

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Mildred Bond Roxborough

PERSON

Roxborough, Mildred Bond,
1926-

Alternative Names: Mildred Bond Roxborough;

Life Dates: June 30, 1926-

Place of Birth: Brownsville, Tennessee, USA

Residence: New York, NY

Work: New York, NY

Occupations: Association Executive

Biographical Note

NAACP executive Mildred Bond Roxborough was born on June 30, 1926, in Brownsville, Tennessee, one of three daughters of college sweethearts Ollie and

Mattye Tollette Bond. Roxborough's family background included a tradition of African American empowerment; her mother's family founded Tollette, Arkansas, which was a post-Reconstruction, all-African American town, while her own parents chartered Brownsville, Tennessee's first chapter of the NAACP. At the age of nine, Roxborough began selling subscriptions to *The Crisis*, the official publication of the NAACP.

Roxborough and her family moved to Kansas City after her father's involvement in civil rights activities forced her family to leave Tennessee; it was there that she graduated from Charles Sumner High School in 1943. Roxborough worked towards her college undergraduate degree at Howard University and Washington Square College of New York University, finishing in 1947; she received her M.A degree from Columbia University in 1953, and attended the University of Paris extension at Marseilles and the University of Mexico at Cuernavaca.

Roxborough's career at the NAACP began with her position as national staff field secretary in 1954; she became the executive assistant and the administrative assistant to executive director in 1963, and in 1975, she became assistant director. Between 1978 and 1984, Roxborough became director of operations for the NAACP. Between 1984 and 1986, Roxborough moved up to become director of programs; she was the first woman to serve the organization in that role.

Roxborough served as director of development from 1986 until her retirement in 1997. Despite her retirement, Roxborough, a mainstay of the organization, remained intimately involved with the planning and core operations of the annual NAACP National Convention and the organization's New York Bureau.

In addition to her service to and lifetime membership in the NAACP, Roxborough served as vice chairman of Intergroup Corporation, and on the boards of

America's Charities and Morningside Retirement and Health, Incorporated. Roxborough's honors and awards included the James Weldon Johnson Medal; the Medgar Wiley Evers Award; and America's Charities Distinguished Service Award.

Related Entries

Charles L. Sumner High School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Northeast Middle [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Haywood County Training School [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Columbia University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

New York University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

Howard University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to ?]

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [MEMBEROF]
[from ? to ?]

Director of Development