

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Barbara Ann Lumpkin

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Lumpkin, Barbara Ann, 1950-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin,
Dates:	August 18, 2006
Bulk Dates:	2006
Physical Description:	6 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:48:20).
Abstract:	Bank executive and city treasurer Barbara Ann Lumpkin (1950 -) was the former chief procurement officer for the City of Chicago, and served as city comptroller and budget director. In the private sector, Lumpkin worked as senior vice president and corporate trust manager for Continental Bank in Chicago. Lumpkin was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 18, 2006, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2006_099
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Banker and former public official Barbara Ann Lumpkin was born Barbara Ann Madlock on July 27, 1950 in Oxford, Mississippi to Estella and John Lewis Madlock. She attended Green Hill Elementary School and graduated from North Panola High School in 1968, where she excelled in theater. Lumpkin earned her A.A. degree from Coahoma Community College in 1970, and after moving to Chicago, she took additional business administration courses at DePaul University.

Lumpkin began her career in banking as an assistant recruiter in the human relations department of Chicago's Continental Bank. Gaining a front line banking job in 1980, she served in the bank's Personal Financial Services Group. In 1985, Lumpkin moved to the Corporate Trust Department, where she rose to the position of senior vice president and corporate trust manager. After joining Amalgamated Bank in 1994, Lumpkin was certified as a corporate trust specialist by the Canon Financial Institute. In 1995, Lumpkin became Chicago's City Comptroller and, in 1998, the City's Budget Director. In 1999, an investigation forced the City Treasurer out of office, and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed Lumpkin to the position of City Treasurer. She was later appointed a special assistant to Mayor Daley. In 2000, Lumpkin left this position to become senior vice president in the Corporate and Institutional Services business unit of Northern Trust Bank.

In 2005, Lumpkin was called to serve the City of Chicago as the City of Chicago's Chief Procurement Officer when it was revealed in early 2005 that Chicago was underperforming in its employment of minority contractors. Lumpkin was responsible for implementing promised improvements. In addition, she leads the City's Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Enterprise Initiative. She is also an advisory board member of the United Negro College Fund and has publicly endorsed career opportunities in the financial and banking worlds for rising students. Lumpkin is a member of the Chicago Finance Exchange and the Urban Bankers Forum.

Lumpkin was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 18, 2006.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 18, 2006, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 6 Betacame SP videocassettes. Bank executive and city treasurer Barbara Ann Lumpkin (1950 -) was the former chief procurement officer for the City of Chicago, and served as city comptroller and budget director. In the private sector, Lumpkin worked as senior vice president and corporate trust manager for Continental Bank in Chicago.

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®.

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:

Lumpkin, Barbara Ann, 1950-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Lumpkin, Barbara Ann, 1950---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

City of Chicago

Occupations:

City Treasurer

HistoryMakers® Category:

PoliticalMakers

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 Barbara Ann Lumpkin, August 18, 2006. 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 (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 Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_001, TRT: 0:28:30 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin was born on July 27, 1950 in Oxford, Mississippi to Estella Leggins Madlock and John Madlock. Her paternal grandfather, Leslie Madlock, was a well-known storyteller in the community and was often found sitting on a Burk-Hall Paints can on his porch. Lumpkin's father was one of five siblings, and his youngest brother married Jewel Madlock, who was active in the Civil Rights Movement. Lumpkin's mother was born in 1913 in Sardis, Mississippi, and, after the death of her mother around 1930, was charged with caring for her younger siblings. In Sardis, Lumpkin's parents met at McKivor Missionary Baptist Church, married and had ten children. She was the youngest of her siblings, and recalls often sneaking off the family farm as a child. As a child in Sardis, Lumpkin enjoyed stargazing; reading magazines with her mother; and sharing Thanksgiving meals with her family. She attended Greenhill Elementary School. Lumpkin concludes this section of the interview by narrating her photographs.

Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_002, TRT: 0:28:55 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin attended Greenhill Elementary School in Sardis, Mississippi, where her father worked as a handyman. She was admonished by her third grade teacher, Ramelle Woodard, for deliberately answering a math question wrong to fit in with her classmates. Lumpkin's teachers were active in the community, and friendly with students' parents. Her maternal aunt, Jewel

Madlock, organized for the Freedom Summer voter registration project in 1964. She recalls Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. marching through Sardis in the mid-1960s, and learning about his assassination in 1968 from her sister. Lumpkin attended McKivor Missionary Baptist Church with her family, and was not permitted to see live music shows other than those at the church. She was unable to attend the segregated high school in Sardis, and instead rode a bus to North Panola High School in Como, Mississippi. There, Lumpkin was active in the drama club, ranked third in her class, and emceed her senior class award ceremony.

Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_003, TRT: 0:27:40 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin attended North Panola High School in Como, Mississippi. She was interested in studying business, and when a teacher enrolled her in typing class instead, she refused to go. Upon graduating in 1968, Lumpkin enrolled at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she joined the drama club and majored in business. In the early 1970s, she moved to Chicago, where she had often visited family, and lived with her brother, Green Madlock. On her way to an interview for an unrelated job in downtown Chicago, Lumpkin had a chance meeting with an official from Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company, who offered her a position. She joined the human resources department of Continental Bank, where she was promoted to the role of recruiter. After ten years in human resources, Lumpkin applied and was accepted to move into the bank's personal financial services department. She recalls Harold Washington's election as mayor of Chicago in 1983. She also narrates her photographs.

Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_004, TRT: 0:29:40 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin worked for the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company in Chicago, Illinois from 1973 to 1994. She was active in the Urban Bankers Forum of Chicago, a professional association of African American bankers founded by Richard Shealey and others. Lumpkin also continued her education by taking

undergraduate business administration courses at DePaul University. In 1994, Lumpkin joined Amalgamated Bank of Chicago as a vice president for corporate trusts and agency services. She was appointed as comptroller for the City of Chicago by Mayor Richard M. Daley in 1995. Lumpkin was promoted to the job of budget director of Chicago in 1998, where she supervised city spending and launched a direct deposit system for city employees' paychecks. She recalls working with Mayor Daley to create a mobile vehicle unit to help the city's homeless population, and describes how she learned to communicate effectively with Mayor Daley.

Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_005, TRT: 0:29:20 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin was appointed treasurer of Chicago, Illinois in 1999 to replace Miriam Santos, who resigned amid a federal investigation. She worked to repair the integrity of the office; to build relationships with financial services firms; and to strengthen the city pension system. In 1999, Lumpkin supervised the replacement of Chicago's computer equipment during the Y2K panic before the new millennium. She reflects upon how her initiatives as treasurer were carried on by successive treasurers, like Judith C. Rice. Lumpkin stepped down as treasurer in April of 2000, when Santos reclaimed the position. She then worked as a special assistant to Mayor Richard M. Daley of Chicago before joining the Northern Trust Corporation as a senior vice president in December 2000. Lumpkin talks about working with William A. Osborn, the bank's chairman, and opening a Northern Trust branch on Chicago's South Side. At the request of Mayor Daley, Lumpkin returned to work for the City of Chicago as chief procurement officer.

Video Oral History Interview with Barbara Ann Lumpkin, Section A2006_099_001_006, TRT: 0:24:15 2006/08/18

Barbara Ann Lumpkin was the chief procurement officer of Chicago, Illinois, and worked in that role to supply the goods and services necessary for municipal functions for city departments. She was also in charge of increasing the number of woman-owned and minority-owned firms who were awarded contracts by Chicago. Lumpkin describes

her hopes for the African American community, and shares her plans for the future. She reflects upon her family, life and legacy, and describes how she would like to be remembered. Lumpkin concludes the interview by narrating her photographs.