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Subject	Thomas Hartshorne
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Interviewer	Natalya Pogrebinski
Special Notes	poor sound quality

minutes:

Born Madison, WI. 1935, History faculty at CSU, moved to Detroit at 10, moved back to University of Wisconsin at 16 (early 50s) lived in 1 Madison until he went into the army (59), was stationed in Cleveland.

Moved to Detroit because his job got a job at Chrysler, better job.
 Missed Madison desperately in Detroit. Well liked city. Lots of lakes in 2 Madison. Originally didn't know what he was going to do at college. Became interested in American history. Finished all requirements for PhD just before he got drafted. Worked on dissertation in Cleveland because 3 his wife got a job here. (dance instructor) Originally worked at Kent branches in Cleveland. Cleveland State absorbed these branches, so he became part of it. At CSU almost from 4 the beginning, 66 or 67. First apartment with wife was 107th and Carnegie. Moved in 68 to East Cleveland, then to South Euclid. Moved because it was no longer 5 a residential neighborhood. Used to have markets, etc. Now, its just offices. "was a neighborhood to live in", not anymore. Spent a lot of time downtown. Department stores, movies, theatres weren't as good as now (before playhouse 6 square), movie not stage theatres never goes downtown anymore, except for either playhouse square or 7 because he is going through Old CSU campus: Fenn tower and Stillwell Hall. Then temporary buildings, then Main Classroom Building. Then Rhodes Tower or University Center, then Science Building then, somewhere in there, the 8 Physical Education building. Classes in Fenn and Stillwell Hall, then most HIS classes were in temporary buildings, until Main Classroom was put in. Not much change in campus' social aspects, was always and still is a computer 9 school. High proportion of students have jobs, are older. At the beginning, there was a bigger variation in the overall quality of students, now students 10 are better prepared. Used to be that a handful of people were completely unprepared for college, maybe community colleges have helped. That was the biggest 11 change in the student body. The best students in early years would stack up against the best today, but there is a larger proportion today. Perception is that most people 12 who get degrees from CSU stay in the Cleveland area. Movers and shakers in Cleveland have degrees from Marshall Law School. People who are educated here can become leaders in the 13 community.

From the very beginning, a very large proportion of CSU students are the first generation to attend college in their family. Why?, because CSU was here. Also, it was created for people that didn't have the means to attend other schools or go away to school. Official mission statement is the CSU is an urban university.

Cateres to the immediate area to some degree. CSU was created to fill that educational gap, thinks we've done it.

Uproar on campus at the time of the Kent State shootings. Group of African Americans staged a protest and did some damage in the cafeteria. Angry about a lot of things. There was a decision to study more contemporary issues at CSU, lasted about two years.

This was in the 70s. This was before Rhodes Tower. Originally called University Tower.

Cleveland State was not a campus with a high degree of activism, like Kent or Case, most were trying to take their classes. Was some bitter criticisms of Rhodes, protests, talk of a class strike.

Nothing really happened though. The different education (focus on contemporary issues) came more from faculty than from students.

19 Reaction to Kent State(faculty):

Very divided. Some were appalled by the shootings, others thought student disruptions needed to be dealt with seriously. Followed disciplinary lines, historians/ social scientists were more liberal; natural sciences/business more conservative, lots of individual exceptions.

Some of the students in the disruption were suspended, talked about expulsion, most were readmitted on an unofficial probation.

Was at diner at a colleague's house, but watched TV to find out what was going on during Kent shootings. Were appalled by the deaths.

Response was that this is something you don't do on a college campus. Researched the events at Kents State, the more he learned, the more he was appalled. At first, thought it was that gaurds reacted because of rocks being thrown, etc. Later, found that the gaurds weren't acting in self defense.

Was really, not metaphorically, murder. Was not in self defense. Was a consistent voter, made contributions of certain campaigns, but never a great joiner of political groups.

High point of student involvement was late 60s early 70s. Push for black history courses, put these in response to student demand.

Allowed student membership in more important college committees, this was the high point of student organizations. Nothing else reached these levels (of protest in late 60s early 70s).

Why?, commuter school. People come here, take classes, go home. Many have other obligations. Other related factor, most students have a high vocational emphasis. See CSU as an opportunity to get a good job, the other aspects of college life are less important.

These is not the act of leaving home, finding out who you are away from home. Important part of college life for most people, but not so much at Cleveland State. Lots of interaction among faculty. Used to be involved in University government before he retired.

The level of interaction and coopertaion here is at least as good as what he's heard of other schools. Faculty interaction is good here. Doesn't
29 have personal experience of it though.

Faculty is trying to build their own traditions. Try to build there own university culture. Thus, faculty is very invovled in creating this. Early invovlement with trying to come up with alternative educations,
30 alternative courses.

One of three on a committee that approved or revised these course proposals. One early course was about war, one about feminism, African American literature. A few about internship type classes about
31 activism.

Not sure if there were any proposals that were rejected, but suspects that there were. Now that he's retired, doesn't have the same
32 invovlement. Been retired for five years.(still teaches emeritus)
Taught for 38 years, three at Kent State. But, was really teaching night classes at Kent extentions, which were at highschoools around Cleveland. Taught entry level survey courses. CSU let him teach upper
33 level courses. Never really on Kent campus.

One of the ideas behind CSU was the idea that CSU would revitalize this area of Cleveland. But it hasn't really. There has been a lot of destruction to add land and space to the campus, but the campus
34 related business hasn't appeared like people thought it would.

The area might have been more livleir when CSU first started. Campus hasn't changed that much. Thinking about getting more resident
35 students.

Might help, but area around Case, which is very residential, isn't really
36 thriving either.

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