



Interview No.: OH 3.7

Title: Hal S. Currey, Interview by Brooke Fox, 14 July 2009

Interviewer: Fox, Brooke

Interviewee: Currey, Hal S.

Date: 2009-07-14

Restrictions: Open to research. Use of materials is governed by Fair Use Guidelines. Use of material in excess of that permitted by Fair Use Guidelines requires written permission from the Waring Historical Library. Commercial use of tapes is governed by additional restrictions. Contact the repository for information.

Subject (Topical):

Hurricane Hugo, 1989.

Medical University of South Carolina.

Medical University of South Carolina. Medical University Hospital.

Medical University of South Carolina. Institute of Psychiatry.

Medical University of South Carolina. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Hurricane Hugo, 1989--Personal narratives.

Disaster response and recovery.

Subject (Names): Currey, Hal S.

Subject (Genre): Oral histories.

Interviews.

Summary: Hal S. Currey was administrator for both the Institute of Psychiatry (IOP) and the Department of Psychiatry in 1989. He begins his interview by describing his initial reaction to hearing that Hurricane Hugo might strike

Charleston. He goes on to describe preparing IOP for the storm by discharging patients, assigning hospital staff to shifts, and sending non-essential employees home. Currey describes his experiences during the height of the storm, including watching the windows in his office bow and the shattering of several IOP windows that resulted in destroyed offices. He also details the flooding on President's Street and the fear that the institute building was going to flood. Currey recalls the days immediately following the storm and describes the recovery efforts at IOP and the MUSC campus.

Additionally, Mr. Currey describes preparing his family for the storm and then returning to his home on Sullivans Island for the first time after landfall. He also describes the destruction on the island.

Collection: Waring Historical Library Oral History Collection

Contributing Institution: Waring Historical Library (MUSC)

Media Type: Oral Histories

Note: This interview is part of the "Hurricane Hugo Oral History Project" series. These interviews document the experiences of administrators, hospital personnel, and maintenance staff who worked on the MUSC campus during landfall of Hurricane Hugo, September 21-22, 1989. Eleven interviews were conducted between June and August 2009 in preparation for the development of a physical and online exhibit, "MUSC Remembers Hurricane Hugo." The online exhibit is available at <http://waring.library.musc.edu/exhibits/hurricanehugo/>.

Transcripts has been edited by the interviewee.

In cases where the audio and the transcript differ, the audio is provided for background use only.

See also: Collection # OH 3 and OH 3.1-3.11

Language: English

Digitization Specifications: Audio recorded using a Marantz digital recorder. Archival masters are .wav files.

Rights: Copyright is held the Waring Historical Library, MUSC. For more information, please contact the Waring Historical Library.

Citation: Hurricane Hugo Oral History Project, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.

Series Title: Hurricane Hugo Oral History Project, 2009

Duration: 00:42:19

Transcript: 21 p.