



Interviewees: Dan and Erica Lesesne

Place of interview: Home on Warren Street

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Videographer: April Wood (HCF)

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## BEGIN INTERVIEW

Katherine Pemberton: We are here with Dan and Erica Lesesne, and we're at 68 Warren Street. It's March 25th, 2019, for our chat about your neighborhood and your street. So, Dan, would you start us off? Just tell us your name and how to spell it.

Dan Lesesne: I'm Dan Lesesne, spelled L-e-s-e-s-n-e.

KP: Great. Erica?

Erica Lesesne: I'm Erica, and I usually say my first name too because it can be spelled different ways, E-r-i-c-a also, Lesesne.

KP: Tell us when and where you were born, so your birthday and the birthplace.

EL: Well, I was born in Findlay, Ohio. My father was – he was – his business was there and just a good place to be, but not as full of interesting, exotic things like this place.

KP: When did you move to Charleston?

EL: I can't even –

DL: 1970. I can answer that.

KP: '70?

EL: He's very good at that.

KP: And had you met Dan prior to moving here, or was he the reason?

DL: Neither.

EL: Neither. I guess I just ran into him one day.

KP: Excellent, excellent.

EL: No, we just –

DL: No, I can tell you much more precisely. I was born in Summerville, South Carolina.

KP: Oh, excellent. That's where I live.

DL: Dorchester County Hospital.

KP: Excellent. What's your birthdays?

DL: My birthday is – we're both 1945 babies.

EL: Yeah.

DL: And mine is April 4th. Erica's is October 7th.

EL: October 7th.

KP: Excellent. You have a birthday coming up.

DL: Which happens to be a wedding anniversary date as well.

KP: All right. So, tell us the story of how you met, and your wedding was also in October?

DL: Shall I go? Yeah.

EL: Yes, I think you should. I don't think we had any great wedding, though.

DL: We met at a Young Democrats party on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina, in April. In fact, it was the Saturday – it was Easter Eve that we met at a party, and we were married in October.

EL: Didn't take us very long.

DL: Things got cranked up.

KP: That's pretty quick.

DL: Yeah.

EL: It was quick.

DL: Yeah.

EL: Yeah.

KP: Now, how did you get from Summerville to Charleston, and when was that?

DL: I spent the first five years of my life in Summerville. My father was an engineer with the power company, and he was sent to be some sort of district representative in Beaufort. So, we lived there for a couple years. And then from there we moved to Charleston, specifically to Mount Pleasant, which is where I spent most of my growing-up time, when Mount Pleasant had one policeman, so you know it was a long time ago.

KP: Right. And do you remember the old bridge, I'm sure?

DL: Very well.

EL: Oh, yes.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Did you ever drive over it as a young driver?

DL: You're asking me about the old Cooper River Bridge?

EL: Yeah, right, the Cooper River Bridge.

KP: The old Cooper River Bridge, yes.

EL: 'Cause you were way up there.

DL: Well, that was the – that actually became the great – that was the ultimate test for new drivers to drive that bridge, which was always semi-terrifying.

KP: Two-way.

DL: Yes.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Two-way.

EL: Yeah.

KP: Very narrow.

DL: Bad enough with two automobiles coming at each other, but if it was a semi or a school bus coming at you.

KP: Right. Do you remember any particular memories about childhood in Mount Pleasant, for instance? Did you go to the beach a lot?

DL: Well, childhood in Mount Pleasant was truly a childhood where children were pretty much on their own until it got dark and got time for supper. So, it was a place where we spent an awful lot of time bicycling and going down to Darby's Boatyard to just watch workers work. And if you were interested in that stuff and tools, as I was, then it was paradise to be there.

KP: Now, did you move from Mount Pleasant to Charleston, or did you have any stops along the way?

DL: Other than school, I came back here but spent – I owed the government sometime in the military beginning in 1968 and came back here after the military and have been here --

KP: Were you overseas at all?

DL: Uh-huh.

KP: Did you have to do Vietnam?

DL: Most of my time was in the Mediterranean, so it was great and good fortune.

KP: Right. It's probably a better assignment.

DL: To say the least, yes.

KP: In a lot of ways.

DL: Yeah.

KP: So, presumably in the '70s is when you're beginning to be downtown?

DL: Actually, yes, yes.

KP: So, you moved downtown –

DL: Erica was living downtown.

KP: You were already here.

EL: I was, yes.

KP: And what brought you to Charleston?

EL: I was always fascinated by that place and similar places where it was a community of people who seemed to have just a comfort of that place. They just loved it there. So, my father had died, and so my – I took a look here, and I got –

DL: Well, you had finished college and –

EL: Yeah, and I was –

DL: – were teaching.

EL: I was a teacher at that point [at Miami].

KP: I know you taught at Porter-Gaud. Is that where you started teaching?

EL: Oh, I can't even remember anymore. I did a lot of teaching.

KP: Lots of stuff.

EL: Yeah.

KP: What did you teach?

EL: I taught English.

KP: English.

EL: But I also did theater. I always liked that, and nobody else was real enthusiastic, I don't think, about doing it, but I was and had a lot of fun doing it.

KP: Right.

EL: And we would even do – I kind of had a little gang of people that liked it. And so sometimes we'd just – lunch hour time, we'd just come up with some kind of a funny thing that would be done and just do it during lunchtime.

KP: Nice. Do you remember when you first moved here, did you live in the downtown area?

EL: Gosh, yes, but it was kind of not at the heart of it, but a little bit more to the west.

DL: Well, you were living on Society Street when I met you.

EL: Yeah, but that –

DL: At 35 Society.

KP: Oh, nice.

EL: Yeah, yeah.

DL: I remember it well.

EL: It was, but it wasn't to last very long.

KP: Right.

EL: So, but it was fine, and we're having a very good time living here, and there's lots to do.

KP: Well, I was going to ask you about this house, because y'all got married. Was this your first house, on Warren Street?

DL: No, it wasn't.

EL: No.

DL: In fact, we – what did we do? We rented. I have to try to put all of this together.

EL: Yeah. It's been a long time.

KP: A chronology.

DL: We rented in a couple of places downtown, one of which was on New Street, Alfred and Juliana Pinckney. We were there for a year-and-a-half or so and had an opportunity to buy a wonderful 1920s cottage down on Wadmalaw Sound south of Charleston. And I think we paid \$35,000 for that house.

KP: Wow.

DL: That was in the old days, yeah.

EL: How long were we there?

DL: We were there for almost about four years and then decided –

EL: Gosh, it doesn't seem possible.

DL: Then we moved to Wadmalaw Island. We bought a piece of property on the upper end of Leadenwah Creek. We lived there for about four years, and then we made our way into town and lived on – where did we live? On Montagu.

EL: Montagu Street.

DL: 24 Montagu for –

EL: Yeah.

KP: That's a great street, too.

DL: Yeah.

EL: Yes, it was very nice.

DL: Couple years. But we rented that house. And Sally Smith, who owned the house at the time, let us know she wanted to put the house on the market. And at the time we thought – I can't remember what she was asking. It seems like a pittance today, but –

KP: Right. It was too much.

DL: It was too much.

EL: Yeah, yeah.

DL: We're not paying that.

KP: Right, right.

DL: So, we called a realtor and saw all sorts of places.

KP: Up here?

DL: Yeah.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Well, up here and on Beaufain. I remember there was a house that was in very rough condition on Beaufain Street. And our realtor, who was quite a wag, ushered us around, and it obviously hadn't been taken care of, well at all. I mean, it was beyond a fixer-upper even. We got into the kitchen, I recall, and the ceiling light fixture consisted of a pie plate that someone had just jimmy-rigged. And Greg Allen turned to us and said, oh, and I forgot to tell you, all of the fixtures convey.

KP: That's back in the days when there were fixer-uppers, right?

DL: Right, yeah.

KP: I mean, it's really – you cannot find really fixer-uppers downtown much.

DL: Yeah.

EL: Well, he was making a joke when he said that.

KP: Right.

EL: He was making a joke for our opportunity to laugh.

DL: So, Greg Allen –

KP: Were y'all in the market for something that you could work on?

DL: Yeah.

KP: Or that you wanted to --?

EL: Well, I wouldn't say we were hot on working on something.

DL: This house, of course, was under covenant.

KP: Right.

DL: And J.D. Christmas, Jim Christmas and his wife owned it. And –

KP: Now, had he bought it from Historic Charleston Foundation?

DL: No, I think there was a –

KP: There was a couple of transactions.

DL: I think there was an African-American lawyer who owned it, had owned it at the time. He had done some pretty basic work on it, shoring up some areas. So, by the time that we got the house, it was in basically good condition. But –

EL: Yeah, he was a pretty sharp guy.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Pretty sound structurally, not like falling in the street or anything?

DL: Right. But we made some additions. That room that you're looking at there, what's the room off the kitchen, didn't exist. And so that was an addition we did immediately.

KP: So, I was going to ask like, what did you need to change to the house when you first got –

DL: Well, it was in two apartments.

KP: Oh, okay. Up and down or –

DL: No.

EL: No, but –

DL: Kind of back –

EL: Two apartments.

DL: – area. Well, I don't want you to have to turn around, but the other – the apartment was part of the main house, and it was an upstairs bedroom and small bathroom and essentially one room, fairly large room downstairs that had a refrigerator.

KP: Right. Sort of an efficiency kind of thing.

DL: Yeah, that kind of setup. And so we bought the house with a vision of what we were going to do to make it work for us. And so we did. And this addition went up in 1999 for Erica's mother, who had been down here for 13 years by the time that she became infirm enough that it was apparent that –

EL: It wasn't terrible.

DL: No.

EL: But –

KP: She needed some care.

DL: Yeah.

EL: She did.

DL: So, to our –

EL: We felt like we wanted her there for us, I think.

KP: Right, right.

DL: Well, and she was a stubbornly independent person. So, we actually began looking at larger houses that we could accommodate her in, and she just didn't want any part of that for the time. But when we came up with this idea and asked her what she thought, she said, "I would be honored."

KP: Oh, that's great.

DL: So, she changed.

EL: Yeah. That was really sweet.

DL: And then when we got – we started just doing some sketches of this place. I have a cousin who had done some drafting work, and I told him sort of what we were looking for and he drew up this very functional but pretty basic design. It was more or less a continuation of what was there. It was not very exciting. And in the meantime, somebody – it may have been Robert Ballard, I forget – said, you ought to talk to Randolph Martz. And I guess we knew that Randolph lived in the neighborhood. So, I called Randolph up, and Randolph said, "yeah, I'll take a look at it." So, he came over, and he looked at the sketches that my cousin had done. He said, "you all can't put your mother in a box like that."

EL: That was his famous line.

DL: Right. So, he said – he then offered to – he said, "let me just play around with this." And this is what he came up with.

KP: Talk a little bit about Randolph just a bit. I think we might interview him as well. But who is Randolph Martz, and why was it great to get him?

DL: Erica, you go first.

EL: Well, Randolph's not like anybody else. And Randolph, I don't think he's the marrying type. And he is quick, really quick.

DL: He's also –

KP: He's a very sharp guy.

EL: Very sharp.

KP: Classical architect.

DL: Brilliant eye.

EL: Yes.

KP: Brilliant.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Proportion is crazy. It is crazy the way that he can spot it.

EL: He is wonderful.

DL: Oh, if you drive around the city, you can spot his stuff all the time.

KP: Right. And I think it's funny. He has a love of this neighborhood obviously, too.

DL: Uh-huh.

EL: Uh-huh. Yeah.

KP: So, it was probably a great chance to get him.

DL: Fortuitous.

KP: Right. 'Cause he's very –

DL: Oh, absolutely.

EL: Yep.

KP: He's been a very popular architect all over.

DL: Yes. And we saw that. When we, of course, had to submit plans to BAR, I still remember Randolph showed up that day in a pair of cutoff shorts and looked like – I probably hadn't shaved in a few days.

EL: That's so typical.

DL: And yet everybody on BAR at that time, Sandy Logan even --

KP: Hanging on every word probably.

DL: Yeah.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Yeah. So, and then as a consequence of getting to know Randolph, we began getting invitations to things like "Palladio's birthday party."

EL: Oh, and they were so much fun.

KP: That's awesome.

DL: July the 4th.

EL: They were.

KP: That is great.

DL: Uh-huh.

KP: That is great.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Well, when you did this, because you're under covenant to Historic Charleston Foundation, was that process pretty smooth or –

DL: Yeah.

EL: Oh, yes.

DL: I think and it was smooth, I had the sense, I remember, by the fact that Randolph was designing –

KP: Right. Probably a fair amount of comfort.

DL: – the work.

EL: Yes.

DL: And we also had to get the endorsement from the neighborhood.

KP: Right.

DL: Not in a legal sense, but –

KP: When you moved here, I think it was – did we –

DL: '89.

KP: '89. So, the covenant, we looked it up, was placed in '81. And then you guys bought it in '89.

DL: Uh-huh.

KP: Talk a little bit about, how was the neighborhood at that time? What was the neighborhood like when you moved in?

DL: Just things off the top of my head, African-American population significantly larger. Our neighbors in this house were an older African-American couple who had been here for many years.

EL: Oh, they were wonderful.

DL: Early '60s, I guess.

EL: Oh, they were just wonderful people.

DL: The Wallaces. And –

EL: Bill and Pearl.

DL: Right.

EL: They were great.

DL: It was – well, Erica and I used to use the word eclectic pretty often, and it was actually one of the things that attracted us. We had very good friends who lived down on the corner in the house on Thomas and Warren, the one where the porches were just restored.

KP: Oh, right.

DL: George and Agnes Heltai who were an older Hungarian couple. And they –

EL: Did you ever know them?

KP: I don't know. I know that house.

EL: Oh, I'm sorry you didn't.

DL: Yeah.

KP: That's wonderful, though.

DL: Yeah.

EL: They really were wonderful people and very different from people local around here.

DL: They were sophisticated in the best real sense. And they loved this neighborhood.

EL: They did.

DL: They were part of that.

KP: Was there a neighborhood association that was sort of up and running at the time?

DL: Yes.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Robert Ballard. Even then Robert was the president.

KP: Talk a little bit about Robert Ballard, 'cause I don't know if we ever – he was one of the people that we would have loved to have interviewed.

DL: Sure.

KP: And he just passed away. Talk a little bit about Robert and maybe his work for the neighborhood, I guess.

DL: For me he was the quintessential, under-the-radar kind of hero for cities and for neighborhoods. Tireless and he loved it. But it was Robert who went to all the BAR meetings, almost never missed a City Council meeting. He was good and he was passionate, but in a level kind of a way. So, Robert was not a hell-raiser.

KP: Very kind of low key.

DL: Exactly.

KP: A deep voice.

DL: Yeah, yeah.

KP: And he didn't drive.

DL: No.

KP: But he got around with city transportation.

DL: Yes.

KP: I think that became a cause for him as well.

DL: Yeah.

EL: Yeah.

KP: Kind of increasing access to transportation and everything.

DL: He did. He could be dogged. For example, the neighborhood pushed, with Robert in the lead for at least five years, getting trash baskets put up on corners just in neighborhoods that were not on a tourist path. And the City said no initially, and then they said no some more. And then finally they said, well, if you buy all the trash things, we'll pick them up. We'll pick them up once a week, but we don't have any money. In other words, it was –

KP: Do it yourself.

DL: Yeah. And then begrudging, yet Robert just kept it up. And the same thing was true with street sweeping. I bet that we pushed that for seven or eight years, and Robert gathered evidence from cities like Savannah, New York.

KP: Those are all things that a lot of people don't think about.

DL: Oh, absolutely.

EL: Yes.

KP: How did that come about, and how did that happen?

DL: They're not fashionable.

KP: Right, right.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Just the dull work of getting things better.

DL: He was a generous spirit really.

KP: Well, we really enjoyed knowing him through the Foundation. Like you said, he never missed a meeting.

DL: No.

KP: Which I find incredible because he didn't drive. Just he was always there.

DL: Yeah.

KP: And if you did drive, you thought, well, I have no excuse for not being as prompt as Robert Ballard. That's for sure. Well –

EL: We miss Robert Ballard.

KP: Yes. He was a sweetheart. Let's talk a little bit about the neighborhood itself. We heard the word eclectic and just kind of a neat neighborhood. How has it changed since you've been here, 'cause it's been 30 years?

DL: 31 years.

KP: Yes. So, how has it changed or evolved in the time that you've been living here, or has it?

EL: I guess that's sort of hard to say. When we first lived here, it seemed to be more of a group of people that had been here for a while, and they were going to be here for a while, and that was so. But eventually some of them get old and aren't there anymore.

DL: Well, I think that at the same time that was true, what was also happening by 1989 was the tremendously increasing size of the College of Charleston and the Medical University. So, by

the time we moved here in '89, there were probably – in fact I'm sure there were more rental units as opposed to single-family housing.

EL: Yeah. Yeah.

KP: So, did you ever have any run-ins with any college students –

DL: Sure.

KP: – in the area as far as parking or –

EL: You did?

DL: Yeah, I mean, from time to time.

EL: Oh, did you get in a fuss with somebody one time?

DL: Which time?

EL: Tell us about one. Okay.

DL: Well, no, I'll answer that generically. Well, that is inevitably a source of friction because, among other things, it involves sometimes great age differences, but also a kind of temporariness versus vested interest and permanence.

KP: Well, and I'm sure there's noise.

DL: The things that go with that.

KP: Right.

DL: Yeah.

KP: And trash and all that. When the college was creating pressures on neighborhoods like this, it seems like then that's when the Livability Court started becoming maybe a good idea.

DL: Yeah.

KP: And Town and Gown.

EL: And I think they eventually got things pretty straight as a result of that effort.

KP: Do you find that the college is still – the students are still a presence in the neighborhood, or have they pushed further –

EL: No.

DL: Well, much less so. Now it seems so much more spread out. And now we have what used to be called – well, now whole apartment buildings that are being built exclusively for students but are privately run.

EL: Which is a great idea, don't you think? 'Cause nobody else wants to hang out with them but them.

KP: Well, they can have all their services right there and amenities.

DL: Other differences before you get off of that.

KP: No, go ahead.

DL: Much greater diversity as far as origin. I mean, this street, I could walk you past houses just on this side that are now owned and occupied by people from way off. I mean, from Steve and Frances who are both British who are here. I'm not sure why. I say that sort of tongue-in-cheek because about a month ago, someone who introduced themselves, when I answered the front door, as someone from – wasn't the FBI, but it was the national intelligence. Anyway, and they told me that – they asked me if I knew Steve, the Brit, and how well do you know him?

KP: Maybe he's working for a government job or something.

DL: And then they said, we're doing background check.

DL: So, there's Steve there, lots of others who are from all over. This couple, who now have this house on the market, moved here from London, and they were here for about four years.

KP: Do you see lots of families, or is it mostly established couples, well, more established financially?

DL: Pretty mixed, I think. And as the cost of housing goes up, the variety may go down.

KP: Has that happened as far as like the racial diversity in the neighborhood?

DL: Certainly the racial diversity is, yeah, more than coincidental, I think.

KP: Obviously the cost of real estate in this area has gone up dramatically.

DL: Yeah.

EL: It has.

KP: Do you think that's had sort of a gentrification effect on the neighborhood or more complicated than that?

DL: Yeah, don't -- I think of gentrification as a mixed business. Because inevitably it comes with a kind of stabilizing to the degree that people fix up houses and live in them and all of those things, but always at some cost.

KP: Somebody's probably going to get pushed out –

DL: Yeah.

KP: Certainly for the health of the house or the health of the building, it can have benefits.

DL: There's a great deal of stability at least on Warren Street. I think Warren Street in some ways has become even seen as kind of the heart of the neighborhood. Johnny Wallace and his wife have lived next door to us, been our neighbors for 29 years. So, we've been here [00:29:08 unintelligible] years.

KP: Well, how would you define this neighborhood? What are the boundaries? And if somebody were to say what is Radcliffeborough, how would you –

DL: To the east King Street, to the south Calhoun Street, to the north Morris Street, and to the west Ashley Avenue.

KP: Has Ashley Hall been a pressure or been an influencer?

DL: No, I would say on the whole positive.

KP: 'Cause it's gotten a little bit bigger –

DL: Yeah.

KP: – as well or spread out.

DL: Yeah, and they – but we have communication with them pretty regularly. In fact, only this past week they contacted the neighborhood association and would like our opinion of their proposal to the city to set aside, that is reserve, more parking along Smith Street on the backside of the school for pickup – drop-off and pickup. And we have real reservations about that, because parking is such a big issue here. If you do that, then that's just dead space for all the two hours out of the day when they're using it.

KP: I know this street is now one-way. Wasn't it two?

DL: Warren? Not since we've been here.

KP: But there have been some streets in the neighborhood that have changed to two-way, or am I just –

DL: Can't think of any.

EL: I don't know.

DL: You may be thinking of Harleston Village.

KP: Yeah, probably it's been an issue more in Harleston Village, right?

DL: Well, Coming Street, we should – in fact, I will emphasize that. Coming Street is – the failure of the city to reverse lanes on Coming Street is kind of the bane of our --

KP: It's so fast and dangerous.

DL: Very fast. And the city actually wrote off on doing that six years ago, but they've still not. They didn't fund it again this year, and Mike Seekings reminded us that it's the squeaky wheel that –

KP: Right. It's Robert Ballard.

DL: Absolutely. Yeah.

KP: Right.

EL: Hooray for Robert Ballard.

DL: That's exactly right.

KP: Exactly. What about upper King Street? Has that kind of revitalization of upper King Street had an impact on this neighborhood?

DL: Not dramatically.

EL: I don't think so. I really don't think so.

DL: Yeah.

KP: It's been a dramatic shift for sure.

DL: Sure has.

KP: In the neighborhood or, well, for downtown for sure.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Let's see. What else can I ask you? We didn't linger on it, but the issue of tourism. Has tourism come to this neighborhood at all?

DL: Pretty incidentally.

EL: Rare, I would say.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Rare?

DL: Yeah.

KP: What about short-term rentals? Is that something that you've –

DL: Very much.

KP: – seen a lot? Talk a little bit about that.

EL: Yeah. Who's doing that, Dan?

DL: I don't know. I mean, I – and I don't even want to give away details and point a finger at anybody. Because even on this street, there is frustration with the owners of a residence who have actually been reported for short-term rental.

EL: Yeah.

DL: And apparently the City's not come down yet.

KP: Hasn't taken action yet.

DL: Yeah, hasn't taken action yet.

KP: Well, the ordinance passed a year ago-ish.

DL: Yeah, just about. Yeah.

KP: So, they're kind of in an enforcement area now.

DL: Right. Yeah.

EL: Yeah.

KP: But I'm sure it's slow going.

DL: But for us immediately, that's been pretty much under the radar here.

KP: So, it's probably pretty nice to be in this neighborhood and not have to deal with masses of tourists.

DL: Yeah. I don't think we see –

EL: I don't think there are masses of them anymore. I don't see masses of them. Do you?

DL: Not in this neighborhood but –

EL: Where do you see them?

DL: Well, the Chamber of Commerce tells us.

KP: They're all down south of Broad.

EL: South of Broad. We see them at the foundation all the time.

DL: Yeah, sure.

KP: Well, I think we've covered a lot of what we were going to cover as far as the house and the neighborhood. I did want to talk a little bit because we had worked together on the Lesesne Family Cemetery in the late '90s with the Lesesne family, who were interested in restoring the cemetery on Daniel Island. And HCF helped out a little. Tell us about that project.

DL: Well, the project came to fruition, and it's dormant, I mean, to the degree that it's a quiet – it's done.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Yeah. The obelisk is there.

KP: Did you always know that this cemetery was there and that it was the family?

EL: Yeah.

DL: Always, but it was – for all of those years, Daniel Island was mostly inaccessible by land. And so I never once visited that cemetery. It's – because it's – calling that the Lesesne Cemetery, it's not a misnomer, but there is the reality that that property including that cemetery had passed out of the hands of Lesesnes well before the Civil War.

KP: It was at one time then the Lesesne Plantation?

DL: Plantation.

EL: Yeah, right.

KP: Right.

DL: Yeah.

KP: But there are others in that cemetery besides Lesesne. And I'm sure probably somewhere around there an African-American cemetery.

DL: Yes.

EL: Yes, there is an African-American cemetery.

DL: I think there are two on Daniel Island.

EL: Oh, you think there –

DL: Yeah.

KP: Right. Erica, I know you were really involved with that, particularly kind of marshalling the family, right?

DL: Yeah, Erica was the reason the thing happened.

KP: I know you were really busy, 'cause you were teaching at Porter-Gaud.

EL: Right, yes.

KP: And doing a lot with the family and fundraising to – Did they do – They had to identify the graves first.

EL: Right.

KP: So, did they do ground-penetrating radar?

DL: Yes.

EL: Uh-huh.

KP: And that was really early for that technology.

EL: It was, yeah.

DL: That's right. And Brockington was not even that – They probably weren't even that old at that time.

KP: No. They did a good job with that.

EL: Yeah.

KP: Now it's on a trail, right, with the Daniel Island development.

EL: Uh-huh. Yes.

DL: Right.

KP: And everything. Do you ever get out there or not so much?

DL: We'll occasionally.

EL: Yeah.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Yeah, want to see how it's going.

DL: You get so used to being downtown. You groan when somebody says, "could you come pick me up in Mount Pleasant?"

KP: But now you get to go over the really beautiful bridge.

DL: Right.

KP: That doesn't sway.

EL: There is a problem with that though because if you don't have somebody who's coming in and making it clean and take out the stuff, it can – I've been there when it looks really sad.

KP: Right.

EL: Just too bad.

KP: Yeah. Well, I mean, there were a lot of – there were some broken stones.

DL: Oh, yes.

EL: Yeah.

KP: And so –

DL: It was an abandoned cemetery really.

KP: Right.

EL: Yeah.

DL: [00:37:26 Very grown out].

KP: [00:37:25 Unintelligible] doing a great job on that, something to be really proud of for sure.

DL: Yeah. And there are graves out, interred remains, out in the marsh now, well out there, because that shoreline has eroded significantly.

KP: Well, is there anything that we haven't covered that we should have been asking you guys about?

EL: Can you think of anything?

DL: No. I don't know any more Radcliffeborough anecdotes.

KP: Or characters.

DL: Or Randolph Martz stories.

KP: So, one question to wrap up with is, any impressions working with Historic Charleston Foundation over the years? I know you have to work with April Wood [manager of easements of covenants] sometimes.

DL: Oh, I just wasn't thinking of "have to."

KP: She's sitting right here, so I say that jokingly.

DL: No. I just always admire the work that Historic Charleston Foundation does. And to say the least, Kitty Robinson's energy, my God.

EL: Yeah.

DL: I'm just in awe. Never undone, even undone looking.

KP: [00:38:56 Unintelligible].

DL: Yeah.

KP: I guess one question is, when you were buying this house – to kind of go back, when you were buying this house, had you ever run across a property that had a covenant on it like that?

DL: Never.

KP: Did it give you any pause, or did you just say, oh, well, that's neat and no problem?

DL: I think we – I think we – what we didn't – what we may not have known about the covenant, 'cause I knew of it, we got in detail probably from you all yourselves as part of the process of deciding. So, I don't remember ever that being a factor with anything.

KP: Right.

DL: My memory is that we considered it a plus.

KP: Right. You had somebody in there with you.

DL: Sure, yeah.

KP: An organization in there with you.

DL: Uh-huh.

KP: Well, that's nice.

DL: Yeah.

KP: Anything else? Well, thank you so much for taking the house.

DL: Oh, you're more than welcome.

EL: Well, this was so nice to sit here, wasn't it?

KP: Beautiful spring day. I know.

EL: Yeah.

KP: And just think about stuff.

DL: Uh-huh.

KP: We really appreciate it. Thanks again.

DL: Yeah. Can we help you with anything? I just realized I didn't even offer you a glass of water.

**END OF RECORDING**