# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Wayne Embry

## **Overview of the Collection**

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois

60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

**Creator:** Embry, Wayne, 1937-

**Title:** The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Wayne

Embry,

**Dates:** August 18, 2017 and May 17, 2013

**Bulk Dates:** 2013 and 2017

**Physical** 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:33:08).

**Description:** 

**Abstract:** Basketball team manager and basketball player Wayne Embry

(1937 - ) was the general manager of the Milwaukee Bucks, becoming the first African American general manager in the history of the National Basketball Association and the first African American general manager of any major U.S. team sport. He played for the Boston Celtics team that won the 1968

NBA Championship. Embry was interviewed by The

HistoryMakers® on August 18, 2017 and May 17, 2013, in Chicago, Illinois and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the

interview.

**Identification:** A2013\_166

**Language:** The interview and records are in English.

# Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Basketball team manager and basketball player Wayne Richard Embry was born on March 26, 1937 in Springfield, Ohio. After graduating from Tecumseh High School, Embry attended Miami University and graduated in 1958 with his B.S. degree in education. While there, he was a star basketball player in the National

Collegiate Athletic Association.

In 1958, Embry was drafted by the St. Louis Hawks in the third round of the National Basketball Association (NBA) player draft. Embry went on to play in the NBA from 1959 to 1969 for several successful franchises, including the Cincinnati Royals and the Milwaukee Bucks. He played with NBA Hall of Fame inductee Bill Russell and contributed significantly to the Boston Celtics team that won the 1968 NBA Championship. In 1972, Embry was named general manager of the Milwaukee Bucks and became the first African American general manager in NBA league history, as well as the first black general manager of a major U.S. team sport. From 1985 to 1992, Embry served as vice president and general manager of the Cleveland Cavaliers. He went on to become the first African American NBA team president with the Cavaliers in 1994. Under the guidance of Embry, the Cleveland Cavaliers averaged forty-five wins and had nine playoff appearances over twelve seasons. Embry was appointed senior basketball advisor to the general manager for the Toronto Raptors in 2004, and then became the senior advisor to the president one year later. On January 26, 2006, Embry was named interim general manager for the Raptors.

Embry was selected to play on the National Basketball Association's All-Pro team in five consecutive seasons between 1961 and 1965. He was chosen as "NBA Executive of the Year" by *Sporting News* magazine in 1992 and 1998. Embry was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as a contributor to the class of 1999. He was also inducted into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame as a member of the charter class. He is the 2013 recipient of the Ohio Heritage Award, which recognizes an Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame inductee for their contributions to the State of Ohio off the court.

Embry and his wife, Terri Embry, live in Scottsdale, Arizona. They have three children: Debbie, Jull, and Wayne, Jr.

Wayne Richard Embry was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on May 17, 2013 and August 18, 2017.

# **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Wayne Embry was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 18, 2017 and May 17, 2013, in Chicago, Illinois and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Basketball team manager and basketball player Wayne Embry (1937 - ) was the general manager of the Milwaukee Bucks, becoming the first African

American general manager in the history of the National Basketball Association and the first African American general manager of any major U.S. team sport. He played for the Boston Celtics team that won the 1968 NBA Championship.

## 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:**

Embry, Wayne, 1937-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Embry, Wayne, 1937---Interviews

# **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

# **Occupations:**

Basketball Player

Basketball Team Manager

# **HistoryMakers® Category:**

SportsMakers

## **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 Wayne Embry, August 18, 2017 and May 17, 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 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 Wayne Embry, Section A2013 166 001 001, TRT: 1:28:30 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_001\_002, TRT: 2:30:21 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_001\_003, TRT: 3:28:09 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_001\_004, TRT: 4:28:20 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013 166 001 005, TRT: 5:28:21 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:56 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_001\_007, TRT: 7:28:15 2013/05/17

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013 166 002 008, TRT: 1:29:11 2017/08/18

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_002\_009, TRT: 2:27:47 2017/08/18

Video Oral History Interview with Wayne Embry, Section A2013\_166\_002\_010, TRT: 10:14:18 2017/08/18