

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Ann Smith

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Smith, Ann E., 1939-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith,
Dates:	August 21, 2013 and August 22, 2013
Bulk Dates:	2013
Physical Description:	10 uncompressed MOV digital video files (4:57:13).
Abstract:	Civic leader and education executive Ann Smith (1939 -) taught at Eastern Illinois University where she became the first African American appointed as a full professor. She was elected to the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois in 1985, thus becoming the first black woman to hold office in Illinois through a statewide election. Smith was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on August 21, 2013 and August 22, 2013, in Chicago, Illinois. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2013_232
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Civic leader Ann E. Smith was born in Jefferson City, Missouri in 1939 where she attended segregated schools. Her grandfather served with the United States Colored Troop regiment during the American Civil War and then graduated from Fisk University. Smith's father, a principal, and her mother, a high school, pushed her to do well academically and athletically. During high school, she played softball and volleyball. Smith went on to receive her B.A. degree from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri; her M.A. degree from the University of Iowa; and her Ph.D. degree from the Union Institute and Union University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Smith began her dynamic career with sixteen years of service in academia. She taught high school in her native State of Missouri and then assumed teaching posts at Eastern Illinois University where she became the first African American appointed as a full-time professor. Smith went on to work at the University of Indiana and then Northeastern Illinois University. While there, she progressed through the ranks from instructor, assistant and associate professor to Assistant to the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs. In 1978, Smith transitioned from academia to business and joined Prudential Insurance Company. After earning several performance awards in her first year as an agent, she was promoted to sales manager. In 1981, she became director of marketing for Cook, Stratton & Company, an insurance brokerage firm. In 1986, she assumed a full time role as vice president of Endow, Inc., an insurance planning and consulting firm she had co-founded seven years earlier. Smith began serving a six-year term on the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois in 1985, thus becoming the first black woman to hold office in Illinois through a statewide election. After serving almost four years, she resigned in July of 1988 to be considered for the position of Associate Chancellor at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and accepted the appointment in September of 1988. Later, Smith served as director of Community Relations at UIC at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and then became President of the Gamaliel Foundation until retiring in 2011.

Smith has served on the boards of a wide variety of local and national educational, community and cultural organizations, including as vice-president of Business and Professional People for the Public Interest and the West Central Association. She served on the boards of the Illinois Arts Alliance and Foundation, the National Advisory Council for the NAACP, the Duncan YMCA and the Marcy-Newberry Association. Smith was also appointed as chairman of the boards of the Chicago Access Corporation and the Southside Community Arts Center, and served on the boards of the Joel Hall Dancers, the Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education and The American College.

Anne E. Smith was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on August 21, 2013.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Ann Smith was conducted by Larry Crowe on August 21, 2013 and August 22, 2013, in Chicago, Illinois, and was recorded on 10 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Civic leader and education executive Ann Smith (1939 -) taught at Eastern Illinois University where she became the first African American appointed as a full professor. She was elected to the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois in 1985, thus becoming the first black woman to hold office in Illinois through a statewide election.

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:

Smith, Ann E., 1939-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews
Smith, Ann E., 1939- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Education Executive

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 Ann Smith, August 21, 2013 and August 22, 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 Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_001, TRT: 1:30:20 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_002, TRT: 2:29:35 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_003, TRT: 3:29:34 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_004, TRT: 4:28:47 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_005, TRT: 5:29:38 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_006, TRT: 6:29:01 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_001_007, TRT: 7:30:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_002_008, TRT: 8:29:10 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_002_009, TRT: 9:27:43 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Ann Smith, Section A2013_232_002_010, TRT: 10:32:29 ?