2-23-2023

Hochberg, Marc

Sophia Maier Garcia

Transcriber: Sophia Maier

Sophia Maier (SM): Wonderful. So if you just want to start by telling me a little bit about your family and how they ended up in the Bronx.

Marc Hochberg (MH): Sure, so to the best of my recollection. My father was born and raised in the Upper West Side, well, near Central Park in Manhattan. Probably what would now be considered Harlem. He was born in ‘22. Both of his parents were immigrants. He went to Clinton High School, when it was in Manhattan. And then, you know, after, he worked for his father, and then after a stint in the army during World War Two, came back and went into business. My mother was born in ‘24 in Philadelphia. But her mother, I think, was a resident of the Bronx.

SM: Okay.

MH: So my maternal grandmother emigrated in 1904. And I'm pretty sure they settled in the Bronx. Because several of her sisters also lived in the Bronx when I was growing up. So I think that's how my parents got to the Bronx, because my maternal grandparents lived there. And after my parents married in ‘46, after the war was over, they probably settled there. Would be my guess.

SM: Would be your guess. And so all of your grandparents had immigrated from Eastern Europe, correct?

MH: Correct. My maternal grandmother was from Riga in Latvia. My paternal grandmother was also from Latvia. By way of, allegedly, Paris. Who knows. But I can give you the name of my cousin who lives on the Upper West Side, and she might have more information. She's a professor of Art History at Brooklyn College. I think either former chairperson or current chairperson of the department. So she might have more information on the paternal side of the family. My paternal grandfather, from the Austro Hungarian empire, probably more the Austrian side because of the German sounding name. And my maternal grandfather, from the Hungarian part of the Austro Hungarian empire. He originally settled, actually his family settled in Northeast Pennsylvania because his brother, who's now deceased, was in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania.

SM: Okay. And so what year were you born?

MH: So I was born in ‘49. June 29.

SM: And do you have any siblings?

MH: No, I have no siblings. I was the only child.

SM: Okay. And so where was your family living when you were born?

MH: 2125 Holland Avenue.

SM: And what part of the Bronx is that?

MH: That's in Pelham Parkway, south of the park. And it was next door to Public School 105, which I think still exists. Although it has somebody's name now. None of the schools had names then.

SM: And so what was the neighborhood like when you were living there?

MH: It was fine. So ours was an art deco style six story apartment house. You can probably find pictures of it still online, because I'm sure it's still standing. If I remember correctly, White Plains Road was the major shopping street that ran north south. Parallel to Pelham Parkway was a street called Lydig Avenue. And our apartment building was a little bit south of the corner of Holland Avenue and Lydig Avenue. It was, you know, a residential neighborhood except for small stores and probably about 90% Jewish. I remember in my elementary school class, there was one non-Jewish child who I was friends with.

SM: And was he or she Italian or?

MH: He was Italian.

SM: Yeah. *Laughs*

MH: Robert DiMera, actually. My neurons are still intact. There were — so I went to elementary school with PS 105. I remember starting kindergarten, and they lined us up in two rows. They had one row of boys, one row of girls, shortest in the front, tallest in the back. And then they marched us in and they seated us in individual desks. You know, girl boy girl boy girl boy with the shortest in the front and the tallest in the back.

SM: Good system.

MH: What can you say? And graduated elementary school in sixth grade. Went to junior high school in Parkchester. Castle Hill Junior High School 127. Took the bus. Pretty predominantly still racially segregated at the time, as I recall. I don't remember many, if any, non-white minorities. So, at this time in New York City school system, they had a program called the SP program where you could do seventh, eighth, and ninth [grades] in two years. Okay, so I was in that. And then you had a competitive — you could either go to your regional high school, which if I recall was James Monroe. Because south

of the parkway was James Monroe, north of the parkway was Christopher Columbus. I remember my mother went to Columbus. So that dated her to the Bronx for high school. And I got into Bronx High School of Science, did not get into the High School of Music and Art.

SM: Did you want to go to the High School Musical and Art?

MH: Well, I applied, but did I want to? Probably not. I don't recall being particularly disappointed. And then my parents moved to a high rise apartment building on the corner of Grand Concourse and 165th Street, which was in walking distance of Yankee Stadium.

SM: Okay. And what year was that around?

MH: That would have been in 1962. And it was across the street from the Young Israel of [Grand Concourse], which I gather now is the Bronx Museum of Art.

SM: Yes. I was just told that I had no idea. In one of the interviews.

MH: You mean, you were told about the Museum of Art or the fact that it was a Young Israel?

SM: The fact that it was a Young Israel.

MH: Okay. So in Pelham Parkway, there were three synagogues. There was a Conservative synagogue, which I think was called Roosevelt which was on this street that was south of Lydig Avenue. I don't remember the name. But my maternal grandmother and my mother went there. There was the Young Israel of Pelham Parkway, which was Orthodox, which is where I went to Hebrew school and I had my bar mitzvah. And then there was an Ultra-Orthodox storefront synagogue, where my paternal grandfather went, and he used to take me there to go to synagogue.

SM: What was that experience like?

MH: I remember that the rabbi, who was a Holocaust survivor, didn't speak any English. He would give his sermons in Yiddish. And he lived in the back of the synagogue. You know, with his wife and probably a dozen children. Okay, so my parents moved in ‘62, went to Bronx High School of Science, took the D train to Mosholu Parkway. Walked past the reservoir and DeWitt Clinton, which had moved to the Bronx at the time. 800 and something, 850 people in my high school class. I have my high school yearbook, which I'm happy to donate. If you send me an email and let me know where I should send it.

SM: Yeah, I think that would be great. And what year did you graduate?

MH: Graduated in ‘65. Graduation was held at the Lowe’s Paradise Theater on the Grand Concourse.

SM: I see it every time I walk to the subway.

MH: Is it still there?

SM: It's still there. It says it, the sign is still there. It's not a theater anymore. It's like a store and things but the, you know, the sign and the building itself is still there.

MH: Well, I remember that the ceiling was painted with stars.

SM: And so what was your experience like at Bronx Science? Did you feel like you got a kind of top education?

MH: Got a top education. You know, all the presumably high school required courses. I was much better in math and science than I was in English and humanities. I did four years of Spanish. I had a 200 point difference between my math and verbal SATs. There's a story that goes along with that which is unrelated to the Bronx. And I did AP Spanish. So when I went to college, I placed out of my language requirement. And I did AP Calculus. Nowadays, I gather kids do half a dozen to a dozen AP classes.

SM: Yeah.

MH: But I remember you had biology in 10th grade. So it started in 10th grade, because you did junior high school for seventh, eighth, and ninth. Chemistry in 11th and physics in 12th. So then I went to college. I moved out of New York to go to college. The thing about Bronx Science was that they allowed you only to apply to three schools other than City College, which was City College at the time, not City University. So everybody applied to City College. Pretty much everybody got in. And I went to Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Only one from the high school class.

SM: And was that a bit of a culture shock?

MH: It was — it was a big culture shock. So it was about 500 in the class, all male, mostly from Pennsylvania and New Jersey. And it was at the time recognized because it had a good reputation for pre-med. And I knew at the time that I wanted to be a doctor. So that pretty much exhausts the Bronx, other than my going home to visit my parents, who, while I was in college — no, no, while I was in college, they still live where they did at 165 and the Grand Concourse. I then came to Baltimore in September of 1969 to go to medical school, and I've stayed in Baltimore ever since. My parents moved to Riverdale in, I would guess, 1970.

SM: Yeah. Around that time, right, that I was saying [before the interview].

MH: Around that time. Into a high rise at 3333 Henry Hudson Parkway. Yeah, it was called The White Hall, my wife reminds me.

Off camera: Don't leave out your mother's favorite place in the Bronx.

MH: Loehman’s. On Fordham Road, is that still there?

SM: No.

MH: No, okay.

SM: Did she also like to go to Alexander's nearby?

MH: No, but my father actually was a furrier.

SM: Okay. I was going to ask. Yeah.

MH: And they ran the — his company ran the fur department at Alexander’s, particularly the flagship store in Union Square.

SM: And so did either of your parents have any college education?

MH: No.

SM: Okay.

MH: So I was the first one to go to college. My maternal grandmother actually matriculated at Fordham Law School, but never graduated.

SM: And so was education an important part, or pursuing education, an important part of your upbringing?

MH: Yes. Pursuing education was probably the most important part. Like it is with immigrants of Asian ethnicity, both East Asian as well as South Asian.

SM: Absolutely.

MH: Which I gather is one of the issues now in the New York City public school system with maintaining the merit examination for Bronx Science, rather than opening it up to a lottery.

SM: And so, besides, I guess, you know, doing homework and things like that, what kind of things did you like to do for fun when you were younger?

MH: Ah. So I mostly would hang out with my friends. So when I was young on Pelham Parkway — well, so two afternoons a week after school, I went to Hebrew school. And then the rest of the time we would play ball in the school yard. We would go to Bronx Park, play ball there. Little League in the spring. I was not a great athlete.

SM: *Laughs* You answered my next question.

MH: So I was usually the catcher. Or I would get stuck in right field, because not many balls would be hit to right field. And I was slow on the base paths. You would play pickup basketball in the school yard. When I went to junior high school, there was probably less of that because of the commute. When I was in high school, my wife reminds me, I used to shoot pool.

SM: Really? Okay.

MH: Yes. There was a pool hall on Jerome Avenue. And when I would come home from high school, I would go to the pool hall, most afternoons. So I was a good billiards player.

SM: Found a sport that you were good at, if that's what you want to call it.

MH: Well, it is, right? I mean, although it's not in the Olympics, I guess. But it's an indoor sport.

SM: Yeah.

MH: I had a group of friends in high school. We hung out together more so than when I was in junior high school. And one of them you can look up online. Actually two of them I know what they do. So one of them is an attorney who I think still practices in Manhattan and lives in Riverdale. Last name is Boonshoft. First name Steven. He actually lived in Washington Heights, but went to Bronx Science. And then the other guy is Richard Baehr. He is what is referred to as a public intellectual. Lives in Chicago.

SM: So like many others, I feel like a lot of the people that I've spoken to that went to Bronx Science have pursued, you know, far beyond just a college degree.

MH: Well, I was fortunate that I had the opportunity. You know, I had — went to college. I did well in college. I didn't do great, but I did well in college. And applied to medical school, and got into the best medical school I applied to, which was Johns Hopkins. And we had a student deferment because the draft loomed over us. So, you know, people I knew who graduated high school who didn't go to college,

got drafted. Because you had to go register for the Selective Service, you had to carry around your draft card. None of the people I was friendly with burned their draft cards during the late 60s. I don't know anybody who was in Students for a Democratic Society or particularly followed Abbie Hoffman and the Chicago Seven during the demonstrations in ‘68. So I had my deferment, went to medical school. And then when I came out of medical school, Nixon had instituted the draft lottery at the time. And I was very lucky to get a lottery number of 353. And they started drafting doctors at number one. So they never made it up to 353.

SM: Thank goodness.

MH: So I didn't end up getting drafted and going to Vietnam. And I ended up never enlisting through what's called the Berry Plan.

SM: Okay. I'm not familiar with that.

MH: So that was when you would enlist in the service, you would spend two years. And if you were capable, you might get a position at the National Institutes of Health doing research. Or you might go to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta as an epidemiology Intelligence Service Officer and be in the Public Health Service. So yeah, a lot of — I guess probably a higher proportion than regular high schools of the graduates of Bronx Science went on to college as well as advanced degrees. I've never been back for a reunion. They did have a 50 year reunion in 2015. And I think there's somebody who's planning a 60 year reunion for 2025, though it's still a good two years away.

SM: And you just haven't had any urge or too busy to go back?

MH: No. So my parents are deceased. My father died in ‘82. My mother died in ‘88. My grandparents, you know, all died before that. Except for my paternal grandmother, I think she died after my father did, before my mother did. So the only relative I have in New York, or relatives I have in New York, is I have a first cousin who lives on the Upper West Side who's at Brooklyn College. And I actually saw her, I was in New York over Martin Luther King's birthday weekend. And I saw her son who’s my first cousin once removed. And then I have two first cousins from my mother's side of the family who live in Queens who I last saw at my uncle's funeral. How many years ago was that? That was before COVID. Maybe seven years ago.

SM: So don't really have any real reason to come back up to the Bronx.

MH: Right. No reasons to come back to the Bronx. And the reasons I came back to Manhattan before COVID were usually for advisory board meetings or publishers meetings. And I would stay in hotels in Manhattan, usually for one or two nights. Take the train up, take the train back.

SM: Yeah. No, that makes sense. And so I guess, going back to the Bronx a bit. You know, still talking about things about when you were young. What kind of —

MH: Sorry, Amber Alert. Okay.

SM: What kind of music did you like to listen to?

MH: Oh, rock and roll. *Unclear off camera* No, cousin Brucey on WABC or CBS. So I listened to rock and roll. I still sing all the old songs. Listen to 50s on 5, 60s on 6, which is Sirius XM stations 72 and 73. I learned part of math when I was in high school. I would graph the top 10. Every Tuesday night they would come out with a weekly top 10. And I would follow it through the years on graph paper with the songs.

SM: Wow. That's awesome.

MH: We had a little band, actually, when I was in elementary school. And I played the clarinet, because you had to play an instrument in elementary school.

SM: Did they provide you with the instruments?

MH: They provided us with the instruments. And then I was switched to saxophone because they had too many people who played the clarinet. Nobody played the saxophone. So I was assigned the saxophone.

SM: Then did you continue to play it?

MH: No. I gave that up, I think, when I went to junior high school because band was not required. But I continued my enjoyment of rock and roll in college and in medical school. Which evolved, you know, into Motown and Stax Records from Memphis. And then once I graduated medical school, in ‘73, I stopped acquiring new music.

SM: *Laughs* Cut it off.

MH: Yeah, I was too busy to follow these genres of new music. And I have honestly never learned to appreciate rap, which my son-in-law likes.

SM: Yeah, neither have I honestly, and that's what I've grown up with. So I much prefer the music that you were talking about.

MH: Okay, so sports. So almost all my friends were Yankee fans growing up in the Bronx. I was a New York Giants fan. There used to be New York Giants baseball, though they moved to California in 1958. Probably because my father was a Giants fan growing up in Manhattan. So you can go to the Polo Grounds, which doesn't exist anymore. And when my parents moved to Grand Concourse and 165th Street, I used to go with my friends on Friday nights to Yankee Stadium. They used to have student organization passes for high school students. You could go sit in the bleachers for 25 cents.

SM: Not like that anymore.

MH: We used to take the subway to go to the old Garden, which was on Eighth Avenue between 49th and 50th Street. And they would let us sit all the way up top in the oxygen area to go to see the Knicks play, go to see the Rangers play. And it was inexpensive. So you ride the subway downtown. I got mugged on the subway, one of my memories of high school, coming back from a game at the Garden. So those are the activities.

SM: Yeah. And so I guess other than that mugging experience, would you say that, generally speaking, it was safe when you were growing up?

MH: Yeah, very safe. You know, when we stayed in the neighborhood, you could walk around at night, you could go out at night, you could go out with your friends, you could go out by yourself. There was nothing to worry about. I don't recall any street crime.

SM: And I know this — just because I just thought of it — I know that there were some gangs, not in the necessarily modern sense, but around during that time period, you know, things like the Fordham Baldies and whatnot.

MH: I don't remember.

SM: Yeah. Not necessarily in that area. Just came to me.

MH: I remember going to the Bronx Zoo as a child. On Fordham Road.

SM: Botanical Gardens at all?

MH: I don't recall going to the Botanical Gardens. It was not my parents' speed. I think when I went to the zoo, it was my uncle who took me to the zoo.

SM: And so, I meant to ask earlier when you were in Bronx Science, was it a bit more of a diverse population or was it predominantly Jewish?

MH: No, it was a diverse population. It wasn't all people from the Bronx. It was people from all over New York City, but probably not Staten Island. And I think probably the three so called “Special Schools,” you know, that had their geographical drawing area. Probably there was a greater proportion of people from the Bronx at Bronx Science, than at Stuyvesant or Brooklyn Tech.

SM: That makes sense. And so did you, either there at Bronx Science or as you got older, were there any racial or ethnic tensions that you witnessed or experienced?

MH: Um, so I don't recall any racial or ethnic tensions in school. I didn't really have any when I was in college, either. I would say about probably 10% of my college class was — what's the preferred term now Black or African American?

SM: Either one.

MH: Either one, probably about 10% of the class. And actually the same with medical school.

SM: That's great. And, especially, I mean, going just on that topic, you know, living in places that weren't predominantly Jewish anymore. Was that different? Did you ever experience any anti-semitism or anything?

MH: Yes. So when I went to college in Lancaster, you know, that's in the middle of the Amish country. And I don't recall experiencing any frank anti-semitism there. Although, you know, you would drive along Route 30, which was the main route from Philadelphia. And you would see the signs, the religious signs, which typically said, “Jesus saves, Moses invests.”

SM: Oh, God. I haven't heard one with the second bit.

MH: Okay. So you know, that picks up on the tropes related to money. So I was — Lancaster had a small Jewish community, but the school was about — a third of the student body was Jewish. And I don't recall any overt or actually covert anti-semitism in the school. They formed a chapter of Hillel when I was a junior in college, which I was involved in. There was a faculty advisor, who I think is now deceased, who would invite people to the campus to speak. I came to Baltimore, the Hopkins Medical School is located in East Baltimore, which is part of the so-called “East Baltimore ghetto.” So it's the predominantly African American neighborhood. The undergraduate school, which is on North — I don't know if you're familiar with Baltimore — is located on North Charles Street, which is in a residential area. Some people refer to it as “the plantation.” And so Baltimore is sort of a very ghettoized city. A lot of the neighborhoods were originally by religion and by ethnicity. I live in an area of Baltimore City now, which until 1948 was restricted. So the original deeds to the property do not allow it to be sold to people who are Catholic, Jewish, or Black. When my wife grew up in Baltimore, you know, there was racial segregation here, because this is the South. We're below the Mason Dixon Line. Maryland is a so-

called free state, but that's a misnomer, because there were plantations in Southern Maryland, on the eastern shore. Slaves were held on the Eastern Shore and in Southern Maryland.

SM: So, do you feel like that sort of explicit segregation was very different from the experience that you had growing up in the Bronx?

MH: Yes. I did, but you know, I may not have known about it, okay? Because Pelham Parkway was a predominantly Jewish neighborhood. I didn't grow up in the predominantly Italian areas of the Bronx or the Irish areas of the Bronx. Probably my first major exposure was in junior high school in Parkchester, where about a third of the students were Irish Catholic, a third were Italian Catholic, and a third were Jewish. And I really didn't have African American, what I would call friends, until I was in college. Or medical school, actually, for that matter. I must say that where I work now, I work mostly at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, because I'm Chief of Medicine for the VA Maryland Health Care System. And, you know, the workforce at the VA — the non-physician workforce — has got to be at least 75% African American. And we're not the largest employer in the city, the largest employer is Hopkins, which has a similar racial distribution of its employees. So when I was growing up in the Bronx, we didn't have DEI. It hadn't been thought of yet.

SM: And so, did you grow — I know you had mentioned that the Ultra-Orthodox rabbi didn't speak any English. Did you grow up speaking Yiddish or any other languages in the house?

MH: No, my mother did, but I was never taught. No, they didn't speak and so she didn't speak it in the house. And neither did my grandparents.

SM: And so did you keep kosher?

MH: Yes. And the kosher butcher was on Lydig Avenue. And I remember when I was youngest, you know, three, four years old. When my mother would go shopping, I would be dropped off at the kosher butcher, because there was no such thing as daycare at the time.

SM: And they watched you or?

MH: Yeah, they watched me.

SM: Yeah. That's funny. *Laughs* And what kind of things did you all like to eat?

MH: I would guess it was mostly, you know, some kind of meat or chicken in the evenings and, let’s see. Oh, there was a delicatessen around the corner on Lydig Avenue by the name of Sonny's. There were bakeries. One of the bakeries was Pato’s. What would be considered Eastern European Jewish

ethnic food. My parents did go out for Chinese food. So they would keep — they kept kosher at home, but didn't keep kosher outside the house.

SM: Yeah, that's something I've heard from other people.

MH: My grandparents, on the other hand, kept kosher 100%. My grandfather was what you would consider a traveling salesman, but he traveled within Manhattan, within New York City. So he was a door to door salesman. Sold Brittanicas. Another thing which has gone out of fashion: encyclopedias. But he used to take his lunch with him every day in a paper bag, he would take two hard boiled eggs, because he kept kosher. He didn't have refrigeration.

SM: And so, I know you already kind of said how you attended Hebrew school and things. Did you enjoy religious life growing up? Engage with it? Or was it something that you kind of did as part of the family?

MH: No, I enjoyed it. In retrospect, I think I wanted to be a rabbi, actually. And I wanted to go to a religious day school, but my father was secular. I think he was a non-believer. And so he wouldn't let me go to religious day school. And that was that.

SM: And was your mother's side of the family more religious?

MH: Yes. Yeah, my paternal grandmother was — I don't recall her ever practicing. And my paternal grandfather died before I was born.

SM: And are you still — do you still keep kosher or practice today?

MH: So we no longer keep kosher after my wife's mother passed away. But I go to synagogue every Saturday.

SM: And some people that I've spoken to speak about this idea that growing up in a predominantly Jewish area of the Bronx, you didn't need to necessarily, I guess, practice in the typical parts of religious life to be Jewish and to have that identity. But once they left, they kind of turned to religious life to find other Jews living in predominantly not Jewish areas.

MH: Right. So there's this thing about Judaism where you can be Jewish and religious, believing in God and practicing the religion. And you can do that either as an Orthodox Jew, as a Conservative Jew, or as a Reform Jew. Or as I guess, a nondenominational. Right? Or you can be a secular humanist, but still be Jewish, because you identify with the Jewish people and you have the sort of ideals of secular humanism. But you don't necessarily believe in God. And you don't practice the religion. You don’t follow the 613 commandments, the majority of which are negative commandments, things that you're

not supposed to do, as opposed to things you are supposed to do. Most of which don't apply if you live outside of Israel anyway. And my generation, I would say, more strongly supports the existence of the State of Israel than does your generation. And probably that's in part related to being closer in time to the Holocaust. Knowing people who survived the Holocaust, knowing people who were involved in creating the State of Israel, and having that as a shared history.

SM: I think you're definitely right. And so I guess, when you're when your parents were still living in the Bronx, and you know, this would have been after you left. Were you aware of the deterioration and kind of demographic changes that were going on, particularly even in the area that your parents were living in?

MH: Particularly in the South Bronx.

SM: Yeah.

MH: Right. I mean, have you read *The Bonfire of the Vanities*? Did you ever read the *Bonfire of the Vanities*?

SM: I haven't, but I'm familiar with it. Yeah.

MH: Great book. And, you know, somebody gets off the exit of the Bruckner Expressway in the South Bronx, mistakenly and everything goes downhill from there. So sure there was an influx — well not influx, an in-migration of African American and Hispanic people from Manhattan into the Bronx. And there were people who probably moved out of the Bronx and went to Westchester County, went to New Jersey, went to Long Island. It's similar to what happened in Baltimore where the Jewish residents of Northwest Baltimore, moved out into Baltimore County.

SM: Yeah, and I talk in my in my thesis how, in part, that's due to the kind of suburbanization trends of that specific time period and how, without the larger trend of housing loans from the government and the building of highways and things that none of that would have been possible, regardless of, you know, the changes in the cities.

MH: Right, but then, you know, you have all the literature now, on how the building of highways, the paths of the highways was designed to break up minority neighborhoods.

SM: Oh, yeah. Cross Bronx Expressway, right?

MH: Cross Bronx Expressway. That's right, Cross Bronx Expressway. In Baltimore, it's Interstate 83, Jones Falls Expressway. And so that’s one issue. The second issue of redlining, withholding mortgages

or making mortgages available only at a higher rate. And that's even after segregation became illegal in the late 1940s. So all of that was operative.

SM: No, Kevin Kruse's book on white flight is very good for learning about that. It's about Atlanta, but it talks about those kinds of things.

MH: My wife's family's from Atlanta, actually.

SM: Okay. Yeah. So that's what he uses as the foremost example of all those exact practices that we were just talking about.

MH: Her great uncle was actually friends with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's father, because he owned real estate on the block where the Ebenezer Baptist Church is. And when he died, the estate left a number of the properties, actually, to the Martin Luther King Memorial.

SM: Okay. That's awesome. And so yeah, I guess, kind of to begin to wrap it up. When you think back on your experiences growing up in the Bronx, what kind of emotions and sentiments do you associate with them?

MH: Oh, I think they were all positive. Happy childhood, if I was to reflect on it. And I had friends. I'm not sure how well it actually prepared me for what I ended up doing, probably because you lived in an insular neighborhood, so you weren't necessarily prepared for the big world outside where you had to interact with different kinds of people. But you know, it was a safe, nurturing environment. And I think I was, retrospectively, very fortunate.

SM: And so is there anything else you'd like to add before I end the recording?

MH: No, I think this is a great project that you're doing.

SM: Thank you.

MH: I'm looking forward to reading your thesis.

SM: Yes, it is 38 pages long.

MH: And as my wife and I go through the process of downsizing, anything that I find that would be of interest, I will ship up to the archives.

SM: Thank you.