

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Arlene Maclin

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Maclin, Arlene P.
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin,
Dates:	January 14, 2013 and January 19, 2013
Bulk Dates:	2013
Physical Description:	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:41:33).
Abstract:	Physicist and academic administrator Arlene Maclin (1945 -) has served as professor and research administrator at Norfolk State University, Howard University, and Morgan State University. Maclin was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on January 14, 2013 and January 19, 2013, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2013_001
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Physicist and education administrator Arlene P. Maclin was born in Brunswick County, Virginia on June 7, 1945 to parents Otis Armstead and Alice Matthews Maclin. Maclin attended Hickory Run Elementary School and Rawlings Elementary School, and graduated from James Solomon High School in 1963. Upon graduation, Maclin enrolled at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University, where she graduated with her B.S. degree in engineering physics in 1967. Maclin went on to earn her M.S. degree in theoretical nuclear physics from the University of Virginia in 1971, and her Ph.D. degree in theoretical solid state physics from Howard University in 1974.

Throughout her career, Maclin has served as a researcher and educational administrator for several major institutions. She served as a research physicist at MIT's Lincoln Laboratory and as a visiting scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In 1980, Maclin was appointed program director for the National Science Foundation, and from 1981 to 1983, she was the Senior Applied Research Physicist at the Central Intelligence Agency. Her academic service includes more than fifteen years of teaching at the levels of associate and full professors, and with administrative experience at the level of associate dean and director or of research. From 2002 to 2009, Maclin served as professor of optical engineering and director of the Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence at Norfolk State University, where she received research grants totaling \$10 million and developed graduate programs in optical engineering and electronics engineering. In 2011, Maclin was appointed as the executive director of the MAC-CAE Program and adjunct professor of physics at Morgan State University.

Maclin is a member of American Physical Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Materials Research Society. She served as the primary program staff for the *Materials Science and Engineering Report* and the *International Survey of Atomic and Molecular Science*, which were published by the National Research Council. For her many contributions and accomplishments, Maclin was selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among Black American*, *International Who's Who of Women*, and *Who's Who in America*.

Arlene Maclin was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* in January 14, 2013.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Arlene Maclin was conducted by Larry Crowe on January 14, 2013 and January 19, 2013, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Physicist and academic administrator Arlene Maclin (1945 -) has served as professor and research administrator at Norfolk State University, Howard University, and Morgan State University.

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:

Maclin, Arlene P.

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Maclin, Arlene P.--Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Physicist

HistoryMakers® Category:

ScienceMakers

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 Arlene Maclin, January 14, 2013 and January 19, 2013. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 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 Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_001, TRT: 1:29:53 ?

Arlene Maclin describes her family background. Her mother, Alice Matthews Maclin, was born in August of 1906 in Dinwiddie County, Virginia. She is a descendent of Jimmy Matthews, the inventor of the famous Brunswick Stew, which is a Southern dish that consists of squirrels and vegetables. Although

Alice Macklin had only a seventh grade education, she developed a vast knowledge about plants and became an expert gardener. Macklin's father, Otis Maclin, was born in September of 1905 in Brunswick County, Virginia. His family was of Scottish descent. He came from a family of free African Americans that farmed and owned their own land.

Affirmative action programs.

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Affirmative action programs.

Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_002, TRT: 2:29:57 ?

Arlene Maclin was raised in Rawlings, Virginia. Born with clubbed feet, Maclin was taken to St. Phillip's Hospital in Richmond, Virginia where she received corrective surgery and was the first person in the state of Virginia to have this surgery performed. Maclin has fond memories of growing up in Virginia, eating fresh strawberries, blueberries, and apples. At the age of six, Maclin enrolled in Hickory Run Elementary School for first through sixth grade. Ms. Koley, her first, second, and third grade teacher, made a strong impact on her. Maclin then went to Rawlings Elementary School, where Maude Mays influenced and challenged her.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_003, TRT: 3:29:36 ?

Arlene Maclin was an advanced student and was mentored by her seventh grade teacher, Ms. Maude Mays. She enjoyed reading a number of materials, including the magazine, 'The Progressive Farmer.' After completing her education at Rawlings Elementary School, Maclin enrolled at James Solomon Russell High School in Virginia. In eleventh grade, Maclin decided that she wanted to become a physicist after realizing that there were practical applications for mathematics. Maclin learned about the Civil Rights Movement through television reporting and decided to pursue a college education in a place where African Americans had more freedom.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_004, TRT: 4:30:08 ?

Arlene Maclin attended James Solomon Russell High School. She was active in a number of clubs and organizations, including the Latin Club, the National Honor Society, and the Math and Science Club. She recalls traveling to competitions with the Math and Science Club, where she performed very well. Maclin knew that she wanted to attend college upon graduation and decided upon North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. There, she was mentored and inspired by the famous physicist, Dr. Alexander "Buddy" Gardner. She also participated in the physics college bowl. For her junior year of

college, Maclin studied abroad at the University of Munich, Germany, where she was exposed to another culture.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_005, TRT: 5:28:51 ?

Arlene Maclin attended the North Carolina Agricultural and Technological State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. She spent her junior year abroad, taking courses at the University of Munich. In 1967, Maclin graduated from the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with her B.S. degree in physics. Upon graduation, she applied for a Ford Foundation Post-baccalaureate Fellowship. Maclin spent her Fellowship at Bryn Mawr College, where she was mentored by Fay Salove. Maclin then pursued her M.S. degree at the University of Virginia, where she was invited to work with Judah Eisenberg's theoretical nuclear physics group. Upon completion of her M.S. degree, Maclin joined Dr. Alexander Gardner at Howard University for her doctoral studies. At Howard University, Maclin taught in Dr. Gardner's "Comprehensive Sciences" program, which exposed non-science majors to science courses.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_006, TRT: 6:28:42 ?

Arlene Maclin completed her Ph.D. degree at Howard University in 1974. Upon graduation, she began working at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratories. There, she collaborated with Alexander Animalu. Animalu's research focused on pseudo potential theory, and he and Maclin published several papers together. In 1971, Maclin went to work at Morgan State University. She did conduct some research, but was quickly appointed to Associate Dean, where she was instrumental in the founding of the University's engineering program. In 1980, Maclin began working with the National Science Foundation to improve African American, Latino, and Native American Colleges. In 1981, Maclin began working with the Central Intelligence Agency to develop high capacity storage and high performance computers. Her position at the CIA afforded her the opportunity to go to Japan and obtain vital information about high performance computers.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_001_007, TRT: 7:29:48 ?

Arlene Maclin worked with the Central Intelligence Agency from 1981 to 1984. During this time, she met Horst Stormer and was instrumental in acquiring funding for his research focused on high speed devices, for which he later earned

a Noble prize. In 1983, Maclin began working at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories, where her work focused on metals and ceramics. Maclin then began working with the National Research Council, where she helped to define the field of material science. She also worked to increase the number of minorities and women on the National Academy Board. Maclin then became a professor of electro-engineering at Howard University, where she served as a mentor to students. In 1992, Maclin began working at Hampton University.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_002_008, TRT: 8:30:18 ?

Arlene Maclin began working at Hampton University in 1992. At Hampton University, she establish the Ph.D. program in optics. In 1996, Maclin moved to Mnemonic Systems, where she used her talent for developing proposals. Maclin then returned to Howard University in 1998 to work as a technical consultant. Maclin received an offer from Norfolk State University, and began working there in 2002. She taught optical engineering and worked with the Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Science (DNIMAS) program. DNIMAS is an honors program focused on increasing the number of minority students pursuing advanced degree in STEM.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_002_009, TRT: 9:30:32 ?

Arlene Maclin is committed to increasing the number of minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). She has collaborated with Camellia Odopo to direct a program, Internationally Diverse Education in Area Studies or Ideas, which provides opportunities for students to conduct research in national laboratories, major research institutions, and internationally. Maclin has also worked to prepare science students for international careers through the Mid-Atlantic Consortium Center for Academic Excellence. Maclin intends to continue her research and highlights the importance of faculty research, especially at HBCUs. She considers the students that she has mentored to be her legacy, but is concerned about the deficient number of African Americans pursuing careers in physics.

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Video Oral History Interview with Arlene Maclin, Section A2013_001_002_010, TRT: 10:13:48 ?

Arlene Maclin describes how she met her husband of eleven years, Donald Addison. Maclin would like to be remembered as a caring and nurturing mentor that lived life to the fullest. She also describes her photos.

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