

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with George A. Russell, Jr.

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Russell, George A., 1949-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr.,
Dates:	August 20, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	12 uncompressed MOV digital video files (5:24:39).
Abstract:	Bank executive George A. Russell, Jr. (1949-) served at State Street Boston Corporation as director of community affairs, and was named chairman and president in philanthropy, retiring in 2013. Russell was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 20, 2018, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_161
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Bank executive George A. Russell, Jr. was born on May 31, 1949 in Boston, Massachusetts to George and Marie Russell. He received his B.A. degree in social science and mathematics in 1972 from Clark University, in Worcester, Massachusetts, and his M.B.A. degree with a concentration in finance and economics in 1974 from New York University's Leonard N. Stern School of Business.

Russell started his career as a credit analyst/commercial loan officer trainee at State Street Bank and Trust Company, in Boston, and quickly advanced through the ranks to vice president, from 1974 to 1984. Russell served as treasurer and chief financial officer from 1984 to 1988 for the City of Boston in the administration of Mayor Ray Flynn. Russell served as president and CEO at Freedom National Bank in New York City from 1988 to 1991 and then rejoined State Street Boston Corporation as senior vice president, and was later promoted to executive vice president where he served from 1991 to 2013. He also served as director of corporate citizenship, and chairman and president of the State Street Foundation. In this dual role, he directed State Street's global corporate contribution and employee volunteer programs. In addition, he was responsible for managing the company's community relations functions globally. Under his leadership, State Street provided support for a variety of community-based organizations including the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership and the Boston Private Industry Council.

Russell received the Alumni Achievement Award from New York University Leonard Stern Graduate School of Management in 1989. He was elected chairman of the board for the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, from 1999 to 2005, and served as board member for One United Bank, from 2004 to 2012. Russell received an honorary doctor of law degree from the University of Massachusetts in 2010, and an honorary degree from the Urban College in 2014.

He was past founding chairman of the board of the Financial Services Academy. Russell also served on the board

of advisors of the African Presidential Archives and Research Center at Boston University, and as a trustee of the Massachusetts Math and Science Initiative. He serves on the board of directors of One United Bank, the largest Black owned and operated bank in the United States, and as a member of the board of trustees of Tufts Health Plan Foundation.

George and his Wife Faye have one child, Martin Russell, daughter-in-law Ashley and granddaughter, Maya.

George A. Russell, Jr. was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 20, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with George A. Russell, Jr. was conducted by Harriette Cole on August 20, 2018, in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and was recorded on 12 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Bank executive George A. Russell, Jr. (1949-) served at State Street Boston Corporation as director of community affairs, and was named chairman and president in philanthropy, retiring in 2013.

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:

Russell, George A., 1949-

Cole, Harriette (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Russell, George A., 1949- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Bank Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

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 George A. Russell, Jr., August 20, 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 George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_001, TRT: 1:29:31 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_002, TRT: 2:27:50 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_003, TRT: 3:31:06 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_004, TRT: 4:28:19 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_005, TRT: 5:32:15 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_006, TRT: 6:28:09 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_007, TRT: 7:26:22 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_008, TRT: 8:28:49 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_009, TRT: 9:27:29 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_010, TRT: 10:28:08 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_011, TRT: 11:26:49 ?

Video Oral History Interview with George A. Russell, Jr., Section A2018_161_001_012, TRT: 12:09:52 ?