# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers ® Video Oral History with Art Lee Shell, Jr.

## Overview of the Collection

**Repository:** The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com

Creator: Shell, Art, 1946-

Title: The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr.,

**Dates:** March 7, 2018

Bulk Dates: 2018

**Physical Description:** 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:26:12).

**Abstract:** Football player and coach Art Shell (1946 - ) played offensive tackle for the Oakland

Raiders from 1968 to 198, and coached the Los Angeles Raiders from 1989 to 1994, making him the first African American NFL head coach of the modern era. Shell was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 7, 2018, in Atlanta, Georgia. This

collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.

**Identification:** A2018 034

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

# Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Football player and coach Art Shell was born on November 26, 1946 in Charleston, South Carolina to Art Shell Sr. and Gertrude Shell. Shell graduated from Bonds-Wilson High School in 1964, and earned his B.S. degree in industrial arts education from Maryland State University in Princess Anne, Maryland in 1968.

After graduating from Maryland State University, Shell was drafted by the American Football League to play offensive tackle for the Oakland Raiders. In 1977, Shell earned his first Super Bowl ring after the Oakland Raider's victory against the Minnesota Vikings in Super Bowl XI. He then played in Super Bowl XV in 1981 in which the Oakland Raiders defeated the Philadelphia Eagles. Shell also competed in eight Pro Bowls, and was named to the AP First Team All-Pro in 1974 and 1977, and to the AP Second-Team All Pro in 1975 and 1978. He played a total of 207 games with the team from 1968 to 1982. After retiring as a player in 1983, Shell became an offensive line coach for the Los Angeles Raiders. In 1989, Shell was promoted to head coach of the Raiders, making him the first African American head coach in the National Football League in the modern era. Shell left the team in 1994, and became an offensive line coach for the Kansas City Chiefs in 1995; and from 1997 to 2000, he served as an offensive line coach for the Atlanta Falcons. Shell also served as a senior vice president in charge of football operations for the NFL, before returning to coach the Oakland Raiders for the 2006-2007 season.

Shell was included on the NFL's 1970s All-Decade Team, and inducted into the South Carolina Sports Hall of Fame. He was also inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1989, and the College Football Hall of Fame in 2013. Shell was selected as NFL Coach of the Year in 1990. *Sporting News* ranked Shell as number fifty five on their list of the 100 greatest football players in 1999.

Shell and his wife, Janice Jeter Shell, have two children, Arthur Shell III and Christopher J. Shell.

Art Shell was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on March 7, 2018.

# **Scope and Content**

This life oral history interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr. was conducted by Larry Crowe on March 7, 2018, in Atlanta, Georgia, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Football player and coach Art Shell (1946 - ) played offensive tackle for the Oakland Raiders from 1968 to 198, and coached the Los Angeles Raiders from 1989 to 1994, making him the first African American NFL head coach of the modern era.

## 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:

Shell, Art, 1946-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

## Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews Shell, Art, 1946- --Interviews

# **Organizations:**

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

# **Occupations:**

Football Player

# **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 Art Lee Shell, Jr., March 7, 2018. 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 Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_001, TRT: 1:28:31?

Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_002, TRT: 2:28:33?

Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018 034 001 003, TRT: 3:31:13?

Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_004, TRT: 4:28:03?

Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018 034 001 005, TRT: 5:28:48?

Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_006, TRT: 6:29:40? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_007, TRT: 7:33:04? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_008, TRT: 8:30:28? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_009, TRT: 9:28:59? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_010, TRT: 10:28:52? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_011, TRT: 11:20:28? Video Oral History Interview with Art Lee Shell, Jr., Section A2018\_034\_001\_012, TRT: 12:09:33?