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Interview with Barbara Haigler

Barbara Haigler

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**LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**Interview #295
HAIGLER, Barbara**

HAIGLER, Barbara

Winthrop alumnus, class of 1957

At Winthrop: 1957

Interviewed: December 3, 2012

Interviewer: Robert Ryals

Index by: Rachel Hooper

Length: 00:25:50

Abstract: In this interview on December 3, 2012, Robert Ryals speaks to Barbara Haigler, an alumnus of Winthrop University, about her memories of campus life. This interview covers Haigler's time at Winthrop until her graduation in 1957. Among other things, Haigler discusses her memories of dorm life, classes, and social events. This interview was conducted for inclusion into the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections Oral History Program.

Keywords: Winthrop, alumni, alumnus, Haigler, Ryals, oral history, interview, 1950s

Interview Session (December 3, 2012): Digital File

Time Keywords

00:00:00 *Start of Interview*/Interviewer's Introduction

00:00:26 *Question:* Permission to record voice? *Answer:* Yes

00:00:37 [no question] continues with introduction

00:00:58 *Question:* Why attend Winthrop? *Answer:* Majored in instrumental music, wanted to teach band, Winthrop was one of the best schools for music

00:01:44 *Question:* Where was hometown at the time? *Answer:* Dillon, SC

00:01:51 *Question:* Did you take an entrance exam? *Answer:* No; transferred from another school

- 00:02:07 *Question:* How did you arrive at Winthrop? *Answer:* Parents brought her
- 00:02:15 *Question:* Feelings about arrival at Winthrop for the first time *Answer:* Lost, bigger school than she was used to; however, had some friends from Dillon; changed roommates
- 00:03:02 *Question:* How did you get along with assigned roommate? *Answer:* Didn't get along; requested a roommate change after two days
- 00:03:23 *Question:* What were new roommates' names? *Answer:* Ginger Martin, Judy Dozier, Parthea Thompson, JoAnn Hardy
- 00:03:39 *Question:* How did you feel at recent reunion when you saw old roommates? *Answer:* Did not see at reunion, roommates were a year older than her
- 00:04:01 [no question] continues talking about reunion
- 00:04:24 *Question:* Were you homesick at Winthrop? *Answer:* No, too busy
- 00:04:38 *Question:* You were very focused on studies? *Answer:* Yes
- 00:05:00 *Question:* Was your new roommate a music major? *Answer:* No
- 00:05:10 *Question:* What do you remember about dorm room inspections/checks? *Answer:* Was a hall monitor for a year, does not remember checks
- 00:05:35 *Question:* What time was "lights out?" *Answer:* 11 PM on weekdays and 12 AM on weekends
- 00:05:45 *Question:* Did you have fire drills? *Answer:* Yes; happy she was on the first floor of dorm
- 00:06:26 [no question] speaking about reunion; speaking about using fire escapes to sneak into dorms
- 00:06:40 *Question:* As a hall monitor, ever report anyone? *Answer:* Yes, but not often; room close to infirmary, had to let people into infirmary often
- 00:07:04 *Question:* What were some infractions? *Answer:* Breaking detention
- 00:07:35 *Question:* Requirements for checking in and out of dorms? *Answer:* Sign in and out; "buzzer system" to communicate
- 00:08:22 *Question:* Remember house mother? *Answer:* Yes, but can't remember name; did not

- have much contact with her
- 00:08:50 [no question] Haigler speaking about mailboxes
- 00:08:56 *Question:* Where were post office boxes? *Answer:* Tillman Hall
- 00:09:01 *Question:* Memories of dorm? Did Haigler stay in more than one room? *Answer:* 3 different rooms; high ceilings, small closets, no A/C
- 00:09:40 *Question:* What building were dorms in? *Answer:* Margaret Nance; moved to senior hall her senior year; another dorm building during summer school, cannot remember which one
- 00:10:10 *Question:* Did you participate in Blue Line? *Answer:* Yes; did not wear uniforms, but wore navy blue to walk to church first Sunday of school year
- 00:10:37 [no question] interviewer talks about Blue Line, uniforms, churches; Haigler gets glass of water
- 00:11:43 *Question:* Rules of conduct? *Answer:* No touching dates, no holding hands; no jeans or pants on campus
- 00:12:27 *Question:* Did you ever take gym classes? *Answer:* Yes; had to swim length of pool to graduate; took badminton, archery
- 00:13:03 *Question:* Do you remember what gym outfits looked like? *Answer:* One piece jumpsuit, short and flared bottom
- 00:13:22 [no question] Haigler discusses gym teacher Ms. Sturgess
- 00:13:51 *Question:* Memories of dining hall? Food? *Answer:* Food was good; no one went out to eat.
- 00:14:15 [no question] Haigler discusses milk products made at Winthrop, ice cream
- 00:14:50 [no question] Haigler discusses walking off campus, hitchhiking
- 00:15:08 *Question:* Any parts of Rock Hill you weren't allowed to go? *Answer:* No
- 00:15:30 *Question:* Was "canteen" permanent part of a building? *Answer:* Yes, downstairs in Tillman Hall; sold sandwiches, sodas, also books
- 00:15:56 *Question:* Remember any social events? *Answer:* Yes, had many dances; none

- officially organized by Winthrop
- 00:16:31 *Question:* Any boyfriends? *Answer:* Yes, dated a boy at Wofford for 3 years
- 00:16:45 *Question:* What about concerts? Speakers? *Answer:* Had guest speakers for educational assemblies once a month, went to many recitals
- 00:17:24 *Question:* Participate in concerts? *Answer:* Yes, required to as a music major
- 00:17:35 *Question:* Played piano? *Answer:* Yes; then had to learn to play strings, percussion, and brass when majored in band
- 00:17:53 [no question] discussion about marching band
- 00:18:07 *Question:* Shriner's bowl parade was in Charlotte? *Answer:* Yes
- 00:18:12 *Question:* Remember marching band uniforms? *Answer:* Maroon and gold, skirts and jackets, hat
- 00:18:30 *Question:* What instrument did you play in marching band? *Answer:* Drums
- 00:18:47 *Question:* Involved in campus clubs or activities? *Answer:* No
- 00:19:03 *Question:* Memorable professors? *Answer:* Yes, Florence Smyth; piano teacher
- 00:19:21 *Question:* What did she teach? *Answer:* Piano
- 00:19:26 *Question:* Favorite classes in music program? *Answer:* Music theory and history; really liked theory teacher John Baker
- 00:20:05 *Question:* Did you "practice teach" at Winthrop? *Answer:* Yes, was only band major; had to practice teach all year
- 00:20:29 *Question:* You practice taught at Winthrop's training school? *Answer:* Yes
- 00:20:34 *Question:* Experiences with practice teaching? *Answer:* 1 hour every morning, practiced as group, so did not have too much involvement with students
- 00:20:56 *Question:* What did you do on the weekends? *Answer:* Went to the movies, caught up with school work
- 00:21:20 *Question:* Who was president of Winthrop at this time? *Answer:* Henry Sims

- 00:21:33 *Question:* Any impressions of Henry Sims? *Answer:* Not good; embarrassing, not well spoken.
- 00:21:55 *Question:* What did it mean to be a Winthrop student? *Answer:* Meant you were receiving an excellent education, especially for education majors/teachers
- 00:22:11 *Question:* Did you pursue a career as a teacher? *Answer:* Yes, been a music teacher most of her life
- 00:22:24 *Question:* Do you teach piano? *Answer:* Right now only involved in choral groups, church groups, Christmas cantatas for 10 years
- 00:22:57 *Question:* Did you teach high school or middle school? *Answer:* Taught elementary, middle and high school; after marriage, switched to private tutoring, then taught music at a Bible college in Orangeburg for 28 years
- 00:23:28 *Question:* How did you meet your husband? *Answer:* In a friend's wedding, husband was groomsman; married 2 years later
- 00:23:54 *Question:* Did you have any kids? *Answer:* 2 children, 9 grandchildren
- 00:24:04 *Question:* Any kids go to Winthrop? *Answer:* No, one is at Clemson; oldest grandson at Tech; Rest live in Colorado
- 00:24:30 *Question:* Do you think that Winthrop's image has changed? *Answer:* Yes, co-ed, positive change; athletics have gotten better
- 00:24:56 *Question:* Anything else to add about Winthrop experience? *Answer:* Never needed to know anything that wasn't taught at Winthrop
- 00:25:13 [no question] Thanking Haigler for participating, discusses recording and transcribing interview, contact info, next steps.
- 00:25:50 *End of interview***