

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW  
WITH  
THELMA JENNINGS

13 JUNE 1995

MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE

INTERVIEWED BY REGINA FORSYTHE  
FOR THE Q. M. SMITH ORAL HISTORY PROJECT  
INTERVIEW #QMS.001

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Albert Gore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'A'.

ALBERT GORE RESEARCH CENTER

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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## ABSTRACT



**ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW WITH  
THELMA JENNINGS**

**Q. M. SMITH ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**INTERVIEW #QMS.001**

**FORSYTHE:** This tape is part of the Q. M. Smith Collection designated as QMS.1995.1. This is Regina Forsythe, I am interviewing Dr. Thelma Jennings. Today is Tuesday, June 13, 1995. The interview is being conducted in the Gore Research Center, Room 111 of the Ned McWherter Learning Resource Center. The tape of this interview along with a transcription of the interview will become part of the Quintin Miller Smith Collection and will be available to the public. Future researchers may include portions of this interview in their publications. Is this all right with your Dr. Jennings?

**JENNINGS:** Fine.

**FORSYTHE:** What is your full name?

**JENNINGS:** Thelma Nora Jennings, and I don't like the Nora just leave it off, just put Thelma Jennings.

**FORSYTHE:** Okay.

**JENNINGS:** I don't care for the middle name.

**FORSYTHE:** Don't care for it?

**JENNINGS:** No.

**FORSYTHE:** And your birthplace?

**JENNINGS:** February 2, 1920

**FORSYTHE:** Where were you born?

**JENNINGS:** Wilson County, Tennessee.

**FORSYTHE:** And you lived in Wilson County all your life?

**JENNINGS:** Yes, I have except when I was at U.T. [University of Tennessee] in graduate school, part of the time.

**FORSYTHE:** What were your parents' names?

**JENNINGS:** My father's name was Hannibal, his initials was G. H., and my mother's name was Bassett. And that's spelled B A S S E T T, just like Bassett furniture.

**FORSYTHE:** That was her maiden name?

JENNINGS: No, no. That was her given name. Her maiden name was Daughity, which is spelled D A U G H I T Y. Now that doesn't seem like it spells Daughity because you think, "Oh goodness why isn't there an R in there?" But I have been told that at one time our Daughity's spelt it with an R. But during the Civil War, now I don't know if this is true or not, but it makes a good story. During the Civil War, one of the elderly ladies on the southern side said we are going to change the spelling of our name. "We don't want it spelled like the northern Daughity." Now I don't know whether that is true, but it makes a good story.

FORSYTHE: Yeah, it does. Do you have any siblings?

JENNINGS: No, I was an only child who came late in my parents' life.

FORSYTHE: What degrees do you have and where are they from?

JENNINGS: I have the B.S. and M.A. from Middle Tennessee State and a Ph.D. from University of Tennessee.

FORSYTHE: Why did you choose to study at MTSU?

JENNINGS: Because it was close by. I just live about seventeen miles from this campus. I graduated from high school in 1937 and, as I told Jim, Dr. Jim Neal, Director of the Gore Research Center, I wanted to go to college. And I think I would simply have died almost if I couldn't go to college. And my parents were very anxious for me to go to college. Cumberland University was over in Lebanon. You know about Cumberland. I never did want to go to Cumberland. Now, I have nothing against Cumberland, but I just didn't want to go there. This is where I wanted to go. It was State Teachers College then. My cousin, Louis' mother, the one you heard me talking to him [Dr. James Neal] about Louis had come from Oklahoma and she had gone here a year. Maybe that was partly it too. I wanted to go where Annie had gone. But I thought this was a bigger school and a better school. I just didn't want to go to Cumberland. So this was where I went.

FORSYTHE: This cousin that went here what was her full name?

JENNINGS: Annie Williams.

FORSYTHE: Did any other relatives come here?

JENNINGS: Yes, other cousins on the Jennings side.

FORSYTHE: So you had a lot of family come here. Why did you choose the particular coursework that you chose?

JENNINGS: You see what I did, Regina, was that I came for two years and got what they called the Permanent Professional Elementary Certificate. My daddy told me we weren't poor folks, but we didn't have a lot of money. And you have got to remember that this is in the thirties and getting out of, you might say, the heart of the depression. In fact, I started the fall of '37 and he, father, didn't have a lot of money. And he said I'll send you two years. So that's what I did, and I choose

to get elementary certification so I could teach. Because I always wanted to teach. My mother and father had both taught and I wanted to teach. So that's what I first did. Then, as far as the rest of my college education, well I started teaching in 1940. And I had workshops over in Lebanon that were conducted by campus school teachers that counted toward my work on my degree. Then, as far as taking in my coursework here, I don't think I took anything before 1950. Then I took classes on Saturday and there were more Saturday classes then and in the summer. I didn't stop teaching. Then, finally, after sixteen years, I graduated with my Bachelor's degree in fifty-three. I laugh and say it took me sixteen years to finish college. But that's what happened.

FORSYTHE: What were you teaching in Lebanon?

JENNINGS: I was teaching a country school, a rural school in a place called Norene. And Jim and Patty [Dr. James Neal and his wife, Pat Neal] used to live out there where I taught. I don't know if you ever heard him say that he owned a land out there and a big old two story house. I taught at this place from 1940 to 1956, and I taught the primary grades. We started off with three teachers then we dropped down to two teachers. Well I was teaching first, second, third and finally fourth. Started off with just three grades. Then in 1956, I went to Watertown High School to teach. I had always wanted to teach history. That was my first love. I think in high school I wasn't sure whether it was history or English. But history, that's what I want to do, what I want to be. In 1956, I was able to get a position in Watertown High School. I didn't get to teach all history at first, or as Social Studies, as they called it. But little by little I did. Now stop me when you ever you want to ask something else.

FORSYTHE: No, I am fascinated by what you are saying.

JENNINGS: Well I taught there seven years at Watertown from '56 to '63. In 1960, I lost my mother. Meantime, back in '53, the year I graduated here, my father had died. In fact, he died in January before I graduated in August. I lost my mother in 1960, and as I said, I had no siblings. So I was by myself, kind of like a lost chicken. She died on the sixteenth of May in 1960, and I felt that I can't stay here at this house by myself and nothing to do. I've got to do something. And I think, since I always been in school and I love school; I thought I would go back to school and do graduate work. So then, that summer when summer school started after she died the 16th of May, I started work on a Masters degree.

FORSYTHE: Did you do it like before on weekends and summers?

JENNINGS: I never stopped teaching for the Masters. I did it, yes, on Saturday classes because we had more. You see, the History Department, for example they already did when I retired 10 years ago offered no Saturday classes. They offered night classes, late afternoon classes. Then it was Saturday classes and in the summer. I got my Masters then in August of '62.

FORSYTHE: How long did it take you here?

JENNINGS: Two years. I started in June of '60 and graduated in August of '62. I did a thesis with Dr. Strickland. Do you know Dr. Strickland?

FORSYTHE: No I don't. What was your thesis?

JENNINGS: American Foreign Policy in Berlin, 1945-1949.

FORSYTHE: Tell me about Dr. Strickland.

JENNINGS: Dr. Strickland is a dear friend. He was my teacher for several courses out here. He directed my thesis and then he was still teaching here when I started teaching here, you see so then colleague. And he's is living out here on one of these streets off Tennessee Boulevard. I've forgotten which one it is.

FORSYTHE: I'm going to bring you back to the campus.

JENNINGS: Okay.

FORSYTHE: What buildings were most of your classes held as a student?

JENNINGS: During that first two years, when I first started I was commuting from home. I was coming with, I don't know how many others, a young man from Statesville about five miles from where I lived was coming out here. And he came by and picked me up. We were on the quarter system, not the semester system. I stayed one quarter on the campus in Rutledge Hall. Classes where were they Old Main. I can remember the library was that little building. Where the library is now. You probably seen pictures of it.

FORSYTHE: Is that Murphy Building?

JENNINGS: It might have been called Murphy. No it wasn't were the library was it was where Peck Hall is. That's where it was. Because when I was staying at Rutledge Hall it was right there. It was where Peck Hall was. After the Todd Library was built it was used for the English Department, I think. When I was here that first time it was a library. Most of my classes, course a lot of the buildings that are here now weren't there, were in Old Main. Old Main of course has been completely transformed and restored and renovated whatever you call it. I know there was one big old room up there on the second floor, room 69. I can remember having classes there. Most of them were in Old Main, I think.

FORSYTHE: What type of classes where held in Old Main?

JENNINGS: Except for science classes, you know they were in the Old Science Building. But I had English and I think I had to take some kind of Social Science instead of history then. And later on of course I had history. When I came back, I don't know we were still...I can't pinpoint just what year what building appeared or anything. But of course, had science classes in the Old Science Building. And I

took a lot of biology in fact believe it or not I have a minor in biology. I concentrated more on English and history. And when I was able to go on with my history the third and fourth year.

FORSYTHE: Who were your teachers?

JENNINGS: Dr. Strickland, Dr. Moore. You know Dr. Moore.

FORSYTHE: His name is familiar.

JENNINGS: I don't much believe I had him until I became a graduate student. I suppose Regina that most of the teachers that...now I know that I had both Dr. Strickland and Dr. Moore as a graduate student. But if you go back to undergraduate most of the teachers that I had are gone. I mean dead. I had Miss Ann Ardway for English. I had Dr. Frazier for English. I had Dr. Sims, anybody who has been around with history his name would ring a bell. He wrote the history of Rutherford County. Have you run across it?

FORSYTHE: Yeah, I've read it.

JENNINGS: Oh yeah. Okay. I had Dr. Sims. The saying went was that if you had an 8:00 o'clock class with Dr. Sims and you didn't get there by 8:00 he locked the door and you couldn't get in.

FORSYTHE: Did you ever get locked out?

JENNINGS: No. I tried to be there. I remember having Tennessee History with him and it was in old Room 69. We were having a test, this was a Saturday class, an exam, and he gave true/false questions. I hated true/false, oh I hated them. He scattered us out all over that big room. I don't know if I had him before or not. I don't remember. I know I had him for European History maybe I had him before, maybe he knew me. He made me come up way up to the front. I thought why is he putting me way up here, I'm not fixing to cheat.

FORSYTHE: Did you figure out why?

JENNINGS: Yeah, I think I know.

FORSYTHE: Why?

JENNINGS: I don't want that to go in there.

FORSYTHE: Okay.

JENNINGS: I knew I think, but I don't want that to go in there. Let's see who else did I have? I'm just thinking about all the entire four years and graduate school too, because they all begin to run together. For the life of me I can't think of his name... Dr. Patton. You have heard of Dr. Patton in Biology?

FORSYTHE: No.

JENNINGS: Dr. Patton hadn't been dead very long. He's been retired for a number of years. I had Dr. Davis in Biology and he would give us a little quiz quite often and try to keep us on our tiptoes and keep us studying and going over our notes and reading what we were supposed to read. We never knew when we were going to have a pop quiz. We might go in there and have one or might not have one. So that really kept us on our...but I dearly loved him. He had snowy white hair. And those education teachers I wasn't too keen on education anyway.

FORSYTHE: Even though you were a teacher?

JENNINGS: Have you ever taken an education course?

FORSYTHE: No, I haven't.

JENNINGS: You haven't missed anything. I shouldn't say that. Cut. Well I tell you what education courses are supposed to help you learn how to teach. But you have to get out there and get with it before you really know. I had a little woman though for education that I thought a great deal of. She has been dead for years I'm sure. Miss Mary Frizzell. I know you have heard of Miss Mary Hall.

FORSYTHE: Yeah.

JENNINGS: Oh yeah. I had Miss Mary and Miss Ollie Green, who was a well known character on this campus for Geography. Miss Ollie taught in Chemistry and Geography both. I had her for Geography. She was known to be pretty rough, but we got along all right.

FORSYTHE: What are some memories you have of the campus? Of your time here as a student?

JENNINGS: As I told you the other day, I wasn't one of them who was involved in student activities or campus activities. I came over here for classes and I studied and I went to the library. That's the biggest thing I remember.

FORSYTHE: Let me ask about Rutledge Hall. What were the house rules, do you remember?

JENNINGS: We had to be in at a certain time at night. Pretty strict.

FORSYTHE: Did you have to sign in and out?

JENNINGS: Yeah, pretty strict. It is so unlike, I'm sure, the looseness and everything today. As I remember there was a woman. I can't recall her name. I don't know if her name was Burns, who was matron of Rutledge Hall of that time. I know that she taught a course in Home Nursing that I had while I was out here. She was a very nice person. My room was on the second floor. Annie's was on the second too, no I halfway think hers might have been on the third floor. I had a roommate named SueDale Moss from Santa Fe, Tennessee. Years later I tried to run her down and find out what had become of her and I did. And then we lost touch again, so I have no idea whether SueDale is still living or what. A real sweet person.

FORSYTHE: Who was the dorm mother?

JENNINGS: She was the lady I was talking about who taught the Home Nursing. I guess you would call her dorm mother. I don't know what she was called or what her title was.

FORSYTHE: Let's go into when you starting working here. When was that?

JENNINGS: Teaching? '66. Well I taught in the summer. I started at UT. I got my Masters degree in '62. Then in '62, '63 I taught at Watertown High School again. And my appetite I guess was whetted for more graduate work. And I thought if I knew I could do the work I would work on a Ph.D. What scared me was the foreign language requirements. I thought, "I know I can do the history." I love history. I began talking about it. I know and I have a good friend, that still living. She was 86 the other day and I talked to her on her birthday in the library. Her name is Sara Moore. I told her (about wanting to get the Ph.D.) and she said, "Ah you don't want to do that, you don't want to do that. All that work and everything, you know." Well I didn't listen to them. I decided that. I even applied for assistants and scholarships or something. And UT offered me an assistantship. That's the reason I went to UT and besides it was close to home. I went up there in the summer of '63. I was there the next year '63 - 64. And I guess it was in the spring of '64 that Dr. Corlew, who was chairman of the History Department, wrote me a letter and asked me if I would like to teach summer classes in the History Department. Oh I was on cloud nine. Nothing could have pleased me better, because I wanted to go home for the summer. And I thought I could make a little money, you know, and that could help me as far...because I had quit my job. That was my first teaching. I gladly accepted and I taught in the summer of '64 and '65, probably '66. Applied for a job and I got it.

FORSYTHE: How long were you here?

JENNINGS: How long was I here? From '66 to '85, 19 years.

FORSYTHE: What was that first class you taught?

JENNINGS: I taught Western Civilization. And to be honest Regina I never had a course in Western Civilization in my life. But when I had an assistantship at UT it was in Western Civilization. But their assistantship was operated and probably does still different from what it does here. Are you an assistant? Do you have an assistantship?

FORSYTHE: No.

JENNINGS: But you work here though. But I don't know what has been going on in the History Department hardly in ten years. But the assistants were put in the classrooms to teach classes. But up there, we assistants would sit in a big old room where some member of the History Department lectured. And we checked roll and do little jobs like that. Then once a week we had to have

discussion groups. We had to have five discussion groups each quarter. We would answer any questions that might come up and give little quizzes and grade papers. I didn't like it. I just had enough of it at the end of that year. I thought if I can't pay my way I don't want anymore of this. It rubbed me a little raw because I had been teaching in classroom, myself teaching it. That was my first Western Civ. Then I had to teach Western Civ. myself and do the lectures. What I took back when I was a freshman here was Social Science. It wasn't really history. Whereas these people interested in history here now, would start out in Western Civ. So here I was put to preparing lectures for Western Civ. I know an Uncle of mine was living with me then in the summer. I would go home and work on those lectures and I say I don't know whether I have enough for two hours. Those summer classes were so long. He would say, "Well now Thelma if you just think you are going to run out of material you just go to talking very slowly." We got through Western Civ. anyway. When I started teaching as a full time teacher, I was teaching Surveying American. Sometime along about then the university went on semesters, and I know the first semester that I taught here as a full staff member. I had five sections of 201. And I guess I had it the next semester too. I would have to make a note where did I get in this class and by the time you reached the fifth you thought my goodness it sounds like an old record. Along about the third year that I was here, Dr. Corlew asked me if I would like to teach Old South. I said, "Oh yes." He said, "Well I been teaching it, but I'm going to let you teach it." I said that was fine. That was what I loved the most, you know.

FORSYTHE: Was that your specialty?

JENNINGS: Um-hum.

FORSYTHE: What projects were you involved in? Were you involved in any projects here?

JENNINGS: No.

FORSYTHE: Where was your office?

JENNINGS: Oh, where was my office? Well you see the History Department...Jim [Dr. James Neal] may have mentioned while ago it was first over in the Dramatic Arts Building. I had a little office in there some where. On the second floor. I don't know whether I could go to it now to save my live. But when we moved to Peck Hall, and you are familiar with the History Department.

FORSYTHE: Oh, yeah.

JENNINGS: Okay, had the same office the entire time I was here. We moved over to Peck Hall in '68. We call it the New Classroom Building or NCB for a good while before they named it Peck Hall. Finally the building had a name. I always had the same office. It was in that well of offices directly across from the History Department. As you walk in, turn right it was the middle office. It's the one that Thad Smith has now.

FORSYTHE: Did the History Department have the whole Drama Arts Building?

JENNINGS: No. I don't know what else was in there. In Peck it was various English, Sociology, like it is now. No we didn't have the whole Drama Arts Building. When I got my Masters degree I couldn't get my Master degree in history because there wasn't any History Department. It was Social Science. So my Masters my M.A. degree is really Social Science with an emphasis on history. My thesis was in history, but I couldn't get in history because there wasn't a History Department. History split off anyway. The Social Science Department disintegrated. I guess you say into history, political science, sociology, geography. I think along about the next year after I got my degree '63 or '64 somewhere along in there I'm not sure.

FORSYTHE: This tape is about to end so let's stop here.

FORSYTHE: This is a continuation of the interview with Dr. Thelma JENNINGS by Regina FORSYTHE on Tuesday, June 13, 1995.

FORSYTHE: Talking about the campus buildings. What other buildings do you remember during your time here? Peck Hall, we were talking about it. It also known as New Campus Building. What was it named Peck Hall?

JENNINGS: It was named for Mr. Richard Peck and his wife, Dr. Virginia Peck. Who both taught in the English Department. He was the chairman of the Department for a while. I knew him better than I knew her. I don't know whether he was still chairman. I guess he had probably had to quit teaching. He had cancer, I remember. That was a few years after I came here. She lived a good many years, I believe she is dead now.

FORSYTHE: Why did they choose that particular location?

JENNINGS: I guess that little library building was so little they bulldozed it down. That was a great location for a building.

FORSYTHE: What professional organizations did you belong to?

JENNINGS: Phi Alpha Theta. Pie Gamma Mu, Social Science.

FORSYTHE: That first one I didn't hear what it was.

JENNINGS: Phi Alpha Theta, history honor society.

FORSYTHE: What did you have to do with that?

JENNINGS: It was organized after I came here to teach. I don't know that we did much with it. Except we had a history honorary society on campus. I can't recall anything much that we actually did. Maybe we had dinners or something and initiated new members and that sort of thing.

FORSYTHE: You were here during the 60s and 70s.

JENNINGS: It would have been from '66 and through the 70s and then till '85.

FORSYTHE: Do you recall any controversies on campus?

JENNINGS: Not really. This campus was pretty quiet. And you are thinking about Vietnam. It wasn't a Berkeley. It was relatively quiet. I wasn't teaching American [History]. When I got to 202 [second course of American History] I got into it. I don't remember any confrontation on this campus or anything like that.

FORSYTHE: What have you been doing since you retired?

JENNINGS: Working on a book.

FORSYTHE: What book, can I ask that?

JENNINGS: It is at the University of South Carolina Press, now. I am waiting for a verdict. Tell it like it was: Black Women's Perspective of Slavery and Freedom. I have used interviews. WPA interviews. Are you familiar with them?

FORSYTHE: Yes

JENNINGS: Of old slave women. I only selected the ones that were at least 12 or 13 years of age at the time of freedom. I came up with 514 and I eliminated any that seem like their mind was just wondering so much and not reliable. I came up with 514 and I just any primary like material. There are a number of autobiographies of black men, but women...

FORSYTHE: The only one I can think of is Linda Brent.

JENNINGS: Linda Brent and there are two or three more. You don't have many. J. R. Blessing, edited a book called Slave Testimony, that has letters and excerpts from autobiographies and things like that in there. And most of them are men. The testimony is so slanted toward the men. But I used all the primary black material I could. Then I brought in some white women, some manuscripts of a few white women and their letters and so forth. For a little bit of a comparison to give it a third dimension. Some black men too, because some of the black men could tell me things about their mothers, their sisters or something like that. I have submitted as I said to the University of South Carolina Press, I submitted on my birthday of this year.

FORSYTHE: That ought to be good luck.

JENNINGS: I don't know whether that's good luck or what. But I was bound to get through with it. Louise would tell me, "You have to finish it. You can't keep reading it and making changes. You got to finish it." You kept giving me a shove and she said you and you are going to have this done on your birthday. I actually mailed it on my birthday. Then I had a letter little over a month later from the editor of the press. He said it had commitments from three wonderfully well qualified readers who read the manuscript. So I am waiting their verdict. The jury is out.

FORSYTHE: I will be looking forward to it.

JENNINGS: Well, I don't know we will see. He said it would [take] them two or three months. Okay, he wrote that letter the third day of March. So the third day of June would have made three months. So everyday I go to the mailbox, and I think it is going to be today?

FORSYTHE: Good luck with it. Are you going to do anymore writing?

JENNINGS: No.

FORSYTHE: What are you going to do from now on? Do you have any plans now that your have finished your book?

JENNINGS: I like to take trips. I like to travel some. I tell you research and writing take a long time. I spent hours and hours, but I enjoyed it. Now since Louise has been gone, she left two weeks ago today and I am by myself. Well I think if that book is never published I had something to occupy my time and something I enjoyed it. So it wasn't a waste of time if it is never published. There is plenty around there I could done like painting and something. But I don't get enthusiast about that. I like to read, but you can't read all the time. I watch some television, but I'm no great television fan. It is too late in life to begin a new project.

FORSYTHE: Have you written other books?

JENNINGS: My dissertation was published.

FORSYTHE: What was your topic at UT?

JENNINGS: That was the dissertation. Nashville Convention Southern Movement for Unity 1840-1850. It was published.

FORSYTHE: Have you written articles?

JENNINGS: Yes, I have written some articles. In fact I had one published since I retired. It's part of this research and with some changes it's in the book. It's chapter five. I made a few changes. It had to do with the sexual exploitation of African-American slave women. The Journal of Women's History published Winter of 1990.

FORSYTHE: What are some other memories of your time as an employee here?

JENNINGS: Well I enjoyed my time here. I thoroughly enjoyed my teaching and working with the students. And I did have graduate seminars in Old South, and I taught Civil War and Reconstruction too. And I taught Modern South. I enjoyed it and the fellowship, if you want to call it that, with my colleagues. When I go back to the History Department now though its changed. It's not the same History Department. Dr. Moore retired just recently. Dr. Rolater is still around. Jim Neal, Fred Crawford, Bob Taylor, Norman Ferris, Sally Howe. We had a

good department. In fact, we thought we were the best on the campus. We just thought we were pretty good. I'm not saying that to brag on myself. It was and has been and I hope still is a good department. I know when the universities has to go through this Southern Association evaluation every ten years. We had one of them during the time I was teaching. I tell you Regina, I'm getting forgetful. I'm not getting forgetful I am. Years can make a difference. What I have more trouble with is remembering names. Richard Currant, that was his name, was on a team of evaluators one time. He was staying at the Ramada Inn, and someone would have to go pick him up. Of course it was the whole university that was being evaluated, but since he was an historian, Dr. Corlew thought the History Department should be responsible for going to the Ramada Inn and picking him up and all that. So he [Dr. Corlew] said "Would you like to go out one morning and pick up Professor Currant?" We had a little get together in the seminar room. I think we ate more than any where else. Do you still do that?

FORSYTHE: I'm not with the History Department.

JENNINGS: Are you with History or Historic Preservation?

FORSYTHE: With the Gore Research Center. I'm not a graduate student.

JENNINGS: You didn't do your undergraduate work here?

FORSYTHE: Yes I did. It was history with an emphasis in Historic Preservation. Like you I was here and I was in and out.

JENNINGS: When Dr. Corlew and when Dr. Windham became chairmen, we were having luncheons. Just give us a chance and we would have those tables in that seminary room heaped with food. When Dr. Corlew was chairman, he started out having Christmas dinners out at his house with all the History Department. He started out with dinners just full three course dinner. Then he got down to a reception, punch and all. Then Dr. Winham continued that too. Also he thought we ought to have a picnic in the spring where the children could go. That's where I remember Sara Neal. I told Jim, [Dr. James Neal] I remember Sara as that little red headed girl at Corlew Picnic. Sometimes it would be at Corlew sometimes right here on the campus. We had some good times together.

FORSYTHE: I appreciate you coming and talking with me.

JENNINGS: Well I was glad to do it, enjoyed it. Glad to see what you are doing. It's time that somebody or something was being done to preserve manuscripts. Because with this big of a university there is no excuse for not have some manuscripts where people can do some research. I am very proud of it.

FORSYTHE: Thank you.