

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Cheryl McKissack Felder

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	McKissack-Felder, Cheryl, 1961-
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder,
<b>Dates:</b>	February 9, 2005
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2005
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:16:52).
<b>Abstract:</b>	Architect Cheryl McKissack Felder (1961 - ) was the CEO of The McKissack Group and McKissack and McKissack Associates, an architecture and design company. As The McKissack Group's chief executive officer, Felder managed many large projects and was the principal in charge of Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field, the US Airways International Terminal in Philadelphia and the renovation and reconstruction of the School District of Philadelphia. McKissack-Felder was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on February 9, 2005, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2005_043
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Architect Cheryl McKissack Felder was born with her twin sister, Deryl, on May 15, 1961 in Nashville, Tennessee. Felder comes from a family of architects that start with an enslaved Ashanti ancestor in 1790. Grandfather Moses McKissack founded the family business in 1905. Her father, William DeBerry McKissack,

took it over in 1968. Felder's mother, Leatrice Buchanan McKissack, grew the business after her husband died. Felder attended Peabody Demonstration School, graduating in 1979, in the meantime earning her B.S. degree in civil engineering in 1981 and her M.S. degree in 1983 from Howard University.

At the United States Department of Defense, Felder provided quality assurance and quality control for government research projects, including MX missile silos, the United States Embassy anti-terrorist program and a large space structures project for NASA. From 1985 to 1989, she worked as a civil engineer for Weidlinger Associates and, in 1989, she served as an estimator for Turner Construction, both New York City firms. Felder also served as the estimation manager for the \$2.5 million restoration/addition of the historic Schomburg Theatre. In 1991, she formed The McKissack Group (TMG), a full service construction management firm based in New York City. In 1999, Felder launched McKissack and McKissack Associates, an architecture and design company.

As The McKissack Group's chief executive officer, Felder managed construction of the US Airways maintenance hangar in Philadelphia. She also served as project executive for the Medgar Evers Academic Building and Student Support Services buildings in Brooklyn, New York. Felder was the principal in charge of Philadelphia's \$395 million Lincoln Financial Field football stadium, the \$450 million US Airways International Terminal in Philadelphia and the \$1.5 billion renovation and reconstruction of the School District of Philadelphia. Other projects include the Brooklyn NBA Stadium, the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, the New York School Construction Authority and the African Burial Ground Monument in New York City. Felder and her husband Fred Felder belong to the 25,000-member Christian Cultural Center in Brooklyn, New York.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder was conducted by Larry Crowe on February 9, 2005, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Architect Cheryl McKissack Felder (1961 - ) was the CEO of The McKissack Group and McKissack and McKissack Associates, an architecture and design company. As The McKissack Group's chief executive officer, Felder managed many large projects and was the principal in charge of Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field, the US Airways International Terminal in Philadelphia and the renovation and reconstruction of the School District of Philadelphia.

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# Restrictions

## Restrictions on Access

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

## Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

McKissack-Felder, Cheryl, 1961-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

## **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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## **Occupations:**

Architect

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## **HistoryMakers® Category:**

BusinessMakers

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## **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**

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, February 9, 2005. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### **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

## **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.

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## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### **Series I: Original Interview Footage**

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, Section A2005\_043\_001\_001, TRT: 0:29:51 2005/02/09

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, Section A2005\_043\_001\_002, TRT: 0:28:53 2005/02/09

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, Section A2005\_043\_001\_003, TRT: 0:29:43 2005/02/09

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, Section A2005\_043\_001\_004, TRT: 0:29:37 2005/02/09

Video Oral History Interview with Cheryl McKissack Felder, Section A2005\_043\_001\_005, TRT: 0:18:48 2005/02/09