

Inventory of the

Oral History

Collection

In the

Northern Illinois University Archives

UA 53

INTRODUCTION

Glen Gildemeister began the acquisition of the oral histories in this collection during his tenure as University Archivist, 1979-2007. The Regional History Center holds all property rights; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

5 Boxes
1 File Drawer
3.25 linear feet
1979 - 2008

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Oral History Collection is comprised of ten separate oral history projects. Some of the oral history projects are quite large, such as Town-Gown Relations in DeKalb (OH-2, containing 43 interviews) and Farming and Farm Families in DeKalb County (OH-3, containing 34 interviews). Two collections, NIU Biographies (OH-4) and Regional Histories (OH-9), contain only one interview each, as of 2009.

In most cases the original oral history cassette interviews are available for listening. In other cases, such as the Burlington Railroad Strike Collection (OH-7), only the transcripts are available [and these are located in RC 217]. Many of the other oral history interviews have only abstracts which highlight and summarize the questions and answers. A reference assistant will aid researchers who wish to listen to the interviews on the tape recorder.

In some instances the researcher can find supplemental materials included with the collections. Additional information may also be found in other University Archives and Regional History Collections – please ask a staff member for assistance.

REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER
ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

- Series 1 Campus Unrest at NIU
 Inventory
 Supplements - student papers (2), articles (2), photographs
 Interviews: 1.1 - 1.14
- Series 2 Town-Gown Relations in DeKalb
 Inventory
 Supplements - Illinois Humanities Council Report; additional
 tapes of roundtable discussions (3), and evaluation of
 project (1)
 Interviews: 2.1 - 2.43
- Series 3 Farming and Farm Families in DeKalb County
 Inventory
 Supplement - student paper
 Interviews: 3.1 - 3.34
- Series 4 NIU Biographies
 Interview: 4.1
- Series 5 History of NIU Foundation
 Interviews: 5.1 - 5.8
- Series 6 Workers at Wurlitzer During World War II
 Inventory
 Interviews: 6.1 - 6.13
- Series 7 Burlington Railroad Strike Collection
 Inventory
 Interview: 7.1 - 7.13
 [Transcriptions are located in RC 217, Boxes 5 and 6]
- Series 8 NIU Centennial Histories
 Interviews 8.1 - 8.2
- Series 9 Regional Histories
 Interview 9.1
 Supplement - student paper

Series 10

2.14 Memory Project
Interviews 1.1 -

OH - 1
CAMPUS UNREST AT NIU

INTRODUCTION

This oral history series came about after NIU student Denise Boiselle conducted eleven interviews on the subject of campus unrest and wrote a paper for a 1979 research seminar entitled, "Campus Unrest at Northern Illinois University, May 1970: Community Response and Reaction." Her paper and the accompanying taped interviews were donated to the Regional History Center. In the fall of 1990, Joan Biebel, as part of an oral history class project, conducted three interviews and wrote a paper, which are also a part of this series.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 14
Number of tapes: 14 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 1

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The first eleven interviews were conducted by Denise Boiselle in the fall of 1979, nine years after the student disturbances occurred. They represent an interesting cross-section of key figures at NIU from that time: six faculty members, three students, one police officer, plus one DeKalb businessman. The same thirteen questions were asked of each respondent, who discussed his personal viewpoint on the Cambodian incursion, campus violence, the reactions of police, townspeople, students and administrators, and the effects of these incidents on university-community relations. The concluding three interviews were conducted by Joan Biebel in November of 1990.

Researchers should note that the inventory includes a brief identification of each respondent. Within the collection, there is an abstract for each interview which highlights and summarizes the questions and answers. All the interviews, except for one, have been transcribed, and all have cassette tapes. A copy of the papers written by Boiselle and by Biebel based on these interviews are included in folder 1 b.

The University Archives contains additional information on the topics covered in the interviews. For further information please see the University Archives Guide.

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1a	Inventory; articles: "President Smith speaks to a troubles campus," Summer 1970; "NIU - May, 1970" June 1970; Student demonstration photographs
1b	Papers: "Campus Unrest at Northern Illinois University, May 1970: Community Response and Reaction," by Denise Boiselle, December 1979 (2 copies); "Campus Disturbances: A Retrospective Look at NIU, Spring, 1970," by Joan Biebel, Fall 1990 (2 copies)
OH 1.1	Arra Garab, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 Faculty in English Department, attended demonstrations as a spectator. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 44.5 minutes]
OH 1.2	P. Allan Dionisopoulos, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 Faculty in Political Science Department and a member of the Political Science committee responsible for the determination of Roman's faculty status. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 32 minutes]
OH 1.3	John Boardman, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 DeKalb resident, businessman and witness of several demonstrations, testified at Horsely hearings. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 38.5 minutes]
OH 1.4	Charles Battista, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 A former student and witness of several campus demonstrations. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 15.5 minutes]
OH 1.5	William Little, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 Former student and participant and observer of several demonstrations. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 20 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 1.6	Sean Shesgreen, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, Fall 79 Faculty in English Department and observer of several demonstrations. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 48 minutes]
OH 1.7	William Beik, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, 11/79 Faculty in History Department, testified at the Horsely Hearings. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 26 minutes]
OH 1.8	Earl Hayter, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, Fall 79 Faculty in History Department, witnessed some of the demonstrations. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 60.5 minutes]
OH 1.9	Michael Connelly, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, Fall 79 Former student and participant in several demonstrations. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 21 minutes]
OH 1.10	Marvin Rosen, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, Fall 79 Faculty in History Department, witnessed several demonstrations. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 29.5 minutes]
OH 1.11	George Boyle, interviewed by Denise Boiselle, Fall 79 Community Relations Officer, NIU Campus Security Office [abstract, transcript, 1 tape, 27.5 min. See also OH 2.23]
OH 1.12	Don Buckner, interviewed by Joan Biebel, 11/9/90 Former Director of Housing at NIU (1967-1990) [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape]
OH 1.13	James Elliott, interviewed by Joan Biebel, 11/9/90 NIU Police Department [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape]
OH 1.14	Willard Draper, interviewed by Joan Biebel, 11/2/90 Assistant Director of Housing at NIU [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape]

OH - 2
TOWN-GOWN RELATIONS IN DEKALB, 1955-1980

INTRODUCTION

"Town-Gown Relations in DeKalb, 1955-1980," was an oral history project sponsored by the Illinois Humanities Council, under the auspices of the NIU Libraries and the Northern Illinois Regional History Center, and conducted from November 1980 to April 1981. Co-sponsors of the project included the DeKalb County Historical Society, the DeKalb Human Relations Commission, the DeKalb Landmarks Commission, and the DeKalb Public Library. Eleven volunteers interviewed DeKalb area citizens on various aspects of town-gown relations. The project ended with a public forum on April 4, 1981 to provide citizens with an opportunity to discuss the problems, benefits, and future status of town-gown relations as revealed in the interviews.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of Interviews: 42
Number of Tapes: 60 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 2

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The interviews in this oral history series focus on the relationship between the DeKalb community and Northern Illinois University during a period of tremendous expansion (1955-1965) and conflict (the Vietnam Era, in particular 1968-1972). Respondents discussed their personal viewpoints on DeKalb's cultural resources, the impact of university expansion on economic growth, political changes, intergroup relations, and the future of town-gown relations. Major topics include Ellwood House, the Arboretum controversy, the fluctuating voting and drinking age, student housing, responses to an influx of Black and foreign students, the city manager form of government and the student's role on governmental boards, student unrest in the late 1960's, city planning and zoning, and downtown development. Only a few of the interviews touch on how the "average" DeKalb citizen viewed the effects of university expansion during this period.

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
2a	OH 2 Inventory
2b	"Town-Gown Relations, DeKalb, Illinois, 1955-1980 - Final Report, October 1981"
OH 2.1	<p>Patricia D. Canon, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 1/5/1981 Canon's interview focuses on the impact of university growth on DeKalb during the 1950's and the efforts of faculty members to promote informational, educational, and cultural programs throughout the community. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 50 minutes]</p>
OH 2.2	<p>Clara Sperling, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 11/25/1980 Sperling arrived in DeKalb in 1936 to work in the university president's office. In her interview she discusses the Arboretum controversy, the university's contribution to the city, off-campus housing, politics, and university, government and industry cooperation. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 45 minutes]</p>
OH 2.3	<p>Judge Carl Swanson, Jr., interviewed by James Jarvis, 12/6/1980 DeKalb City Attorney from 1953-1956, Judge Swanson concentrates on DeKalb politics, the voting age, drinking age, and the city manager form of government. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 25 minutes]</p>
OH 2.4	<p>Eleanor Huntzicker, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 1/21/1981 Huntzicker describes her family's response, as local merchants, to university expansion during the 1950's. She also discusses the Ellwood House Project, the Page Museum Collection, the Arboretum, and NIU administration. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]</p>
OH 2.5	<p>Jack Arends, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 12/10/1980 Arends describes changes made on campus during the university's expansion and his position as Chairman of the Art Department from 1962 to 1972. Major topics of discussion include the NIU Art Department, student radicalism in the 1960's, and local art resources. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]</p>

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.6	Mavis Williams, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 1/9/1981 Williams reveals her views on students as a housemother during the late 1940's and as an apartment owner since the 1950's. Ellwood House and its programs are also discussed. [abstract, transcript, 2 tapes, 80 minutes]
OH 2.7	Ruth Haddock, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 12/30/1980 Former Dean of Women at NIU from 1954 to 1974, Ruth Haddock's interview focuses primarily on student adjustment to campus life. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 50 minutes]
OH 2.8	Pete Taylor, interviewed by James Jarvis, 11/14/1980 Taylor focuses on the university's impact on the DeKalb City Airport from 1948 to 1980. [abstract, transcript, 1 tape and a duplicate tape, 20 minutes]
OH 2.9	John Lloyd, interviewed by Eleanor Price, 1/21/1981 Former Professor of Social Science at NIU, Lloyd presents his views on university growth and its effects on social and economic elements in the community, 1954 to 1980. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.10	Jessie Glidden, interviewed by Lucille Aikins, 1/30/1981 This interview presents Jessie Glidden's response to the university's growth and impact upon the economic, political, and cultural aspects of the community including the Arboretum controversy, DeKalb city government, and student representation, local business trends, and departmental changes on campus during the 1950's and 1960's. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 50 minutes]
OH 2.11	Joseph Katz, interviewed by Carol Logue, 1/20/1981 Katz's interview focuses on local support for university expansion and his involvement in land development during the 1960's. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.12	Howard Nelson, interviewed by Carol Logue, 1/9/1981 Nelson, a DeKalb banker since the 1930's, discusses university and community economic growth and changes in business trends. He also describes the students of the 1960's, minorities, the administrations of three university presidents, and local politics. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.13	Edward Diedrich, interviewed by Martin Dubin, 2/7/1981 This interview concerns events beginning in the 1960's when Diedrich opened his law practice in DeKalb. Major topics discussed include the impact of university growth on businesses, criminal justice, politics, and fine arts. [abstract, transcript, and 3 tapes, 140 minutes]
OH 2.14	Mark Thackaberry, interviewed by Bill Callahan, 1/28/1981 Thackaberry, Foreign Student Advisor, discusses NIU's Office of International Programs from 1969 to 1980, and community reaction to the ever increasing influx of foreign students. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.15	Jane Bradt, interviewed by Lucille Aikins, 1/13/1981 Mrs. Bradt describes her long-time interest in NIU and her family's involvement in both on and off-campus activities during the 1950's and 1960's. [abstract, transcript, 1 tape, 45 minutes, sound is poor]
OH 2.16	Keith McDonald, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 11/24/1980 The McDonald interview spans the years 1962 to 1980. Major topics include student housing, on-campus regulations, political agitation and the Vietnam War, and student/community relations. [abstract, transcript, 1 tape, 50 minutes]
OH 2.17	McKinley (Deacon) Davis, interviewed by Bill Callahan, 2/2/1981 The Davis tape spans the years 1968 to 1980 and includes major discussions of the CHANCE program and community reaction to minorities on and off-campus. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 40 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.18	Harold Husa, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 2/4/1981 Husa focuses on the changing social trends of college students during the 1960's and 1970's. He discusses student race relations, student disturbances, and students in government. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.19	Ernest Hanson, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 1/26/1981 Former Dean at NIU, Hanson concentrates on the years 1941 to 1966, and the following topics: student housing and regulations, faculty-community relations, the CHANCE program, and student reaction to the Vietnam War. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.20	John Gardner, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 2/2/1981, and follow-up interview on 2/16/1981 Gardner describes his position as Assistant to NIU Presidents Rhoten Smith and Richard Nelson from 1968 to 1978. He specifically details the faculty's response to racial tensions on campus and the student anti-war movement of the late 1960's. [abstract, transcript, and 2 tapes, 100 minutes]
OH 2.21	William Monat, interviewed by Martin Dubin, Early 1981 This interview focuses on Monat's return to NIU in 1976 as Vice President and Provost, and his years as President (1978 to present). Monat also discusses his early years at NIU (1969-1971) when he served as Chairman of the Political Science Department. [abstract, transcript, and 2 tapes, 80 minutes, 2nd has poor sound]
OH 2.22	Stanley Johnson, interviewed by Robert Hutcheson, 2/26/1981 Johnson discusses his role at the Illinois Constitutional Convention, the campaign for home rule, and taxation laws. He also speaks about the DeKalb County Board (1972), Kishwaukee Community Hospital, and the Committee for Legislative Reform. [abstract, transcript, and 2 tapes, 75 minutes]
OH 2.23	George Boyle, interviewed by Victor Schormann, 2/26/1981 Boyle describes his role as Community Relations Officer at NIU, 1968-1973. He discusses his views on campus and city police response to campus radicalism and protest, NIU involvement in state and local politics, and the decline of campus unrest and town-gown tensions. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.24	James A. Gherity, interviewed by Victor Schormann, 2/26/1981 A former member of the DeKalb City Council, and Professor of Economics at NIU, Dr. Gherity describes city planning policies and town-gown cooperation during the 1960's. Specific topics include re-zoning, the City Planning Commission, DeKalb City Council, and NIU campus disturbances. [abstract only, and 2 tapes, 75 minutes]
OH 2.25	Donald E. Bruer, interviewed by Ruth Cavan, 12/25/1980 Bruer's interview primarily focuses on the student disturbances of the late 1960's, and his role as Director of the NIU Security Office 1960-1969. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 40 minutes]
OH 2.26	Robert Graham, interviewed by Glen Gildemeister, 3/5/1981 This interview is divided into three topical segments: 1) Graham's years as a full-time graduate student (1969-1974); 2) his work as a construction laborer (1974-1978); and 3) Field Representative for the Regional History Center at NIU (1978-1981). [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 50 minutes]
OH 2.27	Bradley Manning, interviewed by Susan Bowen, 3/4/1981 Manning describes the effects of university growth on the automobile industry in DeKalb from 1956 to 1980. He also discusses his impressions of former NIU administrators, and his involvement in community politics. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 50 minutes]
OH 2.28	<i>WITHDRAWN</i>
OH 2.29	Philmore Iskowich, interviewed by Carol Logue, 2/18/1981 Iskowich describes DeKalb in the 1940's and 1950's, and the effects of university expansion on local businesses, banking, transportation, housing, and city politics. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.30	Warren Osenberg, interviewed by Bill Callahan, 3/9/1981 Osenberg comments on the social, economic, and political response to university growth in the 1950's, and specifically discusses public transportation, drinking regulations, and politics. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 45 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.31	George Gutierrez, interviewed by Lucille Aikins, 3/16/1981 The Gutierrez tape spans the years 1961 to 1980, and focuses on the CHANCE program and the Latin American migrant ministry program in DeKalb. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.32	Tom McCabe, interviewed by Robert Graham, 3/19/1981 McCabe's interview expresses a businessman's views on the changes forced upon DeKalb by the rapid growth of the University from 1955 to 1980. Major topics include minorities, politics, the drinking age, economics, and the student protests of 1969-1970. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 40 minutes]
OH 2.33	Raya Garbousova, interviewed by Lucille Aikins, 3/4/1981 Covering the years 1950 to 1980, Garbousova discusses the NIU Music Department, the Vermeer Quartet, and the NIU Artist and Lecture Series. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 35 minutes]
OH 2.34	Charles Bradt, interviewed by Carol Logue, 2/15/1981 Bradt, a long-time DeKalb resident, discusses the economic impact of the university on DeKalb from 1950 to 1970, as well as zoning laws, transportation, university administration, expansion, service clubs, and state and local politics. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.35	Luis Balli, interviewed by George Gutierrez, 2/24/1981 Balli's interview covers the years 1968 to 1981, and discusses Latin American migrant families in DeKalb, and the CHANCE program at NIU. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 20 minutes]
OH 2.36	Aristeo Mancha, interviewed by George Gutierrez, 3/24/1981 Mancha describes his personal experiences as a minority in the DeKalb community from 1967 to 1980. [abstract, transcript, and 1 tape, 20 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 2.37	Earl Sullivan, Jr., interviewed by Robert Graham, 3/24/1981 Sullivan, a local tavern owner, discusses town-gown relations from 1955 to 1980, with emphasis on population growth, the student unrest of May 1970, economic growth, and democratic politics. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 40 minutes]
OH 2.38	W. Dee Palmer, interviewed by Lucille Aikins, 3/26/1981 Musically, Palmer has played a vital role in the DeKalb community. In this interview Plamer describes the impact of the university on public school music programs, the DeKalb municipal band, NIU's economic impact, and the growth in population. [abstract, newspaper clippings, and 1 tape, 40 minutes]
OH 2.39	John Castle, interviewed by Martin Dubin, 4/8/1981 Castle, a DeKalb lawyer, discusses the changes in city government and zoning, county government, his responsibilities as chairman of the county board, and how these were affected by the university from 1955 to 1980. [abstract only, and 2 tapes, 100 minutes]
OH 2.40	Joseph Ebbesen, interviewed by Martin Dubin, 4/11/1981 Ebbesen, a former mayor, describes the structure and activities of DeKalb City government in the 1960's, and his role as a member of the state legislature. [abstract only, and 2 tapes, 120 minutes]
OH 2.41	Charles F. Raymond, interviewed by James Jarvis, 3/30/1981 [1 tape, No abstract or transcript]
OH 2.42	Robert Greenaway, interviewed by Nelson James, 6/2/1981 Former editor of the <u>DeKalb Daily Chronicle</u> from 1951 to 1969, Greenaway presents his views on changes made in the community as the result of university expansion. [abstract only, and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 2.43	C. Edward Raymond, interviewed by James Jarvis, 6/8/1981 [1 tape, No abstract or transcript]

Additional Town-Gown Relations Tapes:

Town Gown Evaluation Meeting, 4/9/1981 (2 tapes)

Roundtable on Economic Impact, 4/4/1981

Roundtable on Political Relations, 4/4/1981

Roundtable on Social & Cultural Impact, 4/4/1981

OH - 3
FARMING AND FARM FAMILIES IN DEKALB COUNTY

INTRODUCTION

“Farming and Farm Families in DeKalb County” was an oral history project undertaken by an oral history methodology class at Northern Illinois University. The initial nineteen interviews took place during October and November of 1986. The instructor, seven graduate students in history, and two undergraduates interview twenty people engaged in farming in DeKalb County at some period in their lives since World War II. Narrators were drawn chiefly from volunteers who belonged to a retired farmers’ association called “Prime Timers.” On two of the tapes, first names only were used as the narrators chose not to be identified by the use of their last names. Each narrator received a copy of the tape to keep. An additional fifteen interviews were conducted between September of 1989 and February of 1990 by Valerie Quinney and Terry Kuhn.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 34
Number of tapes: 22 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 3

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The topics discussed in this collection include: changes in farming technology and practices; chores assigned on the basis of age and gender; roles and status of women in farm work; perceptions of farming as a way of life; perceptions of personal independence and economic security; kind and degree of participation in community activities; amount and use of leisure time; and availability of adult education.

The sample of farmers is biased in favor of the successful farmer. The majority of narrators are farmers who retired in some comfort, as opposed to those forced out of farming. In fact, there are no representatives of the latter category. There is an age bias as well, with the majority well past retirement age.

In spite of the limitations listed above, the collection can be informative. Both large and small farming operations are discussed. The hardships of farming are pointed out, and small farmers talk about the pressures they endured and the reasons they quit farming. Especially interesting is the testimony of both men and women of the changes in relationships with neighbors in the rural areas, in cohesiveness within the family, and in social support networks. Subsequent additions to the collection have focused on the

experiences and role of women in farming.

Researchers should note that thirteen of the first nineteen oral histories, recorded in 1986, are on tape only and have no transcripts. The oral histories recorded in 1989 and 1990, on the other hand, are available only in transcript form.

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
3a	Inventory
3b	"Farming and Farm Families in DeKalb County," research paper by Sharon Marie Bartholemew, 1986
OH 3.1	Ann Anderson, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/4/1986 Interview details all aspects of farming life, past and present. Ann also discusses life as a farm wife and parent, school experiences, and the importance of church, friends, and modernization. [index and 2 tapes]
OH 3.2	Don --, interviewed by Rosemarie Ostberg, 11/3/1986 Don's interview details his childhood years growing up on a farm as the youngest member of the family. He explains how he later resurrected a defunct farm. [index and tape]
OH 3.3	Joanne --, interviewed by Rosemarie Ostberg, 11/10/1986 Joanne discusses her farming background in LaSalle County as a child during the 1950's and 1960's, as well as her present status as a farm wife employed at NIU. Her husband works on his father's farm, and also owns a small trucking company and raises pigs. [index and 2 tapes, 1 is a duplicate]
OH 3.4	Karl Boekenhauer, interviewed by Greg Vosefski, 11/12/1986 Boekenhauer farmed in DeKalb County from the 1930's until 1952. After leaving the farm, he continued to be involved in local agriculture. Boekenhauer was also a feed salesman/manager for Northern FS Co-operative. [transcript and tape]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 3.5	Luke Bridger, interviewed by Terrence Zeller, 10/22/1986 Born in South Grove, IL, in 1910, Bridger lived in the DeKalb area all his life. He began farming in 1931, moved to his present farm in 1943, and retired from farming twelve years ago (1974). He eventually farmed over 1,000 acres, with livestock forming the basis of his marketing operations. This is the view of a successful farmer and community leader. [index and tape, 50 minutes]
OH 3.6	Bill Clausen, interviewed by Ed Gallagher, 11/13/1986 Clausen grew up on the farm that he lives on today. This narrative offers a good overview of changes in DeKalb farming. Clausen recalls trends and events in American agriculture. [index and tape, 90 minutes]
OH 3.7	Martha and Bill Gommel, interviewed by Mindy Newman, 11/24/86 The Gommel's have lived in their home in Malta since their marriage in 1940. This interview covers farming and farm life from the 1940's through the 1980's. They discuss economic and technological changes, and the role of the farm bureau. [index and tape, 80 minutes]
OH 3.8	Bev Kuhn, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/7/1986 Although Bev Kuhn grew up in a small city in Australia, her parents had farming backgrounds, and she visited family farms during her childhood. She has lived in the DeKalb area since 1974. Her husband works as a plumber in addition to farming with their three sons. [transcript and tape, 90 minutes]
OH 3.9	Jack Kuhn, interviewed by Kelly Keister, 11/17/1986 Kuhn helped his family maintain a dairy farm outside of Warrenville, Illinois. He went into plumbing to augment his farm income and spent several years in the service. After his marriage and the sale of the Warrenville property, Jack his father, his brother, and their families moved to Clare, IL and settled on their present farm. [transcript and tape, 60 minutes]
OH 3.10	Evelyn Lanan, interviewed by Sharon Bartholemew, 11/10/1986 Lanan grew up on a farm in Esmond, Illinois. She is a graduate of NIU, receiving a two-year teaching degree. Evelyn spent more time with household chores and Home Extension than with actual farming procedures. [transcript and tape]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 3.11	Howard Lanan, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/10/1986 Lanan farmed until 1980, raising grains, chiefly corn, and livestock. General topics of this interview include: early settlers in DeKalb County, Lanan's family history, childhood on the farm, social life, education in the 1920's and 1930's, and changes in farm technology. [transcript and tape, 90 minutes]
OH 3.12	Milton Lambert, interviewed by Ed Gallagher, 11/17/1986 Lambert has been a farmer all his life. The general topic of this interview is farming in DeKalb on a mid-sized farm, supplemented by rental of additional acreage, from the mid-1940's to the mid-1980's. [index and tape, 60 minutes]
OH 3.13	Barb Male, interviewed by Kelly Keister, 11/25/1986 Male discusses how life has changed from her childhood to her children's. The Male farm was bisected by the tollway. Other topics include: growing up during the 1950's, early marriage, life on a DeKalb farm, and raising a family. [transcript and tape, 45 minutes]
OH 3.14	Clarence Neujahr, interviewed by Terrence Zeller, 11/11/1986 After high school, Neujahr moved from Nebraska to Hampshire, Illinois, where he worked picking corn and on a dairy farm. He bought his farm in 1965, renting the land to others for four years, and farming it himself for another four years. He discusses problems faced by today's farm community. [index and tape, 48 minutes]
OH 3.15	Orrin Pauling, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/3/1986 Pauling was born and raised in his parent's DuPage County farm, near what is now Stratford Square. After his marriage in 1939, he traveled to DeKalb County several times a week to work the farm that his father had purchased and eventually left to him. Other topics include: farming methods in the 1930's and 1940's, implementation of the government farm program, and life on the farm during the depression. [NO information folder, 2 tapes only]
OH 3.16	Ruth Pauling, interviewed by Sharon Bartholomew, 11/3/1986 In addition to her experiences as a farmer's wife, Ruth discusses education, social life and recreation, and the benefits of farming organizations. [index and 2 tapes, 90 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 3.17	Warren Scholl, interviewed by Greg Vosefski, 11/13/1986 Scholl farmed in DeKalb County from the 1930's until 1986. He also worked off the farm regularly since the 1950's. He talks about government policies, and economic and ecological issues as they relate to farming. [index and tape]
OH 3.18	Judy Stark, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/11/1986 In this interview Judy Stark expresses her feelings about farm life, and the tradition of farming in the Stark family. She was only minimally involved with the farm operation. [transcript and tape]
OH 3.19	Mary Stark, interviewed by Kelly Keister, 11/24/1986 Mary has vivid memories of growing up on the farm. She also discusses butchering time and holidays, selling eggs after her marriage, and moving from the family farm in DuPage County to a 110 acre farm near Lee in DeKalb County, in the early 1970's. [index and tape]
OH 3.20	Lillian Smith, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 2/17/1990 She grew up in farming family, married a farmer and still lives in the Malta area. [transcript]
OH 3.21	Warren Willey, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 2/3/1990 A Malta area farmer, whose farm goes back to 1855. See also his wife Edith's interview , OH 3.22. [transcript]
OH 3.22	Edith Willey, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 2/3/1990 Grew up in a farm family, and married Warren Willey. See his interview, OH 3.21. [transcript]
OH 3.23	Rupert Jordan, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 1/11/1990 DeKalb area farmer. [transcript]
OH 3.24	Virginia Wenmoth, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 10/01/1989 Born into a farming family in Malta, now a farmer's wife still living in Malta. [transcript]
OH 3.25	Ralph Schaeffer, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 2/18/1990 Waterman area farmer. See wife's interview, OH 3.26. [transcript]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 3.26	Blanche Schaeffer, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 2/18/1990 She grew up in a farming family of Norwegian descent, and married a farmer. See his interview, OH 3.25. [transcript]
OH 3.27	Eunice Hartman, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 12/18/1989 She discusses her life and responsibilities while growing up in a DeKalb Area farming family. [transcript]
OH 3.28	Ella Shrader, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 10/08/1989 Grew up in Waterman, and married a farmer in 1929, now lives in Shabbona. [transcript]
OH 3.29	Leona Quilhot, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/11/1989 Grew up in a Shabbona farming family, and married a farmer. [transcript]
OH 3.30	Hazel Clapsaddle, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 9/23/1989 From a Shabbona area farm family, she married a farmer in 1922. [transcript]
OH 3.31	Audrey Soli, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 12/19/1989 She was raised in a Sycamore Farm family. [transcript]
OH 3.32	Edith Challand, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/11/1989 Married a farmer in 1932, and has lived on a farm near Shabbona ever since. [transcript]
OH 3.33	Lester Todd, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/18/1989 A Shabbona area farmer. [transcript]
OH 3.34	Miles and Fern Lane, interviewed by Terry Kuhn, 11/18/1989 A farming couple who married in 1931, they both grew up on farms, Shabbona area. [transcript]

OH - 4
NIU BIOGRAPHICAL INTERVIEWS

INTRODUCTION

“Biographical Interviews” will take place from time to time, conducted by various students, staff, or faculty. They may be in tape and/or written formats.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The narrators of these interviews will be Northern Illinois University people, and their reminiscences will discuss how they achieved their present status, their past work related experiences, and other University interests. Special events or topics may also be discussed, or memories of a particular college or department, etc., but all interviews will in some way relate to the history of NIU.

Number of interviews: 1
Number of tapes: 2 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 4

INVENTORY

OH 4.1 Ruth Shonle Cavan, interviewed by Terry Kuhn on 2/7/1987, 2/28/1987, and 3/28/1987, topic: “Reminiscences.”
(transcripts and 2 tapes]

Ruth Shonle Cavan, interviewed by Thomas Carey, 4/28/1972
Topic: “The Sociology Department of the University of Chicago During the ‘20s and ‘30s.” [transcript. The original taped interview is held at the University of Chicago, Special Collections]

Note: Ruth Shonle Cavan was born in 1896 and received her M.A. (1923) and Ph.D. (1926) degrees in Sociology from the University of Chicago. By 1935 she joined the faculty of Rockford College, and was active in many national and international organizations. In 1964 Dr. Cavan came to NIU as a distinguished teacher, writer and social scientist. She retired in 1971 and continued to contribute to her discipline and her community until her death in 1993.

OH - 5
HISTORY OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

INTRODUCTION

These interviews were conducted between November 4 and 14, 1988, by NIU students for a class in oral history methodology.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 8
Number of tapes: 9 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 5

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The interviews in this series concern the founding and growth of the Northern Illinois University Foundation. The narrators include a former president of NIU, University Controller and a member of the Foundation, Director of Business Affairs and secretary-treasurer of the Foundation, University legal counsel, Foundation Board member, past president of Alumni Association and vice-president of Foundation, and Executive Director of the Foundation.

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
5	Inventory
OH 5.1	Richard J. Nelson, interviewed by Nancy Thornton, 11/14/1988 Recollections of Nelson's NIU presidency, and various aspects of the history of the NIU Foundation during the early 1970's. [abstract and 1 tape, 75 minutes]
OH 5.2	Roy France, interviewed by Willa Cramton, 11/14/1988 France, former University Controller, Secretary-Treasurer and Investments Committee member of the Foundation from the early 1960's to the present, discusses the activities of, and people related to the Foundation, and comments on events, progress, and set-backs to the organization. [abstract and 2 tapes, 130 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 5.3	John S. Templin, interviewed by Lisa Dutour, 11/14/1988 Templin became the General Counsel on NIU in 1968, and retired in 1982. He discusses the Foundation's relationship to the University, the important personalities in the Foundation, legal matters concerning the Foundation's relationship with the Auditor General and it's role in land acquisitions. [abstract and 1 tape, 60 minutes]
OH 5.4	John M. Sayre [1 tape, NO abstract]
OH 5.5	Charles Bradt, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/7/1988 Bradt discusses his family, including Annie Glidden, and his participation on the Foundation Board, as well as Foundation investments and borrowing practices, acquisition of property, and other members of the board. [abstract and 1 tape, 90 minutes]
OH 5.6	Harold Dorland, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/9/1988 Dorland discusses his background, and his coming to Northern in 1954 as Director of Business Affairs, the growth of the University, President Holmes, Foundation investments including South African holdings, growth and functions of the Foundation Board, etc. [abstract and 1 tape]
OH 5.7	Stephen Horvath, interviewed by Dennis E. Read, 11/10/1988 Horvath was a past president of the Alumni Association, Foundation Board member and Vice-President from about 1968 to 1972, and the Foundation President from 1972 to the present (1988). He discusses the operations and people involved with the Foundation. Note: the sound quality is poor on these tapes. [abstract and 2 tapes]
OH 5.8	Richard Ubl, interviewed by Dennis E. Read, 11/4/1988 Ubl , Executive Director of the NIU Foundation since 1974, discusses the history of the Foundation in a very open and candid manner. [abstract, but NO tapes]

OH - 6
WORKERS AT WURLITZER DURING WORLD WAR II

INTRODUCTION

“Workers at Wurlitzer During World War II” is an oral history project undertaken by a class in oral history methodology at Northern Illinois University. Interviewing took place between October and December of 1989. The instructor, six graduate students, and one undergraduate interviewed sixteen people employed at Wurlitzer during the Second World War. Narrators volunteered or were found through city directories and talking to other former employees. Each narrator received a copy of the interview tape to keep.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 13
Number of tapes: 16 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 6

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Topics discussed in this collection include: education; working conditions; production, including the change over from pianos to airplanes, production during the war, and the transition to peacetime production after the war; security; unionization; organization of workers; employee relations; company-sponsored employee activities; propaganda and motivation; changes in attitudes resulting from the war; family life; and concerns of female employees.

The sample of male workers is biased in favor of management. Half of the narrators were women, one of whom was considered management. The majority of the narrators are well past retirement age and are comfortably situated. Many of the narrators left Wurlitzer for other jobs after the war and are comparing the two situations, perhaps subconsciously.

In spite of the limitations listed above, the collection can be informative. The narrators were taken from various departments, and some taken from the same department can be compared. The desire to produce as much as possible comes through, along with some of the difficulties arising from shortages and/or conflicts. Especially interesting is how different people remember the same event and the testimony on changes in attitudes.

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
6a	Inventory
6b	“Life at the DeKalb Wurlitzer Plant During World War II,” a group research paper by Char Henn, Estella Metcalfe, Denyse Clifford Cunningham, Kelly Crimmins, Terence Buckaloo, and John Roberts, ca. 1989/1990
OH 6.1	Neilo Koski, interviewed by Estella Metcalfe, 11/6/1989 The experiences and recollections of an office employee at Wurlitzer from 1936 to 1981 are presented here. He also describes aspects of his education and childhood, as well as production of war material, employee-management relationships, women workers, conditions during the war, conversion to peacetime production, and social activities. [transcript and 2 tapes, 92 minutes]
OH 6.2	Margaret Vanamburg, interviewed by Estella Metcalfe, 11/3/1989 Vanamburg was employed at Wurlitzer from 1943 until 1976. She discusses her childhood, education, work in the mailroom, office work, working conditions, employee-management relationships, products, activities, and concerns of female workers. [abstract and tape, 78 minutes]
OH 6.3	Beverly Rattenberry and Evelyn Pinkston, interviewed by Denyse Cunningham, 11/6/1989 These two women became friends while working at Wurlitzer. They discuss work and social life in the plant before, during and after the war. [abstract and 2 tapes]
OH 6.4	Olga Waldhier, interviewed by Denyse Cunningham, 11/8/1989 Waldhier started at Wurlitzer as an office worker, and by the end of the war had become a plant engineer. She discusses war production, working conditions, attitudes, and Navy influence. She has good feelings about Wurlitzer. [abstract and tape, 60 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 6.5	Zane Sipavis, interviewed by Char Henn, 11/2/1989 Sipavis was a piano stringer who became supervisor of wing spar and bat bomb production during the war. Also discussed are training, production processes, working conditions and attitudes, and the work community at Wurlitzer from 1939 to 1949. [abstract and tape, see also interview of his wife Agnes, OH 6.8]
OH 6.6	Frank Kuzan, interviewed by Char Henn, 10/27/1989 Kuzan, a draftsman in Wurlitzer's Engineering Department from 1936 to 1951, discusses the drafting department, the beginnings of automation and feelings about it, attitudes and activities during the war years, but not a lot about what happened in the plant. [abstract and tape]
OH 6.7	Nellie McDermott, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/26/1989 McDermott discusses rudder production for the target planes produced at Wurlitzer, and talks about social life at the plant. Because she worked at Wurlitzer at two different times, she makes comparisons between war and peacetime production. [abstract and tape, 45 minutes]
OH 6.8	Agnes Sipavis, interviewed by Valerie Quinney, 11/2/1989 Sipavis discusses office work as well as the social life and activities of the people in the accounts payable office during the War. [abstract and tape, 80 min., interview by her husband at OH 6.5]
OH 6.9	Ward Miller, interviewed by Jim Binder, 11/21/1989 He discusses Wurlitzer from middle management viewpoint, as a foreman in the aircraft department, and later as an inspector. Production methods are also described. [abstract and tape, 50 min]
OH 6.10	Emil Miller, interviewed by Jim Binder, 11/22/1989 Miller oversaw plant operations, except for the proximity fuse. He also discusses production methods. [abstract and tape, 40 minutes]
OH 6.11	Clifford Anderson, interviewed by John Roberts, 11/9/1989 At Wurlitzer from 1935 until 1981, Anderson tells of his musical background and the inventions he patented which improved production of Wurlitzer musical instruments, and for the war effort. He also gives insights into social life and wartime attitudes. [abstract and 2 tapes, 135 minutes]

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 6.12	Hazel Duffy, interviewed by Kelly Crimmins, 11/24/1989 Before the war Duffy worked as a tone regulator, and in the mailroom, during the war she was in the blueprint department. She also discusses the raise in wartime wages, and the 1942 strike. [abstract and tape, 60 minutes]
OH 6.13	Lou and Bill Hathaway, interviewed by Kelly Crimmins, 11/16/1989 Lou worked in the piano and accordion departments before the war, but during the war she made army cots. Bill worked at Wurlitzer before and after serving in WW II. Both Lou and Bill discuss company sponsored activities and security methods. [abstract and tape, 68 minutes]

OH - 7
BURLINGTON RAILROAD STRIKE

INTRODUCTION

James R. Flynn donated the Burlington Railroad Strike Collection [RC 217] to Northern Illinois University's Regional History Center on November 8, 1993.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 13
Number of tapes: 0
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 7

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Burlington Railroad Strike records were collected by the donor during the course of his Ph.D. dissertation research. Within the records are transcriptions of the oral history interviews that Flynn conducted during his research. The transcriptions are located in Boxes 5 and 6 of RC 217. The tapes remain the possession of Dr. Flynn.

James R. Flynn completed his dissertation entitled, "The Railroad Shopmen's Strike of 1922 on the Industry, Company, and Community Levels" in July 1993. Copies of this dissertation may be found in Founders Memorial Library and the Regional History Center.

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
5	5	Contents list for Flynn's Volume I and II
	6	Questions used for the Interviews, 1982-1983 Interview Transcriptions:
	7	Carl Hendrickson. September 11, 1982 [OH 7.1]
	8	Carl Hendrickson, September 20, 1982 [OH 7.2]
	9	Carl Hendrickson, November 2, 1982 [OH 7.3]
	10	Robert McDonald. September 27, 1982 [OH 7.4]
	11	Williard Carl Becker, September 28, 1982 [OH 7.5]
	12	John H. Durham, October 29, 1982 (Memorandum of Record only), [OH 7.6]
	13	Harry L. Creviston, October 29, 1982 (Memorandum of Record only), [OH 7.7]
	14	Burlington Northern's Roundhouse in Aurora, Illinois, 1978, (Transcript of video tape), [OH 7.8]

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
6	1	Burlington Railroad Strike - Interview Transcriptions, cont.: Carl Hendrickson, Joe Schindlebeck, and Augie Klein, November 18, 1982 [OH 7.9]
	2	Sheldon Witt, December 5, 1982 [OH 7.10]
	3	Duff Corbin, December 8, 1982 [OH 7.11]
	4	Ed Baum, December 8, 1982 [OH 7.12]
	5	Al Schoeberlein, December 10, 1982 [OH 7.13]

OH - 8
NIU CENTENNIAL HISTORIES

INTRODUCTION

The two interviews in this series were conducted in 1996 by Dr. Glen A. Gildemeister, Director of the Regional History Center, as part of his research for a Castle on a Hill, a pictorial history of Northern Illinois University. Both interview subjects were notable Northern Illinois State Teachers College athletes.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 2
Number of tapes: 4 cassettes
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 8

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 8.01	Tarver "Cy" Perkins, interviewed by Glen Gildemeister, 11/13/1996 Perkins, a Native American, was recruited to come to Northern as a member of the track team in 1940. In 1943 he enlisted in the Navy, and returned to NISTC in the fall of 1946. A conference champion in the "880," he set the American record for the half-mile as a member of the AAU team visiting Oslo, Norway in 1947. The majority of this interview discusses his athletic career and experiences at NISTC and in DeKalb. Perkins also discusses his family and background, his World War II experiences, and his employment career. [transcript, 2 photographs, clippings, and 2 tapes]
OH 8.02	Ernest C. Smith, interviewed by Glen Gildemeister, 11/23/1996 "Bumpy" Smith, an African-American student, not only was a Northern track star, but also was a member or officer of several campus organizations, including Senior Class President in 1948/1949. He was drafted into the NAVY in 1944, and then came to NISTC in 1946. This interview touches on the draft, service in WW II, and the GI Bill; his experiences at Northern, including housing on campus, and the boycott of the Log Cabin Restaurant in DeKalb; and his career teaching in Detroit, travels, and life after Northern. [transcript, and 2 tapes]

OH 9
REGIONAL HISTORIES

INTRODUCTION

At present the series contains only one interview. Other oral history interviews may be added at a later date. This interview was conducted by Pam Lothson while doing research on the DeKalb Classroom Teacher's Strike of 1971 for her History 471 class, "Workers in U.S. History, 1787 - Present," taught by Dr. Rosemary Feurer. The paper she wrote is also included here.

Property rights in the series belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to these materials.

Number of interviews: 1
Number of tapes: 1 cassette
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Oral History Series: OH 9

INVENTORY

<u>Accession No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
OH 9.1	Joe Pasteris, interviewed by Pam Lothson, 4/25/2003 Pasteris taught in DeKalb from 1959 to 1989. Beginning in 1961 he became involved with the DeKalb Classroom Teacher's Association (DCTA) and eventually held several leadership roles. At the time of the teacher's strike in 1971, he was president elect of the organization. Also included is some biographical information on his family and education. [abstract, transcript, research paper, and 1 tape, 72 minutes]