

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Thomas Kirby

**COLLECTION:** 4700.0031

**IDENTIFICATION:** Head of LSU English Department, 1940-1973

**INTERVIEWER:** Jack Fiser

**SERIES:** University History – Distinguished Faculty & Administrators

**INTERVIEW DATE:** September 1982

**FOCUS DATES:** 1940-1973

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 401**

Rivalry of professors A.G. Reed & W. A. Read, Kirby's predecessor as head of English department; split in English department; Kirby's education at Johns Hopkins and Univ. of Munich in early 1930s; first teaching job at St. Ignatius, Scranton, PA, 1933; arrival at LSU, 1935; salaries; colleagues in English department, N. Caffee, R. Heilman, W. A. "Cork" Read; Cleanth Brooks, Robert Penn Warren, Arlin Turner, Bosley Woolf, John Olive, John Uhler, Earl Bradsher, Phoebe Beale, Lizzy Carter McVoy, Harris Downey, Marguerite Hays, Mary Roundtree, Annie T. Bell; H. Long's impact on LSU; demise of *Southern Review*; abilities of freshmen in English courses; Robert Lowell.

**TAPES:** 1 (T401)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 1 hour, 6 minutes

**# PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 27 pages

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