



ArchivesSpace

DC Public Library Oral History Project

An inventory of the DC Public Library Oral History Project at DC Public Library

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW
Washington, DC
archives.dcpl@dc.gov

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Summary Information

Repository:	DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library
Creator:	District of Columbia. Public Library
Title:	DC Public Library Oral History Project
ID:	OHP003
Date [inclusive]:	1972-1992
Physical Description:	7.5 Linear feet
Physical Description:	7 Boxes
Language of the Material:	English

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Biographical / Historical

The DC Public Library was created by an act of Congress in 1896. The first branch of the DC Public Library was built in 1911 in Takoma Park. Soon after, additional facilities were added with a total of 26 branches across the District. In 1982, the DC Public Library established the Oral History Research Center (OHRC). The Center was funded in part by the D.C. Humanities Council. Since then, the Library has conducted its own oral histories as well as acquired tapes recordings and transcripts from individuals or groups who conducted their own oral histories to OHRC to enhance public access.

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Scope and Contents

Between 1972 and 1992 the DC Public Library conducted 29 oral history interviews with individuals who had a long association with and knowledge of Washington, D.C. Topics include childhood experiences, segregation, religion, neighborhoods, education, communities, employment, demographics and social life.

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Arrangement

Series 1: Transcripts Materials in this series include transcripts for most interviews. There is no transcript for 03-54. Series 2: Bound Editions Materials in this series consist of bound transcripts of two individuals, Nora Drew Gregory and G. R. F. Key. Additional copies of this series have been added to the Washingtoniana Book Collection. Series 3: Interviews Materials in this series include master and patron access copies of the oral histories on audio cassette. There are two copies of each audio cassette except for the following: 03-01, 03-02, 03-03, 03-05, 03-16, 03-17, 03-18, 03-19, 03-29, 03-30, 03-31, 03-39, 03-40, and 03-56.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

DCPL Special Collections - MLK Library

901 G Street NW
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Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-07-15

Custodial History

DC Public Library conducted these oral histories between 1972 and 1992. Deposit into the Library's collection occurred at the time the interview was conducted. The interviews were organized and conducted by Marcia M. Greenlee and Roxanna Deane.

Processing Information

The collection was arranged by date of interview and all files were foldered and placed in a filing cabinet. Tapes were duplicated by the Library with the original being placed into off site deep storage, and patrons given access to the use copy. Transcripts from two interviews in this collection, those of G.R.F. Key and Nora Drew Gregory, have been bound and cataloged with the Washingtoniana Book Collection. All known tapes and transcripts for this collection were digitized in 2014. There

are no tapes for interview 03-59 and no transcript for interview 03-54. In 2017 the collection was reprocessed with standard archival procedures, and all materials being placed in new folders and boxed. Administrative materials were moved to the control file. Master tapes and use copies were placed in interview order and boxed.

Conditions Governing Use

Reproduction of oral histories without a release is not permitted. DC Public Library holds copyright for all items in the collection with a signed release.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Oral History
- Neighborhoods
- Families
- Religion
- Segregation
- Education

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Transcripts

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include transcripts for most interviews. There is no transcript for 03-54.

Title/Description	Instances	
Helen Thompson, 1972 January 25	Box 1	Folder 1
Phillip Stone, 1972 February 1	Box 1	Folder 2
George Stallings, 1980 September 30	Box 1	Folder 3
Jane Barnes, 1980 November 18	Box 1	Folder 4
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 1	Folder 5
Benjamin Amos, 1983 January 18	Box 1	Folder 6
Louise Amos Singleton, 1983 February 15	Box 1	Folder 7
Harold Lewis, 1983 May 11		

	Box 1	Folder 8
Viola Cotton, 1983 August 30	Box 1	Folder 9
Sidney C. Gray, 1983 September 14	Box 1	Folder 10
Edward L. Feggans, 1983 September 19	Box 1	Folder 11
Joseph Rappaport, 1983 September 20	Box 2	Folder 1
Frank Taylor, 1983 September 29	Box 2	Folder 2
Albert and Annie Long, 1983 October 12	Box 2	Folder 3
Lola Louise Strange Johnson, 1983 October 18	Box 2	Folder 4
Marion Jackson, 1983 October 25	Box 2	Folder 5
J. Bernard Wyckoff, 1983 October 27	Box 2	Folder 6
Joseph L. Drew and Grace Ridgeley, 1983 December 7	Box 2	Folder 7
James and Barbara Walker, 1983 November 10	Box 2	Folder 8
Nora Drew Gregory, 1983 December 9	Box 2	Folder 9
Lucretia Blackstone, 1983 November 21	Box 3	Folder 1
Ruth Baer, 1992 February 19	Box 3	Folder 2
Pearl Frager, 1992 March 7	Box 3	Folder 3
Alice J. Perry, 1992 February 27	Box 3	Folder 4
Helen Curling, 1992 February 27	Box 3	Folder 5
J. George Frain	Box 3	Folder 6

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Series 2: Bound Editions

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series consist of bound transcripts of two individuals, Nora Drew Gregory and G. R. F. Key. Additional copies of this series have been added to the Washingtoniana Book Collection.

Title/Description	Instances	
Nora Drew Gregory, 1983 December 9	Box 3	Folder 7
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 3	Folder 8

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Series 3: Interviews

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include master and patron access copies of the oral histories on audio cassette. There are two copies of each audio cassette except for the following: 03-01, 03-02, 03-03, 03-05, 03-16, 03-17, 03-18, 03-19, 03-29, 03-30, 03-31, 03-39, 03-40, and 03-56.

Title/Description	Instances	
Helen Thompson, 1972 January 25	Box 4	Folder 03-01
Helen Thompson, 1972 January 25	Box 4	Folder 03-02
Phillip Stone, 1972 February 1	Box 4	Folder 03-03
George Stallings, 1980 September 30	Box 4	Folder 03-04
Jane Barnes, 1980 November 18	Box 4	Folder 03-05
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-06
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-07
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-08
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-09
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-10
G. R. F. Key, 1982 January 9	Box 4	Folder 03-11
Benjamin Amos, 1983 January 18	Box 4	Folder 03-12
Benjamin Amos, 1983 January 18	Box 4	Folder 03-13
Louise Amos Singleton, 1983 February 15	Box 4	Folder 03-14
Louise Amos Singleton, 1983 February 15	Box 4	Folder 03-15
Harold Lewis, 1983 May 11	Box 4	Folder 03-16
Harold Lewis, 1983 May 11	Box 4	Folder 03-17
Harold Lewis, 1983 May 11	Box 4	Folder 03-18
Harold Lewis, 1983 May 11	Box 4	Folder 03-19
Viola Cotton, 1983 August 30	Box 4	Folder 03-20
Viola Cotton, 1983 August 30	Box 5	Folder 03-21
Viola Cotton, 1983 August 30	Box 5	Folder 03-22
Sidney C. Gray, 1983 September 14	Box 5	Folder 03-23
Sidney C. Gray, 1983 September 14	Box 5	Folder 03-24
Edward L. Feggans, 1983 September 19	Box 5	Folder 03-25
Edward L. Feggans, 1983 September 19	Box 5	Folder 03-26
Edward L. Feggans, 1983 September 19	Box 5	Folder 03-27
Joseph Rappaport, 1983 September 20	Box 5	Folder 03-28

Frank Taylor, 1983 September 29	Box 5	Folder 03-29
Frank Taylor, 1983 September 29	Box 5	Folder 03-30
Frank Taylor, 1983 September 29	Box 5	Folder 03-31
Albert and Annie Long, 1983 October 12	Box 5	Folder 03-32
Albert and Annie Long, 1983 October 12	Box 5	Folder 03-33
Albert and Annie Long, 1983 October 12	Box 5	Folder 03-34
Lola Louise Strange Johnson, 1983 October 18	Box 5	Folder 03-35
Lola Louise Strange Johnson, 1983 October 18	Box 5	Folder 03-36
Marion Jackson, 1983 October 25	Box 5	Folder 03-37
Marion Jackson, 1983 October 25	Box 5	Folder 03-38
J. Bernard Wyckoff, 1983 October 27	Box 6	Folder 03-39
J. Bernard Wyckoff, 1983 October 27	Box 6	Folder 03-40
Joseph L. Drew and Grace Ridgeley, 1983 December 7	Box 6	Folder 03-41
Joseph L. Drew and Grace Ridgeley, 1983 December 7	Box 6	Folder 03-42
Joseph L. Drew and Grace Ridgeley, 1983 December 7	Box 6	Folder 03-43
James and Barbara Walker, 1983 November 10	Box 6	Folder 03-44
James and Barbara Walker, 1983 November 10	Box 6	Folder 03-45
James and Barbara Walker, 1983 November 10	Box 6	Folder 03-46
James and Barbara Walker, 1983 November 10	Box 6	Folder 03-47
Nora Drew Gregory, 1983 December 9	Box 6	Folder 03-48
Nora Drew Gregory, 1983 December 9	Box 6	Folder 03-49
Lucretia Blackstone, 1983 November 21	Box 6	Folder 03-50
Lucretia Blackstone, 1983 November 21	Box 6	Folder 03-51
Lucretia Blackstone, 1983 November 21	Box 6	Folder 03-52
Ruth Baer, 1992 February 19	Box 6	Folder 03-53
Helen King	Box 6	Folder 03-54
Pearl Frager, 1992 March 7	Box 6	Folder 03-55
Alice J. Perry, 1992 February 27	Box 6	Folder 03-56
Helen Curling, 1992 February 27	Box 6	Folder 03-57
Helen Curling, 1992 February 27	Box 7	Folder 03-58

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