

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Celeste Hodge Growden

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Growden, Celeste Hodge, 1961-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Celeste Hodge Growden,
Dates:	May 20, 2018
Bulk Dates:	2018
Physical Description:	5 uncompressed MOV digital video files (2:17:05).
Abstract:	Civic leader Celeste Hodge Growden (1961 -) was the director of the Municipality of Anchorage Office of Equal Opportunity, president of the Anchorage NAACP chapter and executive director of Shiloh Community Development, Inc. Growden was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 20, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2018_098
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Civic leader Celeste Hodge Growden was born on June 23, 1961 in Fort Meade, Maryland to Corene Davis and Ellis Graham. Growden graduated from Bartlett High School in Anchorage, Alaska in 1979. She went on to receive her A.A. degree in business, economics, and organization management and her B.S.W. degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Growden began working with the City of Anchorage as a word processor in 1982, where she worked in various positions, including as a receptionist with the Public Works Department. She also served as an adjunct professor at Alaska Pacific University from 1985 to 1987. She became the vice president of the NAACP Anchorage branch in 1991, and was appointed president in 1993, serving for eight years. She testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in 2001, following an increase in violence against communities of color in Anchorage. Growden was then appointed as deputy director and community outreach liaison for the Municipality of Anchorage Office of Equal Opportunity in 2003. Two years later, she was promoted to director. She held this position until 2011, when she became a political aide to Alaskan Senator Bettye Davis. Growden also served as a committee aide for the Senate Health and Social Services Committee in 2010, and campaign manager for Senator Davis' 2012 re-election campaign. She also worked with U.S. Senator Mark Begich. In 2012, Growden became executive director for Shiloh Community Development, Incorporated. In 2014, she served on Alaska Governor Bill Walker's Anchorage transition team; and in 2015, she was appointed overseer to Anchorage mayor elect Ethan Berkowitz's Homelessness Committee.

Growden served as an advisory board member for the college of education at the University of Alaska Anchorage from 2003 to 2013. She also served on the boards of the Alaskans Against the Death Penalty organization, and the Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. Additionally, Growden served as president of North to the Future Business and Professional Women, and was a member of the Hillary for Alaska Leadership Council as well as the leadership team for 90% by 2020. Growden was named an Alaska Freedom's Sister by Ford Motor Company in

2012; and in 2017, she was among twenty African Americans honored by the Anchorage Assembly during Black History Month.

Celeste Hodge Growden was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on May 20, 2018.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Celeste Hodge Growden was conducted by Larry Crowe on May 20, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska, and was recorded on 5 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Civic leader Celeste Hodge Growden (1961 -) was the director of the Municipality of Anchorage Office of Equal Opportunity, president of the Anchorage NAACP chapter and executive director of Shiloh Community Development, Inc.

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:

Growden, Celeste Hodge, 1961-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Hickey, Matthew (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Growden, Celeste Hodge, 1961- --Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Civic Leader

HistoryMakers® Category:

CivicMakers

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 Celeste Hodge Growden, May 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 Celeste Hodge Growden, Section A2018_098_001_001, TRT: 1:28:11 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Celeste Hodge Growden, Section A2018_098_001_002, TRT:
2:29:12 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Celeste Hodge Growden, Section A2018_098_001_003, TRT:
3:30:32 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Celeste Hodge Growden, Section A2018_098_001_004, TRT:
4:29:59 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Celeste Hodge Growden, Section A2018_098_001_005, TRT:
5:19:11 ?