressed by the age of the people who, I mean, it's going to disappear. The Pembroke Club will disappear.

HHS: I think we should have a stronger drive.

BA: Have you had fundraising, have you had membership drives?

HHS: No, not really. We get the names of all the graduates who live in Rhode Island and I think a letter goes out to each one. But, since they didn't know Pembroke, really, I don't know if we have much to attract them.

BA: I suppose they join the Brown Club of Rhode Island, probably.

HHS: Yes, because it has men and the young ladies would be more interested in that, I think, than in our group. We are old, no question about that. And, I feel sorry because I think we have quite a lot to offer. We have seminars on...

BA: Oh, yes, you have excellent programs.

HHS: Within departments, various departments, and it's been very good, but we're going to have, with this series coming up, someone who's worked on downtown, not from Brown, necessarily. Someone from Roger Williams Museum. Someone from School of Design. And, Rich Newberry who is going to talk about food in Rhode Island. Do you ever hear him? He's on the radio every week.

BA: No.

HHS: And, he is great. He's great fun. I listen to him. I've never met him, but we're going to have him and I think we're going to find out...

BA: About food.

HHS: About food and the restaurants because that's a great thing in Rhode Island.

BA: Oh yes, it really is, yeah.

HHS: And, he knows all about that. He even gives away free meals sometimes. So, he's going to be our last speaker - the 28th of April, I think.

BA: So, you've been very involved with Pembroke Club after all these years?

HHS: Oh, yes, I've always been on the seminar committees and I've enjoyed it because it's been a long time since I've had a 9 to 5 job. And, I look forward to it. It means a lot to me. Pembroke always does mean a lot to me, even though I have few classmates who live around here or are still living.

BA: Do you always come for reunions too?

HHS: Oh yes.

BA: Your group, class gets together every year.

HHS: Uh huh. We had to join with the men. We have very few people who come now. There are more men, so in recent years, we've had a joint reunion with them. Vema was here, maybe five, six years ago. That was the last time she came. And, Peggy, her daughter, came from California to stay here with her mother.

BA: Good.

HHS: It was very nice. That's my god daughter, and I don't think Vema came again. She died a couple months ago. I think it was February 22nd and it was a bad weekend. I was going up for the services at the time because her grandson was in Massachusetts and he was to drive me up but the weather was so bad - one of those really bad weekends - so, he came to see me when the funeral was over and Peggy and her husband came to see me a day or two later.

BA: Oh, good.

HHS: Yes, we're very close, always have been. And, they have gone back to California long time ago. Mark, Vema's grandson, is writing a book on the history of soccer. He's a sports writer for the San Diego newspaper, I have forgotten the name of it. He went to Stanford. Peggy went to Middlebury and Rebecca came to Brown.

BA: Well, I just remembered now, not only - you were here when the Women's College became Pembroke College. Do you remember anything about that?

HHS: No, it didn't seem to...

BA: It just happened.

HHS: It just happened. We were told. We went to chapel one morning and we were not involved in that at all. But, I remember it was '28, I guess.

BA: Yeah, '28, the fall of '28. And, tell me about Commencement. What was it like? Do you remember Commencement?

HHS: Uh huh. Well, it was baccalaureate on Sunday, but I was off with a social group.

BA: You didn't go?

HHS: My mother thought that was terrible. She couldn't understand it. That we went to Prudence Island.

BA: Oh my goodness.

HHS: People like Carol Mollet, Jean Ballat, and a lot of students - men students - and this big thing going on down there. I haven't been back there since. [laughs] I don't know how to get to Prudence Island, unless you hire a boat.

BA: Yeah, well, there's a ferry.

HHS: Yes, there is, but these people hired some kind of a boat.

BA: Oh.

HHS: So, I missed that. But, we didn't have a car. My parents came on the trolley with me to Commencement.

BA: None of your siblings, just you?

HHS: I think one came, but they were in school and I don't think they were only impressed by me. [laughs] But, my parents came and, I think, one of my sisters came. And, we came here, in our caps and gowns. I don't remember where our procession formed because I've been in the Brown processions quite often since then, on the Brown campus and this was on the Brown Campus, march down the hill.

BA: Not with the men, but separately?

HHS: Separately. And, there were very few seats available in the church and I remember only men speakers. One of them is in Vermont now, I saw him a couple years ago at one of our reunions. The others I didn't seem to know. I didn't know them, although I seemed to know quite a few of the boys on the Brown campus.

BA: Oh, we've got to talk about social life. We haven't touched on that yet, what was it like?

HHS: That was fun.

BA: Being a city girl, though, how did you date the Brown men? Unless, did they have cars?

HHS: Well, I worked in the library, so I knew quite a few there and once in a while, we stayed, I stayed with a friend of mine, a classmate of mine who lived at the home of Professor and Mrs. Professor Andre. She was kind of their baby-sitter and we stayed there a couple of times because they had gone back to France - which they did every year - and we stayed there in their house. They lived somewhere around the school, I don't remember where. But, Helen was able to use their house when they were away and that was very nice. And, sometimes, I went home, which my mother preferred.

BA: I'm sure.

HHS: But, some of them, some of the boys did have cars, especially some who lived in Rhode Island and I remember going to dances at Providence College also, where - I don't think my brother was at Providence College then, but he transferred from PC to Brown, after a year at Providence College. My other brother went to Providence College and he was at Georgetown Medical School, during this period when I was having some kind of a social life here. Most of them had cars, it seemed to me. I don't ever remember going home on a trolley car.

BA: Well, you must have picked the right boys then who had cars.

HHS: I guess so. That was necessary. They somehow got cars for things. A lot of them did live away from home at College. I remember one who lived in East Greenwich who had a car and - I don't know where the other boys lived, but I knew a lot of them. Went to a lot of fraternity dinners.

BA: That was the Charleston era?

HHS: Oh, yes. And, we use to buy clothes to wear at the Junior League, whatever they called it. You know, it was a resale place.

BA: A thrift shop, yeah.

HHS: Yeah, at the thrift shop and it was right over, near the tunnel. And, I remember a couple dresses I got. One was all fringe, rows and rows of fringe. It was wonderful! Oh, oh dear!

BA: And, you went and did the Charleston?

HHS: Oh sure, sure. With the fringe. It was a pink dress and I had a very nice beaded one from there. I think the Debutantes must have won these and got rid of them. I don't know who else was wearing them. They had a lot of Debs around in Rhode Island at that point. We really were well-dressed. Then, of course, we had after that, I guess it was some years after that, we had alumnae dances called Pembroke Club Dances in Alumnae Hall and that's when we lost the chandelier. And, later than that, we lost the works - not too much later. But, there were many things here. Afternoon things. The speakers. I remember meeting A.E. Russell, who is a famous Irish writer and in the '30s, I met him, and a couple other famous people whose names escape me.

BA: Oh, well, as I was reading through Grace Hart book on your time, it seems that when you were here, too, it was a very intellectually exciting, with lots of speakers, with lots of Albright speakers and people demanding to be intellectually stimulating.

HHS: Oh yes, it was very good. My niece came to Brown, class of '58.

BA: Oh, what's her name?

HHS: Maureen Kelly Hagan. She lived on University Avenue and I could go there after parties, there too. My sister lived there for a long, long time. Maureen's been very ill, so she's not very active. There's a lot of brain damage. She lives in Virginia now and she was, was just wonderful.

I brought her here, I remember bringing her here.

BA: For her first day?

HHS: No, just to see Pembroke. She was a student at Classical. She married someone at Brown, a neurosurgeon. She's been ill for nine years, has had one stroke after another. She had so much to live for. One daughter was an oncologist, her son's getting his Ph.D., after spuming that D.M. stuff. And, she has two others who have done very well. But, she's very ill and inactive. But, she, she loved it here. Well, she lived at home which was just a stone's throwaway.

BA: Did you ever feel like you missed a lot by not living on the campus?

HHS: Oh, yes, but I could not have afforded it. It was difficult enough, since I was paying for everything myself and there were several people, I knew them all. In our family, we've always helped the next one along. I remember when my brother was in medical school, sending him a check every other week.

BA: That's nice. There were a lot of city girls at that time too, though.

HHS: Oh, yes, there were. A lot. But, we didn't have a very large class. We had about a hundred in our class, so that we knew everybody. And, that was just fine. But, things change.

BA: Yeah. I never did ask about your family? When I saw your bio, biographical sheet here, I was going to ask you about - that you were born in Ireland?

HHS: Yes. My mother and father were born in Ireland and they grew up there and they came to this country. My father had a brother here and my mother had an aunt here.

BA: In Rhode Island?

HHS: Yes, in Providence. My mother had a step-father and life was not very easy for her and her mother's sister was here. My mother's aunt, Winnie, and Aunt Winnie had six grandchildren who graduated from Brown.

BA: Oh, my goodness.

HHS: They were younger than I was, but one of them, at least, one of them was involved in that, what was that airplane place in Hartford?

BA: Pratt-Whitney.

HHS: Yeah, she was one of those scholars.

BA: Oh, she was! What was her name?

HHS: Yes, I can't remember. She was Barbara Cotter, C-O-T-T-E-R.

BA: Oh, yeah. The reason I'm asking is that I think BAM was going to do an article on the Pratt-Whitney program. And, I want to make sure.

HHS: Very interesting. Barbara Cotter. Well, she's married an Englishman who is a Fullbright scholar that she met - I don't know if he was here at Brown. I can't remember her last name because I don't see her.

BA: But, she was the class of '45, '46.

HHS: Yeah, about that time. She had three or four sisters, all of whom came to Brown and one brother who came to Brown, he's a doctor out there in California. Rosemary Cotter came - lives in Wakefield now - I see her once in a while. None of her children came here as far as I know. They've scattered because they lived elsewhere. But, when her husband retired, he was a doctor, they moved back to Rhode Island because they always had a summer house in (?). But, all those cousins - but Barbara got her Ph.D. and, for a while, she taught at St. Elizabeth's College in New Jersey because her husband was around there. I can't remember her last name, I should because I knew them.

BA: I'll make sure, she's probably included, I'll make sure that she's included.

HHS: That would be very nice.

BA: Yeah.

HHS: Barbara. Rosemary went to college elsewhere. It was Marie who got her Masters degree here and was a librarian at a college in Boston. And, Paul who came here and went to Yale Medical School on a Petrims thing. And, the youngest one, I think, went to Providence College. They were all very bright. My mother always use to say, "Why aren't you like them?"

BA: I think you were!

HHS: Well, I don't know. I think we were more frivolous. They use to sit and always study a lot. My mother was a schoolteacher. She was very strict with that.

BA: What did your father do?

HHS: My father, when he came from Ireland, he, his father had a public house in Ireland. Do you know what that is?

BA: You mean a pub.

HHS: Well, it also is a store. And, his father owned racehorses, so my father learned to be a blacksmith. I have a horsesh, a horseshoe he made. But, I don't think he liked that. Anyway, he came here and it was a bad time. He worked at Goram's and married - he and my mother came from the same place in Ireland. And, my mother had one child and, in 1907, when the Depression was so bad and she was pregnant with me, she went back to Ireland with my sister and that is why I was born there. And, she stayed there about fourteen or fifteen months and came back here because, my father was unemployed from Goram's and was living with his brother who was married. And, my father went back, I think, to Goram's - I'm not quite clear about that - and was able to have my mother come back with two children. And, my father had applied to be a citizen and on his first citizenship papers, my mother's name and my sister's name

were listed. And, while we were, while we were over there, the second papers came through, but my name had not been added. So, many, many years later when I was a social worker, I took one of our clients to apply for citizenship and I was going to be a witness and I was asked, where was I born, and I said, in Ireland. "Are you a citizen?" I said, "I don't know. I guess so." I wasn't!

BA: Oh, my goodness.

HHS: So, I had to apply for citizenship. It was called derivative citizenship. It didn't occur to anyone to put my name on the papers, it just went through automatically. So, I am now a citizen, but for quite a while I wasn't a citizen. I always thought I was, growing up. I never questioned it.

BA: No, you wouldn't.

HHS: My father and mother were citizens so I thought I was. I wasn't recorded, I think that was the story. Let me see, my father, then, some years, worked at the Naragansett Brewery. He did various things there, and I guess he worked there till the Brewery was closed, time of Prohibition. But, it did reopen. Meantime, he had odd jobs, doing this and that. And, that was the time when it was very difficult for us to get along, but we had nice relatives and all was very helpful. My father got odd jobs very well and we were worked. We all had to work. My sisters went to the Rhode Island College of Education, which didn't cost much of anything, but I decided that I wanted to come here because I heard a little bit about it and I was able to do it.

BA: You worked your way through, but you wanted it, so it was worth it. Was your mother the one that really was pushing college?

HHS: Yeah, she was, she was very much. When she came from Ireland, she was about seventeen and she came to stay with her aunt - the grandmother of all those children that came to Brown. And, she needed to find a job and so there was a rubber factory somewhere in the vicinity and she worked there for an hour. She had lived in the country, the wonderful fresh air, the beautiful scenery and she couldn't stand that awful, awful smell that was in her whole neighborhood. And, she had determined, then and there, that if she had children, they were going to be above that level. And, it worked out so. She, then, got a job minding children, I think, until she was married. She married not too long after that. But, she was very ambitious and she was very bright. Now, I don't know how much education she had or not because they went to the national school and I never did find out and I should have - I've been in Ireland several times - just what the National Schools were in those days - that was a long time ago. My mother was born in 18- something. 18 hundred and seventy-eight? Oh, I get the dates mixed up. I had it there. Was she born in '78 or '87? My father had the...

BA: Oh, here we go, here we go. Let me see. Mother's name, 1887. Yeah, she was born in 1887 and died in 1978. That's it, yeah, 1887.

HSS: So, that was, she'd be very old, wouldn't she? 110.

BA: Yeah, right, a hundred and eleven now.

HHS: So, she was at school in her youth. They lived on the farm in Ireland, but there was a school in the town and it was a long walk. And, they had a farm. It was, it's wonderful country - I

love Ireland. But, I wasn't there at such hard times.

BA: Right.

HHS: But, she had to go to school, they all went to school, her sisters and brothers. And, they went to the National School and when they finished - she came here when she was seventeen. But, and meanwhile she had a step-father and it was not a happy home at that point. My uncle, who was my mother's little brother, was able to go to college in Dublin and was headmaster when he came back from there. He was headmaster of schools in Limerick. But, you know, there was a dowry system. Whoever, whoever was coming onto the farm brought the money in. Now, when my, my grandfather died when my mother was five and there were some smaller ones. He died of cancer. He'd been in hospital in Dublin - apparently, there was enough money for him to go there. And, my mother's last memory of him was when he came over the hill to their farm, she saw this strong, gaunt man coming home and he had peppermints for the kids. That was her memory, her last memory, she was very small. But, when he died and my grandmother had the farm, her second husband had to bring in a dowry.

BA: Huh.

HSS: And, after they all died, there was money in that dowry so that my mother and her sisters inherited that money. And, I'm wondering if some of that money sent my uncle to college, but I don't know. I have no idea about that, but he went to college and they were ambitious because he sent his eight children to college. And, he was schoolmaster in Ireland, but his wife also was a schoolteacher and he taught in National Schools and I just don't know what those schools, how high they went.

BA: Yeah.

HSS: They were, I think, quite bright, all of them and my uncle's children were very bright. One of them was professor at Gatham University in Dublin and has written a book I found impossible to understand. He not only was a priest, but got a doctorate degree at Fribourg in Switzerland along with his other degrees. And, he was a brilliant, brilliant man. So, I don't know if, I think a lot of the Irish men were like that. They were held down, in Ireland, you couldn't own your farm. It belongs to the Irish government and you had to pay them for it every year. But, they apparently were a sturdy, bright lot because I've seen it in so many of my friends and relatives that I know very well.

BA: Right. Was there, probably, a large population of Irish-Americans in...?

HSS: Was there a large population where I lived? I think, maybe, our farm was the only place in town, I don't know. The town was nearby, the village was nearby. It's tiny but my father's, my father's father, they had a pub and that's not so small - I've seen it, it's now a B and B place in Ireland, but they were in the village and my mother was out on the farm, but he knew everybody.

BA: Yeah.

IDIS: But, I think they walked long distances to church and to school, those were the two things. And, of course, being in the religious or being a teacher, those were very important jobs, they

were the two key vocations in Ireland at that time. Things have changed a little bit, I think.

BA: Oh, now Ireland is one of the boom countries for the young people to go.

HSS: They go there. They do. Now, what was I reading in the paper yesterday? Kathleen Campbell? Was she one of yours?

BA: No, she was in public policy.

HSS: Oh, that's right. Now, it said she was from Ireland.

BA: Yeah, she was from Ireland.

HSS: Is she back there now?

BA: No, I don't think so.

HSS: There have been a lot of students from Ireland coming here in recent years.

BA: I don't know the whole, I don't know the story on her. She's thirty-three years old. You know, she's a resumed undergraduate education student, so I don't know what her background is.

HSS: Oh, it just mentioned that she was Irish, but she may be living here, she may be even a citizen, who knows? But, I just wanted to pose it to you. But, that's the story of my family, except that I have an older sister, of course. She's another Maureen Kelly. I was next, then my sister, Kathleen, taught school and married a second time. Her first husband died, he was a Brown graduate. Her second husband was a Brown graduate, Stu Sweeney. And, he has died. I was next and I married Frank Shea, I think I told you he was a lawyer in town and a Providence College alum. And, my next brother, John, went to Providence College and Georgetown Medical. And, the youngest, my brother, Tom, Brown and Boston College Law School and was the member of Hinkley Allen firm for many years till he retired. My brothers are living, one sister has died - my older sister is dead.

BA: And, everybody is in the area? The living siblings are in the area?

IDIS: Yes, except, Maureen is living in Virginia and my sister had other, two other girls. One is in Texas and her daughter has just started at SMU. They live in Dallas, but she lives on the campus there. She's a President's Scholar at SMU, a very excellent student and, for being a President's Scholar, you receive no bill for tuition and they take care of so many nice things. She has spent a weekend in New Mexico. I think they have kind of a branch school in Taos, New Mexico - SMU - and Junior year abroad, all expenses, including the plane tickets and she's very happy there. She applied to Brown and was on the waiting list. And, I was a little disappointed. Not too much so, because I - well, she's my godchild, I'm very fond of her. I was a little reluctant to have her here because I wouldn't be here for a lot of things and neither would my brothers or sister. It gets a little hard for some of them to get around. And, it would be very difficult for her parents to come to a lot of things. I would like to have had her here but I was satisfied that, if she was on the waiting list, she had good marks. She went to a school for talented and gifted - it is called TAG in Dallas. And, she has met, at SMU, she gets special invitations and they have lots

of excellent speakers. They have a series, called the Tait series, and she has met, someone, no, coming up, she is going - she goes to these lectures and has a special invitation to the receptions, actually really meeting them - Ruth Ginsburg, and what's his name? Who's the Brown graduate who owns all those athletic outfits and, uh, his wife is the actress?

BA: Oh, you mean Ted Turner.

HHS: Oh, Ted Turner. Oh, yeah, he'll be there and she'll meet him. Uh, Bill Bradley, she's met and Gephardt and that's, they have a lot of money there.

BA: Oh, I think she's done very well.

HHS: And, she wants to go to graduate school, she has that in mind. When she talked about applying to Brown, I think one reason she applied was she said, "I'd like to get in." And, while she's there in Dallas, her parents pointed out to her- he's retired and they lived in Asia for nine years when Skip was growing up - that if she had a lot of debts while she was an undergraduate, it would be much harder for her to have that load, that burden for graduate school and she is an excellent, excellent student. She carried all advanced credits for her freshman year to her sophomore year. And, I like SMU. You know, I go there every year to Dallas, oh yeah. And, I go for Easter. And, I enjoy SMD. They live there, but she's lives on campus because they don't have to pay tuition. Yeah, and it's not a cheap school. They had monks - a Methodist seminary there on the campus with a wonderful library. They have museums, they have art things and it's a great school. And, it's well-endowed. And, the provost called her to tell her that if she would come there, she would be a President's scholar.

BA: Huh, yeah, very impressive.

HHS: A personal call. Her other schools were cheap also, but my disappointment here was only, I was afraid that she wasn't good enough, but she is good enough. She's good enough. She's a top scholar. So, that, she was the child of, of the grandchild of my sister, Mary Kelly. She is, these kids lived - there were three of them - they lived in Japan for nine years. One of them is on her way back to Japan with her Korean husband who's a flyer and this is why I don't know what I'm going to be doing in March and April because, if Kathleen and her husband come back to the west coast in spring, we'll need to fly planes out to ship some of that kind of stuff. They're going to come back and help out before they go to Japan and I'm not going to be there, I don't want to be there because I think the parents, Kathleen's parents, would prefer to have Kathleen to themselves and her husband before she leaves for Japan - that's his next station. So, I'm not sure when I'm going down. I just wrote her last night, said I wasn't going to go down for Kathleen and Kevin because I don't think that's fair.

BA: Right.

HHS: So, you ask me about the spring.

BA: Yeah, there's a program in March.

HHS: See I don't know.

BA: Oh, I'll, I'll keep in touch because I don't have a date, yet, either. I have to wait for the students to come back because the students are organizing it and I have to see what they have available, so, but I'll be in touch with you.

HSS: Yeah, and, then, I'm kind of involved with these seminars too, so I try not to miss them.

BA: Well, would it work out nice, maybe, if it was on the same day? Or is that too much to do?

HHS: No, we're not. Well, the seminars are starting in March and the last one is April 24th or 8th or something like that.

BA: What would be better? A different night?

HHS: Tuesday nights. It may be at the Faculty Club - we're trying to work a deal, but I don't know.

BA: Well, do you think we've covered everything about your Brown life and, certainly, your life after Brown, you've been very, very busy. And, you'll be coming back to Brown many, many, many more times, I'm sure.

HHS: I have been in the procession lots of times, sometimes as a marshall, sometimes with my classmates. And, I love Brown. It has meant a great deal to me. I really am grateful because I think whatever I have done, I have had Brown to thank. Plus, a few genes from my relatives.

BA: Right, but, you use the genes to reinforce. Let's put it that way.

HHS: Oh, I hope I did.

BA: Yes, yes.

HHS: I'm not so sure. Regrets, I don't know if I have any regrets. Oh, yes, I use to think, sometimes, when I was at Pembroke and I had to work very hard and I studied very hard because I was a determined student. I use to think, maybe, I came to the wrong school. Maybe, if I went to Rhode Island College, it would have been easy for me and I wouldn't have been envious of people who I knew at Pembroke, who were debutantes and went home for their fancy balls. And, there were few enough people so that I knew many of them, most of them. And, that bothered me. There were times when I really - I wasn't envious exactly, but I thought maybe I made an error. But, I don't think so now. Now, I'm sure, but they, those people didn't have to go to the Junior League to buy a dress.

BA: Right.

HHS: But, I did. Maybe I didn't have to, but I went. Maybe it was a good move to get something that looked quite nice and a designer's.

BA: Absolutely.

HHS: Well, it's been a long life

.BA: Yes, it has.

HHS: It hasn't been too bad, all in all.

BA: I want to thank you very much for coming in today. It'll be wonderful to add to the collection in the Brown Archives.

HHS: Where do you put them?

BA: They're, the Farnham Archives, a lot of the stuff is in the stacks.

HHS: In Pembroke Archives?

BA: In the John Hay, in the John Hay library.

HHS: I knew the John Hay quite well.

BA: Yes.

HHS: I worked there for three or four years. And, do people use the archives?

BA: Yes, um, they use them a lot when we had an archivist. You see, we've raised, we have to raise our own money for an archivist and we ran out of money.

HHS: Well, what is Margaret Mitchell?

BA: Margaret Mitchell is the university archivist. We had a woman archivist for about three and a half years, the Christine Dunlap archivist.

HHS: Yeah, I remember this.

BA: And, when she was here, she did, I think, let me tum this off. She...

[End of Tape 1, Side 2.]