6-3-2011

Interview of Bertram Strieb, M.S.

Bertram Strieb  
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*La Salle University*

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FIELD NOTES

Interviewee: Professor Bertram Strieb
Interviewer: Daniel J. Falcone
Interview date: June 3, 2011 (10:00 am) Field notes written on June 4, 2011
Interview location: The LaSalle University campus in the office of Professor Bertram Strieb, The Holroyd Hall Building, Department of Geology, Physics, and Environmental Science, La Salle University 20th St. and Olney Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19141

The Interviewee: Bertram Strieb spent the first five years of his life in North Philadelphia, near 22nd and Venango. He then moved to West Oak Lane, where he lived from the time he was about 5 until he entered college at age 17. Strieb first attended Rowen, which was the neighborhood school in West Oak Lane. Starting in 4th or 5th grade, he attended Logan. (His mother got impatient with what was going on there. There were a group of bright kids who were being held back, and Strieb was among them) He recalls his formative years at the library huddled over mystery novels and having an intense interest in physical science He then went on to Wagner Junior High, and then, in 9th grade, went to Central for four years. Strieb attended the University of Pennsylvania for four years, on a Mayor’s Scholarship. And then did graduate work at Penn. Strieb studies under world-renowned physicist Herbert Callen and left Penn with good recommendations and a good background. He began teaching at LaSalle in 1964 and still has an office today.

The Interviewer: Daniel J. Falcone was born in 1974 in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania. He studied at West Chester University as an undergrad finishing in 1999. He was an education and political science major. He is currently a graduate student at LaSalle in the MA Program for History.

Description: The interview took place in the morning. The interview was conducted in the newly renovated Holroyd Hall in the lower level of the building. Strieb had a fellow professor of science (that he taught) in the office next door to him. The discussion over time and place for the interview was conducted via email. Both Strieb and Falcone after careful consideration agreed [Strieb’s] office would be the best place to conduct the interview without distraction. I chose this interview through the advice of Dr. Barbara Allen,
Professor of History at LaSalle, who thought I might appreciate Strieb’s worldview – which I did or continue to.

**Note on Recording:** For recording, I used an Olympus VN-98100 PC on battery power. No additional microphones were used. After interview completion, I connected the Olympus recorder by USB port to my Dell Computer and uploaded the audio files for storage in *MP3* format. I burned them into CD in *MP3* as well.

**Editing Transcript:** My decisions for editing included: eliminating “buzz” and “crutch” words along with false starts, time stamping, indicating that there are two segments, annotations in brackets in text, and when not in text, rudimentary footnotes.