

Lebanon Valley College®



Voices of Lebanon Valley College  
150th Anniversary Oral History Project

---

Lebanon Valley College Archives—Vernon and Doris Bishop Library

Oral History of  
**Evalyn Strickler**  
Alumnus, Class of 1939

Date: February 21, 2014  
Interviewed by Art Ford  
Professor *Emeritus* of English and Alumnus, Class of 1959

Transcribed by Stacie Allison  
Vernon and Doris Bishop Library Technician

Copyright © Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA

**Notice:** This is a transcript of an audio recorded interview conducted for the Lebanon Valley College Archives – Vernon and Doris Bishop Library. A draft of this transcript was edited and some corrections were made; therefore, the reader should remember that this is essentially a transcript of the spoken word, rather than the written word.

**Restrictions:** The oral history transcript may be read, quoted from, cited and reproduced for purposes of research. It may not be published in full except by permission of Lebanon Valley College.

**Ms. Evalyn Strickler '39**—As a 1939 graduate, Strickler lived through the Great Depression and WWII, events that shook and shaped the College profoundly. After earning a master's degree in social work, she pursued a career in psychiatric social work and remained close to The Valley for the rest of her life.

A: Hi, this is Art Ford. I'm here with Evie Strickler in Evie's home, Cornwall Manor. The date is February 21, 2014, and we're going to talk about some of Evie's experiences as a student at Lebanon Valley College, back between 1935 and 1939, I think were the years.

E: Right.

A: Ok, well, before we get into any detail with that, let me just ask something of your own background here. Where were you born?

E: I was born in San Antonio, Texas (laughing).

A: How long were you there?

E: Until I was nine weeks old (laughing).

A: And then you moved to?

E: And then my mother brought me back here. She had an attack of common sense and brought me back here (laughing).

A: To Lebanon.

E: To Lebanon. That's right.

A: What were you doing in San Antonio to begin with?

E: My father—it was during the war, of course—and my father was a YMCA worker, and he was stationed down there.

A: I should clarify for anybody—World War I, you're talking about.

E: Yes, World War I. The war to end wars. Then their marriage broke up, and in essence, as I understand it—she never talked much about this—but as I understand it, he deserted the family, and she had to come home. Because in those days, women didn't go out and get jobs. In fact, getting a divorce was an unusual thing in those days. So she was a...she was always kind of

always in advance of her generation. So we came home, and then we lived with my grandparents until I was nine or 10 and she remarried.

A: So back in Lebanon, then you went to the Lebanon schools, Lebanon High School...

E: That's right.

A: Do you have siblings—brothers, sisters?

E: I had a sister, a half-sister, and she was about 10 years younger than I, and she preceded me in death, which was a blow to me. I forget how many years ago she died.

A: And was that the only sibling you had then?

E: That's right.

A: Did your parents have college education?

E: Yes. Both of them were graduates of Lebanon Valley. That's where they met, at Lebanon Valley. And not only my parents, but all my mother's siblings went to the Lebanon Valley, which was kind of unusual in those days.

A: How about the generation before them—any of those people go?

E: No. Now my grandfather, he loved Latin, and he had Latin...what do they call those translations of Latin? There's a slang term for them.

A: I don't know.

E: It escapes me now. But he wrote them. He wrote his own translations of the Latin.

A: Did he learn how to do that in school?

E: I'm not sure if he learned how to do it in school, or if he just enjoyed it so much that he went and did it on his own. And I remember he would talk about Mr. Burnside, who was his teacher, and he always spoke of him with great respect, and said what a learned man he was. Now my

grandfather was far from a learned man, but that area of...that area of learning had great meaning for him.

A: Now was he also in the Lebanon schools?

E: Yes.

A: How far back does your family go here in the Lebanon area?

E: To 1712.

A: Is that right?

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: So you traced it back that far?

E: Yes. I think they came up through Schaefferstown.

A: Obviously German.

E: Yes, German, and my grandfather spoke German before he spoke English as a child. He was, as I say, he was not an articulate man, but he loved to pray aloud, and he was very articulate then. And he would say, 'Oh, German is a powerful language—a powerful language.' And I always had this sneaky idea that he thought the lord heard him quicker when he prayed in German (laughing) than when he prayed in English.

A: Did he just pray whenever he wanted to, or was this for meals and things?

E: No, this would be before meals or in church, he would be called on to pray. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for over 40 years.

A: What church was that?

E: Salem United Brethren.

A: Ok.

E: There at the corner of Ninth and Church Streets. And he would...he would have a great rivalry with St. Mark's on Rally Day. We always wanted to see who would get the most out, and oh, he was very disappointed if St. Mark's exceeded us (laughing).

A: So did you have any other characters in your background here?

E: Oh, heaven's yes (laughing)! Full of characters, full of characters!

A: Well, pick one or two.

E: Well, I had an uncle, Art Spangler, and he was...how in the world he got in the family, I don't know. But he was down in Florida a lot of the time, and during Prohibition, we always had the sneaking idea that Art made his living bootlegging. (Interrupted by clock ringing) We were talking about Art Spangler.

A: Art Spangler, right.

E: And he would, every once in a while then, he'd come up north here to visit his mother, who was a very straight-laced lady. Aunt Dorcas, she was. And (laughing) the men in the family loved Art—they just loved him. And, 'Art's here, Art's here!' And then there would be great gatherings. And the women all hated him, because I think he was a rebel, and they saw him as sort of a threat to their domestic tranquility (laughing).

A: He could lead their husbands astray.

E: Yes, and it was really very funny, now that I look back on it. It wasn't particularly funny at the time. But he would...oh, and then always had trouble banking. And he would call Dick Zimmerman, who was over at the Northside Bank, and he'd say, 'Dick, what must I do to be saved?' Meaning (laughing), how much money did he need to cover his checks (laughing). So that's the kind of a guy he was. And then, Homer Spangler was his cousin, and he was a

character. He was kind of a loudmouth person. Everybody was a character then. You don't have these characters anymore. Everybody is sort of adhering to a standard.

A: A social standard.

E: Mmm-hmm. They are, and it's kind of a shame. And we had town characters. When we had parades, you know, you'd have these town characters in, and they'd say, 'Oh, there's so and so,' and you just took them for granted. You didn't...they weren't someone to be feared or someone who should be put away. They were just there. And I think we're poorer for that.

A: So tell me a little bit about your high school career. What was it like? What did you do there? What did you like to do?

E: Well, I always liked English. Now, I went to Harding Junior High, and then I left Harding Junior High and went to Sixth and Chestnut Street for my sophomore year in high school. And toward the end of my sophomore year, Harding burned down. And from then on, for the remainder of my high school career, we went in the morning. We went at seven o'clock in the morning until one o'clock in the afternoon, and then the junior high kids came in at one o'clock, and they went until five o'clock in the evening, I guess. So the entire time that I was in high school, I had all my afternoons off. That was unusual, and of course didn't happen again. But it colored what you did. I can remember, it gave us a lot of time to go out and solicit for senior class play and things of that sort.

A: Were you involved in drama in there?

E: Yes. I usually tried to be part of it, one way or another. I always enjoyed that. And I was in, oh, we did "Three Little Maids from School" ...*The Mikado*, and I was one of the three little

maids. I can still sing that song—three little maids from school are we, filled to the brim with girlish glee (laughing).

A: (laughing) How about other clubs? Or...

E: We didn't have many clubs...

A: Newspaper, things like that...

E: No. We didn't have many clubs. I belonged to the Tri-High Y, which was a...it was something that was a joint venture between the Y and the schools, and I enjoyed that.

A: Now you were in school during the Depression, Depression years.

E: Yes.

A: What was that like? Was it difficult for you, or were you one of the fortunate few?

E: Well, no, I wasn't one of the fortunate few, but everybody was poor, so we didn't know the difference. Everybody was in the same boat, and we thought that was normal. I can remember my mother making my clothes, because she didn't have the money to buy them, and that wasn't unusual. So we had a good time. We would go sledding in the wintertime, and we had a lot of weather like this, and they would not close off the streets. I mean they would close off the streets, so that we could toboggan down the streets. Now, we would go...I lived down the southern part of the city, on South 11th Street. And we would coast down the, what we called the Walnut Street Hill. Walnut Street sloped down to 12th Street, and we'd post somebody down at the bottom, and they'd call up 'All Clear!' and then we'd go on down. And we lived on the corner of an alley, and there was a little incline there, and we'd do the same thing there. It was great fun. That's how we made our own entertainment.



A: Now when you graduated from—we'll come back to your events at Lebanon Valley College—but after graduating from there...what was your major, by the way, there?

E: In high school?

A: Lebanon Valley College.

E: Oh, at Lebanon Valley? Business administration, which was very...it was unusual for a woman to major in bus ad.

A: What did you do, what was your job when you left Lebanon Valley? Or employment over the years?

E: My first job when I left Lebanon Valley was—now this is in the height of the Depression—I went to the macaroni factory. I pasted labels on bags, and I got something like \$12 and 85 cents a week, and was happy to get it. I didn't think I was underemployed or underpaid at all.

A: Good. And where did you go after that?

E: Then my next step was, I think, to the Department of Assistance. I became a...well, they called them caseworkers. Actually, they weren't caseworkers, they were just agents who checked on the eligibility of people, and there was something about that that appealed to me. Then the economy improved, and I got laid off, because the economy improved and people went back to work and they didn't need...they needed fewer caseworkers. But finally, and then, let's see...the other war came along. Yes, World War II. And there were no men around anymore, so they needed someone to chase down delinquent accounts at Personal Finance, and they were looking for women—they had never used women in that capacity before. So I got that job. I had that job for four years, and after that, when the men came back, of course,

then they wanted the men to have the jobs again. And then I...that's when I decided that if I was serious about social work, I had to get my master's degree, and I did.

A: And where'd you do that?

E: I was fortunate enough to hear about the plan that the family and children's service had, and they had what they called a work-study plan. You were, let's see...the first year, you were in the agency two days a week, and on campus three days a week. The second year, you were in the agency three days a week and on campus two days a week. And then you had to commit, every year that you were in school, to give a year of service at the agency.

A: What campus?

E: I went to the University of Pennsylvania.

A: So you had to go down there to take your courses.

E: Yes, mmm-hmm. And the trains were still running then, so I went down on the train.

A: And then where did you work when you got your MSW?

E: Well, I continued to work at the family and children's service.

A: Mmm-hmm. You had to give them so many years.

E: I had to give them so many years, but I was having a good experience there, and kept on, and then Paul Bixler, who was head of the agency, he developed—at a very young age—he developed cancer and died, which was a tragedy. And then I was appointed the executive director, and I was there for over 20 years.

A: And is that when you retired, or...

E: No, no, I left there, and went to Philadelphia, and spent some time at the Children's Aid society in Philadelphia. Didn't like living in the city, so I came back here, got a job at Philhaven,

and was there only a year when someone suggest that I apply to Hershey, because Hershey was just getting started.

A: This is Hershey...

E: Hershey Medical Center.

A: Oh, Medical Center.

E: And I did—I applied there for the job of psychiatric social worker, and got it. And I spent the last 14 years of my career there.

A: When did you retire?

E: I retired in '84, I guess.

A: Let me ask you, you mentioned that after World War II, the men came back from the service, and a lot of the women had jobs that they were good at, and they liked it. Men came back and were given those jobs, including yours. Did you ever feel that was unfair?

E: No, I didn't, because I was ready to make a change.

A: Mmm-hmm. But I meant in general...

E: No, no.

A: The men got the special privilege, because they were men...

E: No, I did not feel that was unfair. In fact, when I was in college, I had the sister of a friend of mine—Lela Lopez—she was. Alga was in my class in school, Lela was one class behind her. For instance, she was a junior when Alga was a senior. She was a wiz at math. And [Samuel O.] Soggy Grimm said to her, 'It's a shame for a woman to be as bright in math as you are.' And we bought into it. We all said, 'Yes, isn't it a shame?'

A: (laughing) I thought he was going to say it's a shame that you can't get a job equal to a man's job, because you're so smart...

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: But that was it—it was accepted as the norm.

E: Not only that, but she—there were prizes given, math prizes—and she qualified. There were objective standards to winning the prize, and she qualified for the prize. He didn't want to give it to her because she was a woman.

A: Soggy?

E: Soggy Grimm. But cooler heads prevailed, and they said, 'You can't do that. You have got to give it to this woman.' And you know, she never made a thing of her math.

A: Yeah, that's a shame.

E: It really was.

A: Let's change gears a bit. Go back to Lebanon Valley College, which is what we're really interested in hearing about. When you started in 1936, now that really was the depth of the Depression at that point.

E: Yes.

A: What was it like? What did you think of Lebanon...you were in this area, of course, you knew about Lebanon Valley College. You probably had been on campus before.

E: Yes.

A: So you may have even known some of the teachers there.

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: What was your impression of Lebanon Valley College when you started as a student there?

E: Well, I was very glad to be accepted, and to find a way to finance my education, because there was a real danger that I wouldn't be able to do that. And I just couldn't imagine not having a college education.

A: How did you finance it?

E: Through several grants and things of that sort.

A: Ok.

E: And, of course, I was a day student, and there were a lot of day students then. And we were down in what was then South Hall. I guess South Hall is gone now, isn't it?

A: Yes.

E: And we had our day student room there. And I would say that there were almost as many, if not as many, day students as there were dorm students, because of the economy.

A: I never knew that.

E: Mmm-hmm. And we were quite a force, the day students.

A: So what was it like to be a student, back in those days? What do you remember about it?

E: Well...

A: The classes, maybe, teachers...

E: You did not have much opportunity to express your opinion. You were there to learn, and supposedly all learning started at the front of the room. Sometimes there would be some discussion, but rarely. I think, probably, the person that encouraged the most was [George] Struble, and he would do very unusual things. I'm trying to think if I can remember anything specific that he...maybe something will come to me later.

A: Do you mean just things that he would say, or...

E: Yes, and the way he would react in class.

A: So he did want feedback from the students?

E: Yes, he wanted feedback, and he would...I remember he did something with "The Highwayman," and he beat the time to it so you got the rhythm. I can remember that very clearly.

A: It was anapestic? Dee-dee-dah, dee-dee-dah, dee-dee-dah, like galloping.

E: Yes, that's right. That's right.

A: He told me the same thing years later.

E: Did he really (laughing)? It's a good thing, why not (laughing)?

A: I remembered it too.

E: Yeah, exactly (laughing). Exactly.

A: Did you have him for several courses?

E: Yes, I did. We were supposed to...let's see...we had him for a course that all freshman had to take, and looking back on it now, I was much better prepared for that course than a lot of kids were, which was a tribute to the teaching I had before.

A: Was this a writing course or a literature course?

E: It was a literature course. And he wanted to make sure that everybody was sort of on the same page. So I always felt good about that, that I had a very good background. And then of course, was the murder.

A: Yeah, tell me about that, cause I keep hearing about that, but I don't know what...

E: The murder was the best and most elaborate practical joke I ever knew about. And it kept being a success year after year, even when older siblings would tell their younger siblings,

'Now, you'll be hearing this—don't get too excited about it,' you know. And then the younger siblings would come and say, 'Oh, maybe that was the way it was when you were here, but this is real! This is real!' They would start early, very early in the year. And they would find a couple that was going steady. And of course we had to go to chapel every day. And then somebody—a third party—would try to horn in on this couple, and he would do it after chapel, where everybody could see this. So the bad feeling developed, and this bad feeling just escalated. And one night, they...I'm trying to think how they did this...one night, they declared...they shut down the men's dorm, and said that this guy who was trying to horn in on it was on a drunk, and that they wanted everybody inside. Well, he went to the men's dorm, and in a drunken rage was going from room to room—of course he wasn't drunk at all—and I remember the sister of the guy that was in the drunken rage was in the dorm at South Hall. She wasn't a day student, but she was in the dorm there. And she was also acting the part, and she became so realistic that she lost her footing and fell down the steps and sprained her ankle (laughing). And then he would fire bullets, and they had makeup, and it appeared as if he shot this guy, and they would rush him off, ostensibly, to the hospital.

A: So the makeup was fake blood?

E: Yes, fake blood. And of course, he didn't go to the hospital at all. They would hide him someplace. Well, then the call would come, 'He needs blood.' So they would carry by car some kids into the Good Samaritan Hospital, and dump them there, and leave them. They'd drive off, and they'd leave them, and they were stranded (laughing), you know? And then they said, 'He's in the quarry, he's in the quarry.' So they had us surround the quarry (laughing)—surround the quarry, of all things! And Dr. [Clyde] Lynch was part of it.

A: And he was the president.

E: He was the president, and he would come striding down from the president's residence to the men's dorm, and give a fiery speech, you know, on the evils of going steady, all this stuff (laughing). It was wonderful, it was just wonderful. This would go on, and finally, the thing that killed it was after World War II, and they had these veterans that came back. And some of them had arms, you know, had pistols and things. And they were afraid that there would be some real loss of life or damage done, and so they said, 'You have to quit.' It was kind of a shame.

A: How long did it go on before they finally told the students that it's a joke, I mean, each time they did it?

E: I don't know... I'd say, maybe two days. And some of them, of course, the next morning, were straggling in from the quarry and the hospital (laughing), feeling rather foolish.

A: Now you were talking about some of your teachers, besides Struble. How about the business administration faculty, you ever work with them?

E: Stokes, he was the economist.

A: Milton Stokes?

E: Mmm-hmm. And he was...I guess he knew his stuff. I don't think he was much of a teacher.

A: Was he one that mainly lectured?

E: Yes.

A: You said that was kind of the dominant theory of teaching back then.

E: Yes, yes, yes.

A: Most of the teachers spoke from on high, and you just took notes.

E: That's right. That's exactly right.



A: What other teachers, not necessarily in business, but stick out in your mind?

E: [Paul] Wallace was there.

A: Oh, ok. He was teaching English.

E: Mmm-hmm. He taught English.

A: Did you take a class from him?

E: No, I didn't take any class with him. Mary...oh, she was in the Music Department...

A: Gillespie.

E: Mary Gillespie, I remember her. Let's see, who else can I think of...

A: Were you in any organizations when you were a student at the College?

E: Yes, the...what is the name of the organizations...the...oh gosh. There's a fraternity—what's the name of...

A: The women's fraternity?

E: Yes.

A: Cause the men's were Kalo and Philo, and then there were two women's.

E: Yes, I belonged to one of those.

A: You belonged to one of those, yeah. What did you do with them?

E: Not much.

A: Really?

E: You just sort of belonged to them, and you got initiated, and I joined the one that my mother had belonged to. That was traditional, that you did that, if your mother had belonged to one. And I can't think that we ever did very much.

A: It sounds like most of your activities were involved with the academic side of College.

E: They were.

A: Especially as a day student.

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: Were there things going on for the dorm students that you weren't involved in, that you would know about? Did they seem to have more fun, or more interesting times?

E: The dorm students... I felt that the dorm students always felt they were kind of superior, in a way, to the day students. That we were sort of the poor relatives.

A: Mmm-hmm. Because you couldn't afford to stay on campus.

E: I guess. Mmm-hmm. And we used to...we would thumb our way up to school.

A: From Lebanon?

E: We would meet at 10th and Willow...at 10th and Cumberland. And stand there and thumb our way, and we'd have the same people go by every day, and they got to know us, and they were people who were, you know, on their way to work. So they'd stop and pick us up and take us.

A: Now that's how you got to the campus?

E: Mmm-hmm. That's how we got there. And if we absolutely had to be there, if we had a test or something, and we couldn't run the chance of being late, we'd take the train.

A: The train running from Lebanon to Annville?

E: Yes.

A: Do you have any idea what that cost? Must have been pretty inexpensive.

E: No, I can't remember about what it cost.

A: Did it run fairly often, or just a couple times a day?

E: I think just a few times a day, and fortunately it ran early in the morning, and that was great for us.

A: Now, I don't know if I heard you right when you said this; did you say that you had chapel every day?

E: Yes.

A: Cause I thought you meant every week.

E: No, every day.

A: Once a day, yeah.

E: First thing in the morning.

A: At what, at eight o'clock or something?

E: Eight or nine, mmm-hmm.

A: Was that popular on campus?

E: (laughing) No, no, not at all. Not at all. They would want to not have that, you know. They tried to...

A: You mean just to have it eliminated entirely?

E: Yes, or once a week, you know. And (laughing) toward the end, they did start to get a little bit rambunctious, and do some things about having it every day. They would, oh, let's see. One time, they took an outhouse and pushed an outhouse on campus (laughing), in protest for this. And they would also do things in chapel—I'm trying to think what they did. I think they would...one time they...was it the organ...I think they did something to the organ so that it didn't work.

A: The chapel was held in the Methodist church?

E: No, it was held in the chapel. And the chapel was where the Blair Music Center is now.

A: Ok, that was the music building too at one point.

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: So they had an auditorium then, and that's where they held it?

E: Yes.

A: Were they strictly religious services?

E: The chapels? Yes, yes.

A: Did you have somebody who was in charge who would give a sermon every day, or did different people...

E: Well, sort of a brief talk anyhow. It didn't last long, but you know, they had a lot of ministers on the faculty, because back in those days they thought ministers could do anything. All they needed was their ordination, and they were fit to go. [Gustavus] Richie, Lynch...

A: You sound a little skeptical now.

E: (Laughing).

A: Were you skeptical back then as a student?

E: Yes, yes, I was (laughing).

A: And were other students also?

E: Oh yes, they were.

A: Ok, so fairly widespread.

E: Mmm-hmm. Yes.

A: Can you think of anything else that comes to mind about being a student at the College back in those days? Anything else stick out in your mind?

E: No...

A: Were the standards pretty difficult from an academic standpoint?

E: I think they would not be considered difficult now, but they were considered fairly stringent then.

A: And what was your graduation ceremony like? I assume there was a ceremony of some sort.

E: Yes, there was, and I remember who spoke. It was...oh, he was a man of letters. Oh shoot! I was always so proud of the fact that I could remember my Commencement speaker.

A: (Laughing) It'll come to you.

E: William...oh. It was a great coup that they got him. And I remember something that he said. He said, 'In nothing, too much. Not even moderation.' Which I thought was wonderful.

A: Was he an author?

E: He...

A: Or a historian?

E: I don't think he wrote a lot of original stuff. I think he wrote a lot of reviews and things like that. William Lyon Phelps.

A: Oh, ok. I remember that name.

E: I didn't know if the name would be familiar to you or not. Everybody knew him then.

A: That's William. Lyon. Phelps. Three...

E: Yes. William Lyon Phelps. Mmm-hmm.

A: And so I guess it was a pretty joyous occasion, for graduation at that time.

E: Oh, indeed yes. And we not only had graduation, we had baccalaureate.

A: That's right. And that was held in a church, or?

E: Yes, the baccalaureate was a church service, and that was held on a Sunday. And that was held in the College church.

A: Mmm-hmm. Yeah.

E: And then the Commencement was held...I guess that was held there too.

A: So after graduation, you remained pretty close to Lebanon Valley College.

E: Yes.

A: Physically, you were living nearby, but I meant as being a part of it. You considered a part of Lebanon Valley College.

E: Yes, well, I always was interested in the athletics, and so I remained close to the athletic program.

A: Mmm-hmm. Do you remember any outstanding athletic events over the years?

E: Oh yes, I remember that basketball team, of course.

A: Oh, '52-'53, yeah.

E: Yeah.

A: And you went to a lot of those games.

E: Yes. Yeah, I did.

A: And football? Did you go to any football games?

E: Yes, I went to the football. But I didn't get as enthusiastic about the football teams as I did about the basketball. I don't think they were quite as successful in football. But they really did make a splash in basketball.

A: Yeah, they went to the Sweet Sixteen, remember that?

E: Yes.

A: So over the years, when you think about Lebanon Valley College, has the College—from your perspective—has it changed significantly?

E: Oh yes, mmm-hmm.

A: In what way?

E: Well, I think it's gotten a great deal more sophisticated. When I saw the last, or second last issue of *The Valley*, the one that had to do with technical, the technical aspects, I didn't understand what they were talking about (laughing). I didn't have any idea.

A: So that made it sophisticated (laughing)?

E: Well, sophisticated beyond my understanding, anyhow.

A: Yeah (laughing).

E: And I remember, oh, John's wife...John Synodinos's wife...

A: Oh, Glenda.

E: Glenda. Glenda's in our Dickens club. And a few weeks ago, she got talking to John McIlhenny and me about her experiences as a college wife. And she rarely talks about that. And she said John came home after he was hired to help the College find a president, and he said, 'Those are awfully nice people over there, but they don't have any idea what they're doing.'

(laughing)

A: Did she mean in general, or in hiring a president?

E: I think in hiring a president.

A: Yeah, yeah, could be both (laughing).

E: Yeah (laughing).

A: So more sophisticated. How about the physical plant? Do you remember what it was like when you went?

E: Oh, it was very plain. It was hard to identify the College, because it didn't seem to have any boundaries. And there was Men's Dorm, which is roughly, now, where the library is. Of course that's gone. There was South Hall—that was right off Main Street. There was the Women's Dorm—that was up by the...where would that be? Where the Mund Center is, I guess, approximately up in that area.

A: There was one up there where the chapel is now—an early Women's Dorm, where the chapel is now.

E: Well maybe that would be where the Women's Dorm was.

A: The next one, then, would have been across the street there.

E: Mmm-hmm.

A: So everything was on that south side, wasn't it? Of College Avenue.

E: Yes, yes.

A: Sheridan.

E: And it didn't have much identification.

A: It did have the Administration Building.

E: Yes, that was the most graceful. The Administration Building and the Carnegie Library were the two most graceful buildings, I always thought.

A: Still are.

E: Yes, yes, they are.



A: Ok, anything else? This is your last chance to speak, not just to future generations, but it could be someone 200 years from now, looks up your transcript (laughing)...

E: And says, 'Who the heck was she?' (laughing)

A: And you have a chance now to speak to generations in the future about Lebanon Valley College. What do you want them to know?

E: I think I want them to know that it was a College that really tried to meet the challenges of the day. I think they truly have done that. Whatever came up, I think they tried to meet that. And I think they tried to do it with some grace, and with a feeling of...well how do I want to put this?...with a feeling for the student. I really do think they've tried to do that. I'm not expressing this very well.

A: No, that's very well-put I think. And the other side of that, then, let me just close with this. Since you had such a long contact with the College, over the years, right from the very beginning, what has Lebanon Valley College meant to you?

E: Well, it's always been there. And it's one of the constants in my life. I can't imagine being without it, I really can't. It has been the educational foundation for generations in my family. My mother and her siblings, my generation, then there's Debby and her generation, so it's been a very constant factor, not only for me, but for the entire family. And I appreciate that.

A: And you've been a constant factor for Lebanon Valley College as well.

E: Well, not as much as I would like to be.

A: Well, we'll conclude at the point. That's a nice point to finish on. So thank you very much, Evie.

E: Well, you're very welcome. I was happy to do this.