

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY SCHOLARS
INSTITUTE INTERVIEWS, 2004**

Finding aid

Call number: LPR232

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**ALABAMA COMMUNITY SCHOLARS INSTITUTE INTERVIEWS 2004
SERIES DESCRIPTION AND CONTAINER LIST
Collection number: LPR232**

The Alabama Community Scholars Institute (ACSI) is held every two years by the Alabama Folklife Association. Its purpose is to teach amateur folklorists how to conduct fieldwork by interviewing folk artists in a given area. This collection is composed of oral history interviews conducted by the community scholars during the ACSI 2004 session, which was collectively called the "Black Belt Project." The interviews were conducted primarily in Sumter, Greene, Tuscaloosa, and Pickens Counties on July 21, 2004. Topics covered include homemade ice cream, blacksmithing, basket making, the civil rights movement, blues music, making fig preserves, and Mennonite religious practices. The interviews are in various formats: cassette, MiniDV, audio CD, and Sony Mini-Disc. Supporting materials include field notes, release forms, photos (analog and digital formats, both on CD-R and 3.5" floppy), one flyer, and one cookbook. Some of the folders are incomplete; the community scholars were to have sent in additional materials to the Ala. Folklife Association, but many never did.

Sarah Duncan interview

Interview was conducted by Diane Gerard and Susan Thomas at the offices of the *Greene County Democrat* in Eutaw, AL. At the time of the interview, Sarah Duncan was known for making and selling homemade ice cream for 29 years at the annual Black Belt Folklife Festival. The folder includes one audio cassette of the interview, a 3.5" floppy disk with field notes, a log of the interview, and printouts of the files on the disk.

Box 1, Folder 1

T.R. Hayes, Jr. interview

Interview was conducted by Kerry Reid, Amy Pierce, and Charles Kelley in Magnolia, AL. Hayes was a blacksmith. The interview itself, which was videotaped, was never submitted to the Ala. Folklife Association. The folder includes two photographs, a CD-R with digital photos, field notes, a photo log, printouts of the field notes, and note from one of the fieldworkers saying that the two Mini-DV videotapes were not included because they planned to copy them onto DVD.

Box 1, Folder 2

Vonnie Miller interview

Interview was conducted by Ana Schuber and Deborah Casey in Carrollton, AL. Miller was a basket maker. The folder includes one audio cassette of the interview, three 3.5" floppy disks containing field notes, audio and photo logs, a transcript, digital photos, and printouts of the files from the disks.

Box 1, Folder 3

Theresa Burroughs interview

Interview was conducted by Bill Martin at the Safe House Black History Museum in Greensboro, AL. Ms. Burroughs was founder of the museum and had been active during the civil rights movement in the 1960s. This interview focuses on Burroughs' participation in the in the Selma

Theresa Burroughs interview (continued)

to Montgomery march. The interview was part of Martin's research for Jacksonville State University's Selma to Montgomery National Park Service Webpage. The folder contains one audio CD-R of the interview, one CD-R of digital photos, audio and photo logs, and a flyer from the museum.

Box 1, Folder 4

Andrew Poole interview

Interview was conducted by Odessa L. Settles and Kevin Carroll. Nothing is included in the folder, although the label indicates that missing items include a DVD, photograph, field notes, and a photo log.

Box 1, Folder 5

Willie King interview

Interview was conducted by Russell Gulley, Matthew Downer, and Charles Kelley in Aliceville, AL. King was a blues musician. The folder includes an audio CD of the interview and some musical performances, field notes, and an audio log that includes transcribed portions from the interview.

Box 1, Folder 6

Kathryn Harrison interview

Interview was conducted by Wanda Robertson in Gainesville, AL. Mrs. Harrison, known as "Miss Kitty," was a schoolteacher and known for making fig preserves. In the interview she discusses making the preserves and local traditions in her community. The folder includes one audio cassette of the interview, two Mini-DV videotapes of the interview, and field notes which include one of Miss Kitty's recipes.

Box 1, Folder 7

Harold and Yvonne Schmidt interview

Interview was conducted by Trudy Brower and Joyce Cauthen at the Southern Star Congregation Church in Geiger, AL. Harold Schmidt was a Mennonite minister. The folder includes two audio CDs of the interview, one CD-R of digital photographs, two Mini-Discs (presumably the same audio as on the CDs), field notes, an interview log, a photo log, a release form, and a printout of the church directory. Also included with this collection is a Mennonite cookbook: *Southern Country: A Treasury of Southern Star Mennonite Recipes*.

Box 1, Folder 8: Interview materials

Box 2: Cookbook: *Southern Country*

Mary Maxtion interview

Interview was conducted by Tatum Preston, Cathy Green, and Fannie Smith in Boligee, AL. Ms. Maxtion was a quilter. Folder includes one audio cassette of the interview, one VHS videotape of the interview, and photographs. Also included with this collection is a notebook containing field notes, a photo log, a transcript, photographs, and printouts of various internet sources concerning

Mary Maxtion interview (continued)

Ms. Maxtion and her work.

Box 1, Folder 9: Interview materials

Box 1: VHS tape of interview

Box 2: Fieldwork notebook