

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Wendell Campbell

PERSON

Campbell, Wendell, 1927-2008

Alternative Names: Wendell Campbell;

Life Dates: April 27, 1927-July 16, 2008

Place of Birth: East Chicago, Indiana, USA

Residence: Chicago, Illinois

Occupations: Architect

Biographical Note

Wendell Campbell was born on April 27, 1927 in East Chicago, Indiana. Three months after he graduated from high school as a National Honor Society scholar, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. Campbell eventually received his B.A. in Architecture and City Planning at the Illinois Institute of Technology, where he was offered a full-tuition scholarship from Commonwealth Edison, in 1957.

He worked as an architect from 1956 until 1966, when he became president of Campbell & Mascai architectural/urban planning company. In 1966, he became the CEO of Wendell Campbell Associates, Inc., which has since changed its name to Campbell Tiu Campbell to reflect the contributions of partners Domingo Tiu and Campbell's daughter Susan. Noted projects for the firm include: the DuSable Museum of African American History, the McCormick Place Expansion, King Drive Gateway, redevelopment plans for the City of New Orleans and the new Bronzeville Military Academy.

Campbell was a founder and the first president of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), founded in 1971. He served on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Chapter of NOMA, the Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce, the Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, the Black Ensemble Theater, the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Chicago Architectural Assistance Center, and the South Side YMCA. He was also a member of the City of Chicago Capital Improvement Advisory Council and the City of Chicago Committee on Standards and Tests.

Campbell was dedicated to improving the quality of affordable housing in metropolitan centers through the design of "Smart Homes," housing that brings 21st century technology to the varied needs of today's urban families.

Campbell married June Crusor Campbell in 1954. They lived in Chicago and had two daughters, Susan Campbell Smith and Leslie Campbell.

Campbell passed away on July 16, 2008 at age 81.

Wendell Campbell - Short

Unidentified/AMC - 144 words

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Related Entries

Abraham Lincoln Elementary Sch [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Benjamin Franklin Elem School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Illinois Institute of Technology [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Architecture & City Planning

Campbell & Mascai Architectural/Urban Planning Company [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1995 to 1999]

President

Wendell Campbell Associates, Inc. [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1966 to ?]

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)