Overview of the Collection

Repository: The HistoryMakers® 1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Guyot, Lawrence, 1939-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot,

Dates: November 17, 2004 and November 9, 2004

Bulk Dates: 2004

Physical Description: 6 Betacame SP videocassettes (3:00:51).

Abstract: City government employee and civil rights activist Lawrence Guyot (1939 - 2012 ) directed the Freedom Summer Project in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and was elected chairman of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. He also co-authored Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching, and has been featured in several documentaries including: Eyes on the Prize, Making Sense of the Sixties, The War on Poverty and Tales of the FBI. Guyot was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 17, 2004 and November 9, 2004, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

Identification: A2004_228

Language: The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Lawrence Thomas Guyot, Jr was born on July 17, 1939 in Pass Christian, Mississippi. He was a raised in a traditional Catholic home, attending parochial schools until high school. His mother was a domestic and his father was a builder and carpenter. His great-uncle, Louis Piernas was interviewed for the Slave
Narratives Federal Writers Project in the 1930s. Guyot earned his high school diploma in 1957 from Randolph High School, where he was a member of the debate and basketball teams. As a young man, Guyot held a number of part-time jobs including janitor, longshoreman and waiter.

Guyot earned his B.S. degree in biology and philosophy from Tougaloo College in 1964. While at Tougaloo, he became active in civil rights and was one of the original members of SNCC. In 1964, Guyot directed the Freedom Summer Project in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. That same year, he was elected chairman of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. He was unable to accompany the delegation to the Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey because he was jailed for registering black voters. The MDFP’s actions in New Jersey ultimately led to the DNC desegregating future conventions and the party itself. In 1966, Guyot ran for Congress as an anti-war candidate. After earning his law degree in 1971 from Rutgers University, he worked as a fundraiser for Mary Holmes Junior College in Mississippi. From 1971 until 1972, he worked for Pride Inc., a youth job-training program in Washington, D.C. In 1972, Guyot was hired to work in the D.C. Government by a SNCC colleague, former Mayor Marion Barry.

Guyot continues to work for the Department of Health and Human Services for the District of Columbia Government. He has also remained active in local politics and civil rights issues. He is an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for his Le Droit Park community. Guyot conducts leadership trainings for a number of organizations including Operation Understanding; the University of Ole Miss; Georgetown University and Americorp.

In 2004 Guyot co-authored Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching, a resource guide for K-12 classrooms. He has been featured in several documentaries, including Eyes on the Prize, Making Sense of the Sixties, The War on Poverty and Tales of the FBI.

Lawrence Guyot passed away on November 23, 2012.

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**Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Lawrence Guyot was conducted by Racine Tucker Hamilton on November 17, 2004 and November 9, 2004, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. City government employee and civil rights activist Lawrence Guyot (1939 - 2012 ) directed the Freedom Summer Project in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and was elected
chairman of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. He also co-authored
Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching, and has been featured in
several documentaries including: Eyes on the Prize, Making Sense of the Sixties,
The War on Poverty and Tales of the FBI.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The
HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

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Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling,
researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the
interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and
in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is
not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject
terms.

Persons:

Guyot, Lawrence, 1939-

Hamilton, Racine Tucker (Interviewer)
Warwick, Rick (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Guyot, Lawrence, 1939--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Washington (D.C)

Occupations:

City Government Employee

Civil Rights Activist

HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

**Processing Information**

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 2/5/2020 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

**Other Finding Aid**

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

**Detailed Description of the Collection**

**Series I: Original Interview Footage**

Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot, Section A2004_228_001_001, TRT: 0:30:28 2004/11/09

To be reviewed.

Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot, Section A2004_228_001_002, TRT: 0:30:34 2004/11/09

To be reviewed.

Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot, Section A2004_228_001_003, TRT: 0:30:30 2004/11/09

To be reviewed.

Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot, Section A2004_228_001_004, TRT: 0:30:15 2004/11/09

To be reviewed.

Video Oral History Interview with Lawrence Guyot, Section A2004_228_002_005, TRT: 0:30:25 2004/11/17

To be reviewed.
To be reviewed.