

Dartmouth College Oral History Project
The War Years at Dartmouth
Interview with Jackie Heneage
By Mary Stelle Donin
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DONIN: Jackie Heneage, spouse of Peter Heneage, Dartmouth class of 1945. But I should say your full name. So it's Jacqueline Pressey Heneage.

JACKIE: Right.

DONIN: And we'll start right in with your lineage, your Dartmouth lineage, about your dad.

JACKIE: Uh-huh. Professor of English at Dartmouth from 1919 to I think 1963. I think that's right.

DONIN: Wow!

JACKIE: Very long time.

DONIN: His whole career here?

PETER: Yes.

JACKIE: No, no. He was at MIT for I think only a year right after the First World War. And then came here.

DONIN: Did he attend Dartmouth?

JACKIE: No, no. He went to Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: And he was the son of an Episcopalian minister who grew up in Rhode Island, Ashton, Rhode Island, a little mill town. But he's very smart.

DONIN: Yes. Clearly. So he arrived here at Dartmouth and spent virtually his whole career here.

JACKIE: Indeed, yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh. Was he married when he got here?

JACKIE: Yes, he was married right before the MIT experience, right after the Second [First] World War. In his Marine uniform.

DONIN: Oh, yes, of course. So you were born at the Hitchcock Hospital?

JACKIE: I was born here at Mary Hitchcock, yes. Went to public school, Hanover High School. And went off to Wellesley for two years. My father could only send me for one year because he was earning, if my memory's correct, something like \$3,000 a year. No reciprocity with Wellesley, only with Dartmouth. And he had my big sister in school in Boston. I went off for one year. My godmother next door, Professor Raven, she sent me for another year. And that was it.

DONIN: Oh.

JACKIE: As far as education at Wellesley went.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Do you want to know any more than that? I worked for a whole year in New York City. And then my father wrote me a letter, and he said, "Jackie," he said, "you've got to do something with your—" He was a big believer in women's careers, unlike almost every other father I ever knew, who wanted their daughters to get married, period. And he said, "You've got to do something with your life. I can't picture you sitting behind a desk," because I was terribly athletic. And he said, "Physical therapy is the field these days." You know, it was either nursing or teaching in those days. Physical therapy was a new field after the Second World War, and he said, "Go back to school. Go to the University of New Hampshire. Get a degree and become a physical therapist." So good little Jackie did just that.

DONIN: That's what women did in those days. They listened and followed instructions from men.

JACKIE: [Laughs] Yes.

DONIN: Right? [Laughter] Yes. So you did that?

JACKIE: I did that.

- DONIN: Uh-huh. And when did this guy enter the picture? How old were you?
- JACKIE: Well, that's always a good question. People assume that because we were raised in Hanover that we knew each other. I always knew a Heneage family. It was made up of the handsomest men in town. Okay? All those boys were just.... But I had nothing to do with any of them. Okay? [Laughter] They moved in totally different circles.
- PETER: A two-year barrier.
- JACKIE: Yes, a two-year barrier.
- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: So when did we get together? Oh, you had just flunked out of Dartmouth. You came and called on my sister. [Laughter] Came and called on my sister.
- DONIN: Oh.
- JACKIE: Banged on.... You know, in Hanover you just went to the door and banged to make a point about your date. You know it was knock on the door.
- DONIN: Where were you living?
- JACKIE: Six Parkway.
- DONIN: Oh! Whose house is that now?
- JACKIE: He's something at Tuck School. I'm sorry I—
- DONIN: Which end of Parkway?
- JACKIE: The middle of Parkway but next to the...there's the Hillman House. There's a brick house and my white wood house and then another brick house. The very middle of Park—Parkway's very short.
- DONIN: I know. We live on North Park. So we back up to Parkway.
- JACKIE: Oh, North Park. Sure. Yes.

DONIN: Oh, so you're like near my neighbor— near us. Right. On Parkway.

JACKIE: Sure. Yes.

DONIN: Okay. So he knocks on your door.

JACKIE: Oh, yes, and asks for my sister. She comes to the door, and he asks her does she want to go out, and she says no. But my parents raised us to ask people in. Okay? So she asked him in, and I'm out on the porch with my parents. And he comes out on the porch, and he regales my parents to the extent that everybody had a wonderful time. I'm just reading the *New Yorker* or something. Not paying any attention. But that's the first time he made any impression on me at all. Okay? So then he left. Suzie had turned him down. And he comes back a day or two later, and he asks for me. [Laughter]

DONIN: This is like a movie. [Laughter] What a nerve!

JACKIE: He was great with the women. That didn't come out when you were asking him about his social life in Hanover, okay?

DONIN: So he was a ladies' man, you're saying. Yes. He had a reputation then.

JACKIE: Well, I don't know.

PETER: I—

JACKIE: I'm not sure. He had a small one. [Laughter] I don't remember whether I accepted him then or not, but I must have.... Somehow or other we started dating in Hanover. And then it turned out he was going to the University of New Hampshire and so was I. So there we were on campus together. And I was occasionally dating a few guys. But I was still really dating Dartmouth guys, you know, after all. And he had a car. Now, I never had a car in my family 'til I was 20 years old, we were so poor. And he had a car on campus. So I would say, "Peter, isn't it time you went home to see your mother?" [Laughter] And he would give me a ride. Okay. It was a three-hour trip in those days. No 89. So he grew on me. That's the long and the short of it. He thinks that he won me over the day he was so drunk coming back to UNH—

PETER: I wasn't drunk. I was hung over.

- JACKIE: Sorry. He was so hung over that he asked me if I would drive.
- DONIN: Oh, my! He must have been in bad shape. [Laughter]
- JACKIE: And he says that's when I fell for him. That he was a nice enough guy to let me drive his car.
- DONIN: That is great. So let's talk about your life here before you went off to Wellesley and stuff. So you and your sister went through the public schools in Hanover.
- JACKIE: No, Suzie went off to.... At some point, like maybe junior year, she went off to St. Margaret's. There was a little problem. You know she was the oldest child, poor thing and got heavily disciplined. And she was moving in a very large Hanover circle of boys and girls. And my parents decided that she had to be gotten out of town. [Laughs]
- DONIN: Oh, my!
- JACKIE: They sent her off to St. Margaret's in Waterbury, Connecticut. And I really don't know what the story was, and whether Mrs. Raven sponsored her or what they did. But anyhow....
- DONIN: What's that sound?
- JACKIE: Somebody's banging around upstairs.
- PETER: They're moving refrigerators or something.
- DONIN: That's the roof up there. So it must be something banging on the roof. So—
- JACKIE: But anyhow, yes. I went through Hanover High.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- JACKIE: And the relationship with Dartmouth College was always—I don't know how to describe it. Dartmouth guys would date the older Hanover High School girls. They were that desperate for women. Remember there were no women on campus.
- DONIN: Wow, that's a real difference from the present day then because I think that the high school girls are off limits to the boys.

- JACKIE: Seriously? You mean there's a rule?
- DONIN: Well, I know my daughter went through Hanover High, and they were forbidden in the fraternities.
- JACKIE: Oh, well! That was not true in my day.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm.
- JACKIE: So they were going after juniors and seniors in high school. Not to any great large extent except certain Dartmouth students dated certain Hanover girls. And our senior year at the senior ball time, this letter appeared in the Dartmouth—what was it called? The *Daily Dartmouth*? And it was an anonymous letter that they ran, but it said, "I'm a senior in Hanover High School. And I resent the fact that I cannot find anybody willing to go to the Hanover High School Senior Ball with me because all those Dartmouth students are taking the girls to the ball."
- DONIN: Oh, so this was a male Hanover High student. Oh, and he was mad because all the girls had been stolen by the Dartmouth boys.
- JACKIE: Exactly.
- DONIN: Oh. Interesting.
- JACKIE: And we thought it was so funny. And we easily figured out who this was. [Laughs] And we gave him a terribly hard time.
- DONIN: Aw.
- JACKIE: He probably never got over it. I don't know.
- DONIN: Scarred for life.
- JACKIE: Yes, yes.
- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: Anyhow....
- DONIN: Were a lot of your friends, your male friends, acquaintances, were they going to Dartmouth?

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Were they trying to go to Dartmouth?

JACKIE: Oh, sure.

DONIN: Yes.

JACKIE: A lot of them. A few went to Yale, one or two went to MIT, I think. But most were going to go to Dartmouth. Sure, they all wanted to. I would have gone if I had been a man.

DONIN: Right. Well, was it... It must have been a much larger percentage of the students at the high school were related to the college in terms of parents working at the college.

JACKIE: Yes. Hanover High School was made up of, as Hanover was, either you were a son and daughter of a teacher at Dartmouth, or a son and daughter of a doctor at Mary Hitchcock.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: And then there was a group, of course, of kids who came in from the farms—were bused in from the farms around here. And most of them, although a few of them went to Dartmouth, most of them didn't. And there was a certain, you know, difference definitely. But Peter did forget to mention something that his class of 1945 that he said had all these Hanover High School kids in it. They, at the end of freshman year, were awarded a prize—I don't know if it's still given—for getting the highest grade average...a high school that got the highest grade average at Dartmouth at the end of freshman year. Not New Trier, not all these other famous schools, but Hanover High School. Now it was a terrible school.

DONIN: The high school was?

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: It really was. It no more prepared me for Wellesley and for—granted I was out for fun and games, so I will... [Laughs] Not a serious scholar like Peter. That's why we're so suited for each other. [Laughter] But the preparation was really terrible here. It was

so easy to get As at Hanover High. And of course it was full of very bright kids who really didn't need to be taught much.

DONIN: Yes. You'd think the parents of the—

JACKIE: Yes, you would think they would.

DONIN: —all these smart academic types at the college would demand a more rigorous high school.

JACKIE: My father paid no attention to the high school.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: None. Nor Mother. They didn't seem to worry about how you did, that I remember.

DONIN: Well, is that because you were a female, do you think?

JACKIE: No, no. Because Dad wanted us to turn out, you know, to have a career of some sort. [Laughs] No, I think... Well, Dad had a strange attitude that I think is rather unusual, that we should learn, for instance, grammar, not because he ever corrected our grammar, but we should assimilate it from being surrounded by people who spoke correctly. So when I would play with my physics daughter's professor, and I would misuse my grammar, I would get corrected at that house.

DONIN: Really!

JACKIE: [Laughs] Yes, but not in my own house.

DONIN: Oh.

JACKIE: The English professor never corrected the grammar.

DONIN: How ironic. His head was somewhere else.

JACKIE: Maybe.

DONIN: And was your entire sort of social group when you were in the high school, was it made up of professors' kids?

JACKIE: Sure.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

JACKIE: Professors and administrators.

DONIN: And deans and whatever. Or doctors' kids.

JACKIE: Yes. Or doctors. Right.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

PETER: McCarthy's father was a pharmacist.

JACKIE: Yes. Sure. And there was Mulherrins and McCarthys and all those, and they were definitely part of our crowd. I had a huge troop of Girl Scouts. We went all the way through high school still being Girl Scouts because we were very outdoors oriented. We climbed all the mountains around here and stayed in the Dartmouth cabins, Dartmouth sites.

DONIN: So you were more like a Dartmouth-type than Peter.

JACKIE: Much more. Yes. Definitely.

DONIN: So your family really embraced that outdoorsy life. Or was it just you?

JACKIE: No. My family just let us grow up. We were so free in this town. We could go anywhere, we could do anything. They never cared except I'd show up at five o'clock in the afternoon.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: And I think most of the parents, they didn't worry about us. And we went to every Dartmouth event we could sneak.... Oh, yes. One of my good stories is that up until the age of 13, we girls—me and my buddies—would sneak into Dartmouth football games by squeezing through those metal bars, you know, still surrounded with the metal bars. Okay. Of course age 13, suddenly we no longer could. But we went to every football game free. We used to go to the Nugget and walk in between the tall students, not noticing us, up until a certain age. I mean we did everything. My parents took me to all the concerts. I went to all the movies in Dartmouth Hall. It was—Hanover spoiled almost all of us for life in a regular town.

DONIN: Mmmm.

JACKIE: And it was all Dartmouth really that let us do that. And I played tennis on the Dartmouth courts. I think finally they made a little club, and you had to pay some minimal fee in the summer for Dartmouth courts. But I was playing there for nothing for years.

DONIN: Now did your family go out to the—what was it called? the Faculty Farm?

JACKIE: No.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: I have a feeling those were....

PETER: They were the administrators and doctors.

JACKIE: Administrators and doctors.

PETER: That's the Gile's property.

JACKIE: Now did the people like the Pianes go?

PETER: Piane was a member.

JACKIE: So there were all—

PETER: Piane was a member.

JACKIE: —businessmen in town went to that.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: No, my parents wouldn't have gone to that.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: I doubt if they even knew about it.

PETER: Oh, they must have.

JACKIE: Yes.

PETER: James went to it.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: So let's see. The Neidlinger twins, were they in your age category?

JACKIE: A little younger.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Mary, the oldest, would have been two years younger, and the twins a little more than that. Yes. They were very much—they hung around the courts. They were tennis players—sort of.

DONIN: And Barbara Dent? Was she in your age bracket?

JACKIE: The other Dent, the older Dent.

DONIN: Oh, Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: What's her name?

PETER: Jean.

JACKIE: Jean Dent.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Was one year younger than I was. And Barbara Dent was considerably younger, I think. So I didn't really know her.

DONIN: So there was... Did you sense that there was this distinction that Peter mentioned about whether you were faculty or whether you were like staff? Was there a distinction?

JACKIE: Well, with the kids? No.

DONIN: Right. Okay.

JACKIE: No. There was a distinction I think in the town probably. I'm pretty sure.

PETER: Sure. There was.

- DONIN: And I assume in those days—and maybe this is wrong—but it's something that's definitely an issue now: The housing was affordable enough so that people who worked on the lower end of the pay scale—you know, the cooks and the gardeners and the people that worked, you know, buildings and grounds—they were still able to live in town if they wanted to. Whereas now they can't afford it.
- PETER: There was a whole batch of them on the way to my house.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- PETER: The Reilly family and the other Pressey family.
- JACKIE: When Dad came to town, the college helped Dad build a house.
- DONIN: Wow.
- JACKIE: He built a house on Parkway. And the college helped him pay for it.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. Because now of course those people on that pay scale can't afford to live anywhere near Hanover.
- JACKIE: No.
- DONIN: Because it's too expensive.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- DONIN: But in those days, I assume maybe it was more of a level playing field, so to speak, and everybody lived here.
- JACKIE: Pretty much.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- DONIN: But there was still a sort of social distinction between whether you were faculty or whether you were everything else.
- PETER: Oh, yes.

JACKIE: Yes.

PETER: And the townies. I sat in the middle because there were townies like Blakey and Howard Purington. Did you ever know Howard Purington?

JACKIE: I know the name.

PETER: He was a townie really, full-born townie.

DONIN: Well, there's a Purington Farm out on Lyme Road. So it must be all the same family.

PETER: That's probably the same family. I don't know because I never knew any of his family. I just barely knew him.

JACKIE: But there were kids who were bused into school.

PETER: Yes.

JACKIE: They came mostly from farms, didn't they?

PETER: Yes.

JACKIE: Of course Lyme sent their—I don't know if they still do—Lyme sent their kids to Hanover High School. And Orford.

DONIN: Wow.

JACKIE: Orford?

PETER: I don't know.

JACKIE: No, I'm not sure.

PETER: I don't think Orford.

JACKIE: No.

PETER: That's too far away.

JACKIE: Enfield—no. Hanover Center. They came in by bus. See, we all had to walk to school.

DONIN: Sure.

JACKIE: And my children were impressed by the fact that it was a mile to Hanover High School, and I had to walk it from first grade on and home for lunch and back again.

DONIN: Good grief!

JACKIE: Yes. [Laughter] When the snow was high and freezing cold.

DONIN: Sure.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Now, so you were here—What year did you go off to Wellesley College?

PETER: That would be '43.

JACKIE: 'Forty-three.

DONIN: So you were here for the start of the war.

JACKIE: Oh, yes.

DONIN: And do you have memories of all this rationing, you know, food rationing, gas rationing and...?

JACKIE: I remember that we had to mix our oleo up with yellow die to make it look like butter.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Yes. [Laughs] That made some little impression that, yes, there was definitely rationing. And we had stamps and things.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Yes, I remember that.

DONIN: But your family didn't have a car anyway at that point.

JACKIE: Oh, that's right.

- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- JACKIE: So I don't know how much difference it made.
- DONIN: Now was your dad young enough to have been able to—been eligible to join the war?
- JACKIE: Second World War?
- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: No, he served in the First World War as a Marine.
- DONIN: Oh, right, right. Okay. You said that.
- JACKIE: No, he would love to have. I think he even tried to get into something like the OSS or something. But he was too old.
- DONIN: Mm-hmm. And do you have memories of Pearl Harbor Day?
- JACKIE: Yes. I was home. I was listening to the radio, yes. That's my only memory.
- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: Well, yes. You should know that when the war started, I served, and I wish I could name what—
- PETER: A spotter.
- JACKIE: Yes, I was an airplane spotter. I was high school age. Airplane spotter with some friends, two other friends—at least one other friend—in the tower. Bartlett Tower.
- DONIN: Oh, yes.
- JACKIE: [Laughs] And we would go up at night and stay until something like ten-thirty or eleven o'clock at night, supposedly spotting planes. And the boys usually found out that's what we were doing, and they joined us. [Laughs]
- DONIN: Probably not a lot...
- JACKIE: We weren't really suffering in the Second World War.

DONIN: Not a lot of plane spotting going on, I suspect. [Laughs] Now did you—I mean, did you ever cross paths with the likes of, you know, the high-up administrators of the college?

JACKIE: Oh, sure, of course.

DONIN: President Hopkins?

JACKIE: Look. There was a distinction made probably socially, but you knew all those people, everybody in town. There were only 23-, 2500 of us, and the college was 2500. Much smaller, okay? And of course everybody knew everybody, but not well, necessarily, you know.

PETER: I have to say my brother dated the—what was her name?—Hopkins.

DONIN: Anne.

JACKIE: Anne.

PETER: Anne Hopkins. See, so that was....

DONIN: Wow.

PETER: In fact, epiphanies. That's when I discovered there wasn't a Santa Claus. I was walking home, and I walked in my house. And on the first floor there's a living room. And I walked in the living room, and Anne Hopkins and my brother were decorating the tree.

DONIN: Oh, my!

PETER: I looked at that tree, and I said, "Oh, there's no Santa Claus."

DONIN: Aww.

PETER: That was it.

DONIN: Right.

JACKIE: Peter, weren't you much too old to....

PETER: I was much too old to be even thinking that there might be a Santa Claus.

JACKIE: [Laughs] Much too old. Sweet little boy.

DONIN: He was holding on to those precious dreams.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: As long as he could.

JACKIE: Exactly.

DONIN: Well, I can just imagine dating the president's daughter must have been fraught with all sorts of....

JACKIE: Nah.

PETER: She wasn't bad looking. I don't remember what her figure was like, but she was more statuesque. I think she was almost as tall as he was.

DONIN: Ah-hah.

PETER: Well, Hopkins was bigger than my father. My father was about five eight, five nine.

DONIN: Oh, really. Well, Hopkins was pretty big, wasn't he?

PETER: Yes.

DONIN: Yes, a tall guy.

PETER: Easily six feet.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. So were you still around— You must have been around when the military training started.

JACKIE: Yes, sure. Oh, sure. I can visualize them marching up Wheelock Street all together and going hip hip, hup hup and so on and so forth. Yes. And in the summers, we would hold dances for them.

DONIN: Oh, really!

JACKIE: Mm-hmm. I don't know. I must have been in college by then. Must have been.

DONIN: Yes.

JACKIE: But summers, we local girls held a USO-type dance for them.

DONIN: That must have been fun.

JACKIE: In the gym. Oh, sure. Listen, girls growing up in Hanover had their hands full with men. I mean, come on.

DONIN: Yes, yes.

JACKIE: There was no.... First of all, you know, I got picked up probably more often than not at the tennis court because I played tennis all the time, as much as I could, okay? So if a boy wanted to pick me up, he'd hang around the tennis court. And then he'd start talking and you know, and I'd either agree to go out or not.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: I mean I had my pick after all.

DONIN: Indeed.

JACKIE: [Laughs] And to think I ended up.... [Laughs]

DONIN: Was it considered a badge of honor to get yourself a Dartmouth man?

JACKIE: In what way? Marry one?

DONIN: Yes, marry one.

JACKIE: No. You just did. Most Hanover girls did marry a Dartmouth guy. I don't think it was any particular badge of honor.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. It was just assumed, they were there.

JACKIE: Sure. Proximity.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. But after all, you were down at Wellesley College. You had access to all sorts of interesting college men.

JACKIE: The war was on.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: The war was on, but yes. The minute we got there, MIT in uniform invaded my freshman dorm. But I never really connected with Harvard while I was there. And I was only there two years. But MIT, I knew quite a lot of MIT guys. Yes.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. So these dances were run—Did you say in the gym?

JACKIE: Yes. As I remember.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: Yes. That's the old gym.

DONIN: Right.

JACKIE: The top floor.

DONIN: Right. But this was a very different crowd, these naval training guys. I mean they were from....

JACKIE: Yes, all over.

DONIN: They were from all over, and all different sort of walks of life, I understand.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Some of them were sort of rough and tumble, I gather from stories.

JACKIE: Yes, I guess. That was good for us.

DONIN: Uh-huh. [Laughter]

JACKIE: And did *you* learn to drink at Dartmouth as well?

DONIN: Not really. I drank, I guess.

PETER: Yes, but never very much.

JACKIE: Never very much.

- PETER: You always said you learned to drink beer in my fraternity.
- JACKIE: Oh, I learned how to drink beer in Minnesota, Rochester, Minnesota, where I was learning to be a physical therapist, right?
- DONIN: Oh, yes. Right. This was after UNH.
- JACKIE: Yes. I went to the Mayo Clinic. And the only thing I could afford was ten-cents-a-glass beer that they had out there. That's how I learned to drink beer.
- DONIN: Uh-huh. It's probably watered-down beer.
- JACKIE: Might well have been. They make a lot of beer out there.
- DONIN: Oh, do they?
- JACKIE: Yes.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- JACKIE: Wisconsin and Minnesota.
- DONIN: And when you were here in Hanover, like the college students, did you work part-time jobs when you were here?
- JACKIE: Oh, yes. My very first job was at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital as a clerk at the front desk, which was also the only entrance to the hospital. And this was Saturday and Sunday evenings. I don't know how the hospital permitted this, but I was the—age 16—the person at the desk, who also had to run the phone system, which was one of those. And in would come drunks, in would come pregnant women howling away having babies, in would come people with broken legs. Oh, yes. All over. It was an emergency room, and it was my job to call the closest intern and get him to appear and take these people to somewhere in the hospital.
- DONIN: My goodness!
- JACKIE: Yes. I'm very proud of that.
- DONIN: Mmmm.

- JACKIE: And I got the job because of two friends of mine who had been doing it together. And they for some reason or another decided I was the one to take over when they quit. My next job—I can't remember the order exactly. But I worked at the Dartmouth Co-op for a number of summers. Why was I there one in the winter, too? Is that the year I took between colleges? Maybe. Anyway, Dartmouth Co-op.
- DONIN: Was that the same kind of co-op as it is now?
- JACKIE: It's the Dartmouth Co-op. Yes.
- DONIN: Right. Mm-hmm.
- JACKIE: But, well, it was loaded with Army vet—
- PETER: V-7 and 12 I think. V-12.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- PETER: Those people.
- JACKIE: We sold underwear to them. And, you know, it was the same store. It was a clothing store and athletic equipment store. And we had all this underwear. My favorite story on that is that there was some young man who really liked me, you know. You know these things. Haunted, hanging around, eyeing me and so on. Well, I thought he was interested in me. What he really wanted to do was buy underwear, and he didn't dare ask for it. [Laughs]
- DONIN: Poor fellow.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- DONIN: He wanted some— Oh, yes, yes.
- JACKIE: So I worked there. Then I worked later on at some point, I can't remember, but I was still college age, I worked in the office—the alumni office. And I worked for George Cotton.
- DONIN: Colton.
- JACKIE: Colton—Colton?

- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: On your street, or used to be. Right at the corner of Parkway in the brown house, corner of Parkway and Park Street.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- JACKIE: And he was a tough boss. And I was supposed to be typing cards to the alumni saying thank you for \$10 or whatever it was. And these were regular old-fashioned typewriters, and I was not the greatest typewriter. And if you made one error and it showed—and there was no way of cleaning up the card, you know—he would throw it away, and you did it over again. And he really would have fired me very quickly had he had somebody else in line. But he didn't, so that was one summer job.
- DONIN: So the college really provided a lot of work opportunities for women—for girls and women.
- JACKIE: Yes. As secretaries or....
- DONIN: Library jobs or secretary jobs.
- JACKIE: Yes.
- DONIN: Or clerk kind of jobs.
- JACKIE: Right.
- DONIN: Uh-huh.
- JACKIE: Right.
- DONIN: And did a lot of your friends get—
- JACKIE: Oh, yes.
- DONIN: Yes.
- JACKIE: Sure.
- DONIN: So it was either the hospital or the college where you were having these part-time jobs.

JACKIE: Right.

DONIN: Right.

JACKIE: Or stores. Or being a waitress. That was always good. The Hanover Inn, waitress, the waitresses in some of these restaurants.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: For the summer.

DONIN: Right.

JACKIE: And also women from other colleges would come up and be waitresses because it was a good way to meet Dartmouth guys.

DONIN: [Laughs] Of course. Of course. So when you—So you came home between Wellesley and UNH.

JACKIE: No, I went to New York between Wellesley and UNH.

DONIN: Oh, I see.

JACKIE: New York City.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: And worked there for a year. And then went to UNH.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And your family, like Peter's family, stayed here for the rest of their lives?

JACKIE: Oh, yes.

DONIN: Wow.

JACKIE: Mm-hmm.

DONIN: And we've talked about the whole legacy thing.

JACKIE: I had a brother who was Dartmouth class of '50.

DONIN: Uh-huh! I forgot to ask you that.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Yes. Now did your dad get a price reduction?

JACKIE: Oh, for Jim I think the tuition was free.

DONIN: Uh-huh. Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: That's lucky.

JACKIE: Very nice, yes. Because he struggled with his daughters [laughs], sending us.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. And this was the brother whose—Did he have children subsequently who came to Dartmouth?

JACKIE: Oh, yes. He had a daughter who came, but she didn't stay. She really didn't like it. I don't think she fit in particularly. She went to Sarah Lawrence instead.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: So....

DONIN: So that must have been shortly after coeducation.

JACKIE: Yes, fairly shortly. Yes, in the '70s.

DONIN: Yes.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: That was a challenging time for the first few classes of women.

JACKIE: Yes, yes. Luckily I had a daughter smart enough to know she didn't want to face it.

DONIN: Good for her.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Right.

JACKIE: And on top of that she's very, very pretty. So she would have had a harder time than some. [Laughs]

DONIN: Yes. Very hard. Yes. Let's see. What have I forgotten to ask you here? So did you ever spend any time in the fraternities?

JACKIE: Oh, sure.

DONIN: In the basements?

JACKIE: Oh, yes.

DONIN: Yes?

JACKIE: But that's all we did was drink. Yes. That definitely was part of the scene. But I don't think I was a heavy drinker.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: So.... And, you know, those scenes are really dull. What I did mostly was all this outdoor stuff. I mean I loved to ski, and I loved to play tennis. We went swimming at White River Junction—I mean White River. Went swimming in the—I was going to say the Housatonic. What's the little—

PETER: It's the White River.

JACKIE: No.

PETER: Oh—

JACKIE: The other one.

PETER: Pompanoosuc.

JACKIE: Pompanoosuc.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

JACKIE: And we had swimming holes around. But, no, you want Dartmouth. Yes. Go to the movies. Go in the woods.

DONIN: Now were you here when the Nugget burned down? I don't remember what year that was? It was in the '40s sometime.

JACKIE: Yes.

PETER: Yes.

JACKIE: Yes. I was even here when the church burned down. But of course I was a baby, so I can't tell you anything about that.

DONIN: Yes.

JACKIE: Mary Jenkins has a story to tell about that.

DONIN: She's got wonderful stories.

JACKIE: Yes, she's writing for the *Valley News*.

DONIN: She just had one yesterday.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: That's wonderful. About playing in the culvert in a party dress.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: She's got amazing memories.

JACKIE: They're great, great stories.

DONIN: Yes, they are. She's got a really good memory.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Really good memory. Okay. Well, unless you've got other stories to share with us, I guess that's it. Did you ever get invited to—No, you were probably too young then. I mean did you do the, you know, Winter Carnival and house party weekend and all that?

JACKIE: We went to them.

DONIN: You did?

JACKIE: Sure.

DONIN: As somebody's date or just for the...?

JACKIE: No, as kids.

DONIN: Just for the fun, yes.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Oh, yes.

JACKIE: It was growing up. We went every single year. I never missed one, probably.

DONIN: Watch them crowning the queen and all that?

JACKIE: Oh, sure. The whole works.

DONIN: Uh-huh.

JACKIE: And probably for nothing. I mean, you know, we just went.

DONIN: Right. Well, there have to be some perks to living on campus.

JACKIE: Right. And the ski jumping events. Oh, Winter Carnival was wonderful. Yes. Loved that. And of course Hanover brought every presidential candidate to Dartmouth. And so we'd turn out for those. We'd stand across the street from the Hanover Inn, and watch the would-be presidents go by.

DONIN: Mm-hmm. Yes, it was a big deal when I think John Dickey brought Dwight Eisenhower here about 1950. You were probably not around by then.

JACKIE: No. Not around.

DONIN: Mm-hmm.

JACKIE: No. Roosevelt. Landon—was that the guy who ran?

PETER: Alf, yes.

JACKIE: Alf Landon. It was mostly Roosevelt because he was in office for so long when I was growing up.

DONIN: Mmmm. With Eleanor. There are pictures I think we have of Eleanor being here.

JACKIE: She may well have been here. She didn't make much of an impression on me. Maybe she was even in the car with him; I don't know. But it doesn't ring a bell. But my mother was a big supporter of Roosevelt.

DONIN: So those were exciting times.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Much easier access to presidents in those days.

JACKIE: Yes.

DONIN: Than now. It's not the media circus that it is now.

JACKIE: Right.

DONIN: Or the security risk that it is now. I mean, he'd just ride by in an open car.

JACKIE: Yes. Yes.

DONIN: Yes. Okay. I think I've mined you for everything you've got, right?

JACKIE: Yes. I'm sure.

DONIN: You'll think of things when you get in the car. That's what always happens.

JACKIE: [Laughter] Yes.

DONIN: Well, you know what, if you think of things, since you're coming back in September, write them down. Then we'll do another addendum.

JACKIE: Oh, gosh, yes, alright.

DONIN: And talk to all your friends. I can turn off these machines now.

[End of Interview]