

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Clayborne Carson

Overview of the Collection

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| Repository: | The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com |
| Creator: | Carson, Clayborne, 1944- |
| Title: | The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, |
| Dates: | December 12, 2015 and November 7, 2013 |
| Bulk Dates: | 2013 and 2015 |
| Physical Description: | 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:52:06). |
| Abstract: | African american history professor Clayborne Carson (1944 -) served as professor of American history at Stanford University, senior editor of The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., and as founding director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute. Carson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 12, 2015 and November 7, 2013, in Palo Alto, California and Stanford, California. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview. |
| Identification: | A2013_257 |
| Language: | The interview and records are in English. |

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

African American history professor Clayborne Carson was born on June 15, 1944 in Buffalo, New York to parents Clayborne Carson and Louise (Lee) Carson. He grew up near Los Alamos, New Mexico. Carson attended the University of California, Los Angeles where he studied history and graduated with his B.A. degree in 1967, his M.A. degree in 1971, and his Ph.D. degree in 1975.

Prior to academia, Carson worked as a laboratory assistant at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, an editor for Audience Studies, Inc., a staff writer for the *Los Angeles Free Press*, and a computer programmer in the Survey Research Center at the University of California, Los Angeles. He joined the faculty of the history department at UCLA as an acting assistant professor in 1971, before being hired as assistant professor at Stanford University in 1974. Carson was promoted to associate professor at Stanford University in 1981. In 1985, Coretta Scott King requested that Carson become senior editor of an ongoing multi-volume project, *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Carson was promoted to professor of American history in 1991, and became founding director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute in 2005. Carson's academic appointments outside Stanford University include teaching and lecturing in Great Britain, France, China, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Tanzania; as well as visiting professorships at the American University, the University of California at Berkeley, and Emory University.

Carson contributions include works of fiction and non-fiction, documentaries, and other creative productions. His most notable scholarship includes, *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (1998) and *In Struggle: SNCC and the Black Awakening of the 1960's* (1981). He served as senior advisor for the Public Broadcasting System's (PBS) fourteen-part documentary series "Eyes on the Prize"; and as historical advisor for the motion pictures "Freedom on My Mind" (1995), "Chicano!" (1996), and "Blacks and Jews" (1997). Carson, along with Roma Design Group, created the winning proposal in an

international competition to design a national memorial for King in Washington, D.C.; and he authored “Passages of Martin Luther King” (1993), a docudrama.

As a member of professional organizations, Carson has been considerably active throughout his career. Those affiliations include: the American Historical Association (AHA), the Organization of American Historians (OAH), the Social Science History Association (SSHA), the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASAALH), and the Southern Historical Association. In 1995, Carson received the OAH Frederick Jackson Turner Award for, *In Struggle*: . In addition, he served as an Andrew Mellon Fellow at Stanford University, the Center for the Study of Civil Rights and Race Relations at Duke University, and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University.

Carson lives with his wife, Susan Ann Carson, who until her retirement was the managing editor of the King Papers Project, in Palo Alto, California. They have two children: Malcolm Carson, an attorney; and Temera Carson, a social worker.

Clayborne Carson was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on November 7, 2013.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Clayborne Carson was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 12, 2015 and November 7, 2013, in Palo Alto, California and Stanford, California, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. African american history professor Clayborne Carson (1944 -) served as professor of American history at Stanford University, senior editor of The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., and as founding director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute.

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:

Carson, Clayborne, 1944-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Carson, Clayborne, 1944---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

African American History Professor

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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 Clayborne Carson, December 12, 2015 and November 7, 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 7/29/2023 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 Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_001_001, TRT: 1:28:24 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_001_002, TRT: 2:28:19 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_001_003, TRT: 3:28:55 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_001_004, TRT: 4:29:07 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_001_005, TRT: 5:29:50 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_002_006, TRT: 6:29:37 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_002_007, TRT: 7:28:52 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_002_008, TRT: 8:28:27 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_002_009, TRT: 9:29:24 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Clayborne Carson, Section A2013_257_002_010, TRT: 10:31:11 ?