

START OF TAPE I, SIDE A
JONES, MARY NORWOOD

JANUARY 17, 2001

It is January 17, 2001, and this is Bob Gilgor interviewing Mary Norwood Jones at Northside that was originally Orange County Training School and then Lincoln School and then became Northside.

BOB GILGOR: Good morning, Mary

MARY NORWOOD JONES: Good morning.

BG: How are you this morning?

MJ: I'm fine, thank you.

BG: Let's begin the interview with a broad question and that is, what was it like growing up in Carrboro, [NC], when you were a youth?

MJ: Well, anyway growing up was just great. I just don't want to ever forget about my growing up in Carrboro. I grew up in Carrboro and at that particular time there were house along where the Art Center now is. I lived in a house right across the street from where Riggsbee-Hinson Furniture Store now exists, and before Riggsbee-Hinson Furniture Store was built and that was built in 1948. Where Riggsbee-Hinson Furniture Store is there was a wood yard and it belonged to Mr. Henry Baldwin and right beside the wood yard was a junkyard, and out where Furniture Doctor now is that was the Carrboro Town Hall. That's where the Fire Department was, they had a blacksmith shop there, and people came to town and they had their horses shoed at that blacksmith shop.

I can remember very vividly going over to the junkyard. This was the time of the Second World War. The junkyard was there. I remember growing up and there were ration books due to the fact that the war was on. We had rationed can goods, bread was then five cents a loaf, sugar was three cents a pound, and my grandmother always took me with her to the stores in Carrboro. When she told me to take my wagon with me that meant that she was going to spend a little more than a dollar. We could not bring back all of the groceries together if we spent more than a dollar.

Next door to me was a house that had neighbors and oh, my goodness, the first notary, notary public, black notary public, Mr. Kenny Jones, lived two doors from me. And then there was another house and the person was a musician or a person who knew music and played piano and Ms. Maggie Morphis played piano at St. Paul's Methodist Church.

BG: Is this an all black neighborhood?

MJ: Yes, at that particular time it was all black.

BG: Henry Baldwin, the man who owned the sawmill, was he--?

MJ: No, it was a wood yard.

BG: Was he married to Mamie Baldwin?

MJ: Miss Mamie Baldwin, yes, and they adopted a son named Rufus, and we played together. He would come over and play. Miss Mamie Baldwin sold-- We called them during that time, potato slips; they were plants that grew potatoes. Oh, wow, I'm just picturing all of this right now. I can see Mr. Baldwin over with the people that helped him. There was a person with one arm that worked with him and a Mr. Farrington. They did the wood and they delivered the wood and everything. I can remember Mr. Henry Baldwin loving to fish or Miss Mamie loved to fish also. Then I can remember the Lindsay house right across the street that sat right where Kentucky Fried Chicken now is.

BG: Can you tell me about your mother and father, what they were like, whether they worked, and what they did for a living?

MJ: I had two uncles and a cousin and of course they worked at the University. I lived with my grandfather, my grandmother, and my mother at that particular time. My grandmother was the ruler of the house, and my grandfather worked at Cobb's Terrace. He worked for a Mr. Cobb down in Cobb's Terrace and it was named for the people there.

BG: What did he do?

MJ: He fired furnaces down there and he worked with landscaping.

BG: Did you mother work also?

MJ: Yes, she worked for private families in the downtown area and she worked for the Padgetts and the Peacocks down in Padgett's Lane.

BG: What did she do for them?

MJ: She did cleaning work for them. She took care of their house.

BG: Did your parents talk about the work that they did?

MJ: Not too much. All I knew was that she worked and that she did domesticate work in the homes for these people and she talked about them. Mr. Peacock was a professor at the University and Mr. Padgett was mostly around the house. And now we have a Padgett's Lane in Carrboro and it goes right down between--. What is the name of that store? Are you familiar with Carrboro?

BG: Yes.

MJ: All right. You know where Performance is, the bicycle shop?

BG: Yes.

MJ: It's right across. What is right across from Riggsbee-Hinson Furniture Store? There is a lane and it is called Padgett's Lane. Are you familiar with that?

BG: No, I'm not real good with street names.

MJ: All right. Now where we lived my uncles and my mother owned property, and Mr. Padgett bought my mother's property on the property across from Riggsbee-Hinson Furniture Store. When he bought it he lived there for a while and then it became Padgett's Lane going down towards the body shop down there that someone owns and one neighbor moved down in back of the Church of God. Well, that's why it's named Padgett's Lane.

BG: Did your parents own the house that you lived in?

MJ: Yes. My grandfather and grandmother owned the house and then my younger uncle remained in the house over the years.

BG: Can you describe the house? What kind of house was it?

MJ: It was a two-story house, and it was a shingled house.

BG: Wood siding or brick?

MJ: No, it wasn't. It never had brick siding or anything; it was just a wooden house. At that particular time there was--. The Lindsay house was a two-story house also. The house we lived in was a two-story house and then there was a Markham house down on the other side of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Burnett's house and that was a two-story house. Those were the only three two-story houses in that particular area on Main Street in Carrboro.

BG: Did you have any kind of insulation or could you see the inside of the wood siding of the house? Did you have some way to keep the wind out or the cold weather out?

MJ: Well, during that particular time people did not have gas furnaces or anything. The houses were heated by fireplaces or woodstoves and people cooked with wood stoves during the time that I grew up.

BG: In the early '40s?

MJ: Yes, I was born in 1933 and I remember what happened from I'd say 1933 on until I graduated from Orange County Training School. Well, it was Lincoln High School at that particular time and graduated in 1951.

BG: That's the year that Lincoln was going to open in the fall.

MJ: Yes, that is correct. There were people that I knew out on what was called then University Lake Road, which is now Jones Ferry Road. These were people that walked all the way to Orange County Training School.

BG: That's quite a walk from here.

MJ: Yes, yes, yes, and there were people that walked from Knolls development which is down off of Crest Street which is now Knolls Street and people walked from there, and people walked from Windy Hill.

BG: So there were no school busses?

MJ: They had school busses but we were not allowed to ride school busses. Only people rode school busses when people lived on the other side of University Lake or going towards Pittsboro, [NC], or out on the other side of the Airport Road going towards Hillsborough, [NC], or something like that.

BG: Did you have brothers and sisters?

MJ: I have one brother and one sister.

BG: Are they still in this area?

MJ: Yes. I have a brother that went off and played with Ike and Tina Turner after he graduated from high school. His interest and his main instrument were drums. He played drums for Ike and Tina Turner. He played with other groups also.

I have a sister that graduated from the new Lincoln High School. My brother and my sister graduated from the Lincoln High School on Merritt Mill Road. The only difference is that I graduated from Lincoln High School but it was right over here in this building. Yes, right where we are now. It became Lincoln High School in 1949.

BG: Orange County Training School became Lincoln High School.

MJ: Yes.

BG: When did they change the name?

MJ: It was changed and I think they had to go through at that particular time the school board and everything. During that particular time, I played basketball and went to other schools and we were just thrilled to know that there were some schools that were not called training schools.

BG: Did training school have a bad connotation?

MJ: I think so. What happened was that the pupils in school wanted to change the name of the school and had we known at that particular time that the land that was donated to build the school was a black person we would have named it hopefully after the person that donated the property to build the school.

BG: Are you talking about Northside, Orange County Training School or what?

MJ: I'm talking about Orange County Training School.

BG: So that land was given to the black community to build a school. Is that the correct interpretation?

MJ: Yes, we found out many years later that the land was donated by a black person to build the school, but permission was gotten from, at that particular time, the School Board to change the name. We were fascinated by President Lincoln because at that particular time we were told that he freed the slaves, and we wanted to name the school after Lincoln, but when we found out that Lincoln had no other alternative but to free the slaves we thought a little differently about it. The school was named in 1949 Lincoln High School. Those people who were graduating seniors during the time the name was changed, still had Orange County Training School on their diplomas because they did not have time enough to change the name or to put it on their diplomas. That was the class of 1949.

BG: Can we go back to your family? I would like to get a little deeper understanding of what it was like in your house, what life was like, how you were treated by your parents, how you were treated by the community while you were growing up.

MJ: Okay. When I grew up we had parents all up and down the streets. If we were seen doing something that we were not supposed to do then people had the freedom to discipline us whether they had to do it with a switch or whether they did it with a belt and then we would go home and get another whipping or whatever they called it at that particular time. We would be disciplined again at home.

BG: Was there fear in your household about getting a whipping or would you say that your household was more filled with love or both?

MJ: Well, there was plenty of love but there was also discipline and during that time I remember having to go to church as well as go to school. I can remember many times when I did not miss a day going to school and always on Sundays we went to church. I have a listing of the three institutions that reared us; the home, and the church came second because we went to church before we started school, and then the school. Those three institutions reared us and I have great respect for those three institutions.

BG: What about the community? Would you consider the community as part of the home or is that maybe a fourth institution or did you not look at that as something that helped raise you?

MJ: Well, yes, the community because everyone in the community reared a child, in other words, we were reared by the total community during that particular time.

BG: Did you parents get along well?

MJ: Yes they did. My grandfather sold insurance, burial insurance for the Griffin Funeral Home in Pittsboro. He was involved very much with Hamlet's Chapel and they all came from Chatham County.

BG: Did you see much alcohol abuse in your house or in the community?

MJ: Well, during that time there was alcohol abuse but it was just done a different way.

BG: How so?

MJ: All right, what happened was that there were not many cars when I grew up. I can remember crossing Main Street without looking both ways before I crossed the street because cars were so few, and then we did not have ABC stores during that particular time, but we had people that were able to get over to where they had the alcohol stores and they brought alcohol back to Chapel Hill. What happened was that it was called a bootleg house or something. What happened with the bootleg homes is that the places where they did bootleg alcohol or something, the people made sure they did not disturb the neighborhoods and they made sure that no one saw them when they came out of these places. They never wanted to be seen coming out of these places. They would look up and down the streets before they came out of one of these so-called bootleg places to make sure. Then during that particular time we were taught to respect people older than we were. We were taught to respect people. If there was a person standing on a corner and the person was reeling and rocking a little bit and even though we smelled alcohol the person would say to us, "All right you children, be good now." We would wait until we probably walked maybe a block and a half away before we said, "Oh, my goodness, Mr. or Miss so and so had quite a bit to drink" or smelled of alcohol. We did not want that person to hear us say it because we had to respect them.

BG: When did they do away with the bootleg houses? Do you remember the years that they faded out?

MJ: I don't think they ever faded out. I think they are still there because in many of the places now there are people who sell alcoholic beverages to this time and day. I don't think they ever phased out.

BG: Is it sold as bonded alcohol or is it white lightening that's being sold.

MJ: I don't think it's white lightening that is being sold. I think its just alcohol.

BG: So there are still some places where you can walk into someone's home and buy alcohol.

MJ: Oh, yes, of course, and that happens not only in Chapel Hill but it happens in other jurisdictions also. It's like everything else the only thing is alcohol is a legal drug. Alcohol is a drug but it is a legal drug so we have to remember that those things have not stopped. They are not only here in Chapel Hill but they are everywhere.

BG: Did you see in your house or the community any physical abuse, parents physically fighting with one another?

MJ: Very seldom and I know that when something happened like people talked about it for the rest of the year. It didn't happen very often and not as often as it does now.

BG: Are there any other memories of your childhood that stand out in your mind; toys, games, things that went on at particular times of the year?

MJ: Oh, yes. I remember at Christmastime we were told that Santa would come down the chimney and everything and we were staunch believers in Santa Claus. One time I was in Carrboro, I always went with my grandfather to Carrboro to the stores. He always wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all of that. One time we were out at the stores but it had not snowed and I saw a red car parked in front of my house and I said, "Oh, my goodness, Santa Claus is here already," because we were told that Santa would come in a red car or in a big car or something. We always had to be in bed before Santa came and I was so afraid that Santa would not come to see me because I was not at home where I was told I would have to be.

BG: Christmas was a big time for you.

MJ: Oh, yes. Christmas was a great time and the whole community fellowshiped. On Sundays, people visited people after church and people came in and there was always enough food so that people could sit down and eat with people and whatnot. It was just a loving kind of atmosphere. I have told my family that I wouldn't mind living in those good times again. If I could take them back to those times, I would.

BG: Did you consider yourself poor when you were growing up?

MJ: Well, to a certain extent, yes. We had many, many values that many youths don't have today.

BG: Can you explain that?

MJ: Yes. Our values meant that we respected and we loved our neighbors. I've always said that we were rich in our values and there was no such thing as the haves and the have-nots.

BG: How do you mean that?

MJ: The people that had maybe a little more than others did not look down on the people that didn't have as much as they had. Everyone was just about on the same level; we shared and people bartered their skills. In other words, if someone could paint very well or someone could do plumbing work or something they would barter this. If someone painted well someone would paint for someone else when someone did the plumbing work for someone else, and that went on quite a bit of the time and I thought it was just great.

BG: When you look back at growing up in Carrboro, do you look at it as a happy time?

MJ: Yes, yes. Those I always called the good days. These are the trouble days this time of day now.

BG: Did you have much interaction with the white community when you were growing up?

MJ: Yes, I've always looked at Carrboro as being highly integrated because the Markham house down below us was the house where whites lived and then out off of Greensboro Street--that was before Greensboro Street became Greensboro Street--there were blacks that were surrounded by whites. Then out on Jones Ferry Road where the Strayhorns lived there were whites living across the street and we mingled.

BG: Generally, did you feel as though you were treated well by the white community?

MJ: Yes, as long as I remembered that segregation was still on. We had our own separate movie, and we never thought about segregation until we went to the movies or we went to the churches and whatnot.

BG: Can you remember your feelings about segregation?

MJ: All I know is my friends who lived out on Jones Ferry Road which was called University Lake Road there was the Carrboro Elementary School there which would have been walking distance from them but they were not allowed to go there. They had to come all the way over to

what was then Potters Field to go to school at Orange County Training School. That made us think about not being able to walk to the nearest school because there was only one school for blacks and that was Orange County Training School. Then there were people who came through the downtown area and past Chapel Hill High School. There were some people who lived closer to Chapel Hill High School but--.

BG: Some blacks that lived close to Chapel Hill High that had to walk by the school.

MJ: Yes, the people in Potters Field and on Rosemary Street had to come to Orange County Training School and they would have been as close to go to Chapel Hill High School.

BG: So you look at that as--.

MJ: Those are the times that we thought about segregation. I did. I can't speak for others, but I did. I thought about segregation.

BG: What was Orange County Training School like?

MJ: It had wonderful teachers and teachers that really cared. The teachers visited the homes. Many times we would be playing in the neighborhood off of Main Street in Carrboro and we would see a teacher walking coming to visit the homes. We would turn and say to one another, "Did you do anything wrong in school?" We would say no that we didn't do anything wrong and the teachers just came to visit the homes.

BG: How often did that happen?

MJ: We saw that happen very often. The teachers had a close connection and during that time we did not have telephones but we had better communications than we have now with telephones.

BG: How long would a teacher spend talking to your mother or your father or both?

MJ: They would talk to members of the family or anyone in charge of the youth to talk about how the youth was doing in school and everything, and it was just great. They visited the homes or they knew all of the different areas of the town, and I really think this time and day that new

teachers coming to Chapel Hill and not knowing Chapel Hill should have a tour so that they will have a better idea of where youths come from who attend school.

BG: Did the teachers live in the same neighborhood as the families?

MJ: Yes, and many of the teachers came from outer-lying areas. Many of the teachers were not from Chapel Hill. I can remember maybe having two teachers when I came to Orange County Training School; I can remember two teachers originally being from Chapel Hill. I had relatives in Chapel Hill. There were about three or four teachers during that time who actually came from Chapel Hill or who had lived in Chapel Hill as a child.

BG: Most of them came from outside the area.

MJ: Yes, outside of Chapel Hill and they roomed with different people in Chapel Hill when they taught.

BG: They were a part of the community?

MJ: Yes, they were a part of the community. Many of them went to church and then many of them traveled back to their hometowns on weekends and they would come back.

BG: Did they take leadership positions in the church or did they just sort of attend the churches?

MJ: They just attended the churches. I don't remember anyone taking any leadership roles in the churches but when they were not going back to their hometowns or something they would attend church.

BG: So you looked at your teachers as people who must have cared about you to make these home visits.

MJ: Yes, yes, and they really cared. Not only did they come to the homes to visit, but also a teacher would tell you, "Oh, you're doing well in school" and they would say, "Oh, wow, you can do even better than that." They cared and they were caring and if they saw you falling down in

your subject matter they would come to you and say, "Oh, you can do better than that, and I have high hopes for you."

BG: It sounds like they encouraged you.

MJ: Yes, they really encouraged each student to do better if they were not doing as well as they expected them to do.

BG: Did you look at the teachers as a role model for you or did other students look at them that way?

MJ: Yes, yes, we looked up to our teachers and during that particular time teachers were very highly respected. They were highly respected and I don't think today that teachers are respected as much as they were during those days.

BG: Why do you think they were respected so much?

MJ: I think because during that time there were few people who went to college and they knew that a teacher had to have gone to college and people had high respects for people who went to college. Many times we tried to model ourselves after the teachers with their mannerisms and whatnot. You see during that time we took on the strengths of different people not just looking at a person just to say because that person plays this sport or that sport, we looked at people in a different way. We pulled the strengths from each teacher. We would say, I'd like to speak English like my English teacher or I'd like to dress like maybe my history teacher. We would pull the strengths from those different people. We didn't just put all of our emphasis on one person no matter what the person did.

BG: You talked about the dressing in a certain way, was there a dress code when you went to school?

MJ: No, I remember that girls were not allowed to wear pants to school. Right out here in this hallway all of the coats were hung up, boots and things. We did not have lockers. If we wore pants to school, we'd have to take them off during school time. During that time they did not make jeans and all of those for females. We had to go to maybe the hardware store and buy boys jeans in order to play softball.

BG: Could you wear stockings?

MJ: Yes, we could wear stockings and we had a home economics teacher who had us do--. I'm going to leave you a picture of the person and she just passed just recently who taught home economics probably in this room where we are sitting now. If I could go out to the hall, then I will show you that her classroom was in this room. This building has been remodeled and probably her classroom was right along in here. I'll have to see.

BG: If you misbehaved in school, how would the teacher handle that?

MJ: There was a cloakroom in each classroom and the teachers would take you back into the cloakroom. We had one teacher I can remember in third grade that if the teacher was writing on the board and she heard a noise in class she would turn around and if no one told who it was that did it she would come down each row in the classroom with a switch and she'd say, "I'll get the right one if I do it." That was my third grad teacher. I can remember all of my teachers.

BG: That's amazing.

When did physical punishment, corporal punishment, stop in the school system? At what grade level did you--?

MJ: I don't know when it stopped here, but I know in some of the places where I taught and where I worked with a very special juvenile delinquency prevention program and I know that it started and we heard quite a bit about it when a mother was placed under a \$25,000 bond further south when she struck her daughter in the store.

BG: Do you remember the PTA when you went to Orange County Training School and what that was like?

MJ: The Parent Teacher Association?

BG: Yes.

MJ: I don't remember very much about the Parent Teacher Association, but I remember the school board.

BG: Tell me what you remember about the school board.

MJ: I remember Mr. Hubert Robinson who was an alderman, the first black alderman in the town, and Miss Ester Atwater was on the school board. She had children in school over here. I just don't remember that much about the Parent Teacher Association at all.

BG: You graduated from Orange County Training School.

MJ: I graduated from Lincoln High School, you see, I graduated in 1951 and the school was named Lincoln High School in 1949. Yes, it was Lincoln High School.

BG: Did you go on to college?

MJ: Yes.

BG: Where did you go to college?

MJ: I went to college at North Carolina Central University, which was then called North Carolina College at Durham for Negroes.

BG: Did you have any help from the school in getting into North Carolina Central?

MJ: No, I had help from my uncles.

BG: Were they college graduates?

MJ: No.

BG: Did you have to pay for your schooling there?

MJ: Yes, and I got a scholarship from Rock Hill Baptist Church. I got some money after graduation but not big money, you see, it wasn't very expensive when I went to school. The

tuition was not very great, but it was great enough to need help. I got help from my uncles and my cousin.

BG: You had some extended family that obviously cared a whole lot about you to fund you.

MJ: Yes.

BG: Did you have to pay it back?

MJ: Not really. They never asked, but I tried in ways. After I came out of school, I tried and I paid the money back and I never forgot what they did for me.

BG: So it really wasn't a loan, it was a gift that you paid back nevertheless in a variety of ways.

MJ: Yes.

BG: Can we go back to Orange County Training School and the resources that were here when you went to school here, the books, things that were needed for home economics, things that were needed for the sports programs, can you talk about some of those things and what was available?

MJ: The coach here usually got used equipment that came from the University. When I played basketball, we bought our tennis shoes and then we had uniforms. We had a coach that helped students and to tell you what some of the teachers did and this coach taught science, taught mathematics, and it was Coach R.O. Kornegay. When youths graduated he took the youths down to the junior colleges or to a college to let them look at. He was adamant in wanting youths to attend college. He would go as far as to take the youths to the college and try to help them get scholarships.

BG: How many students were in your graduating class?

MJ: My class, the class of 1951, had the largest class of students because we had to have two divisions in our class. We had to have two sections, and we had about sixty some youths in our class, but all of them did not graduate in 1951.

BG: Some of them had to spend another year?

MJ: Well, they might have spent another year or some just dropped out of school or something.

BG: How many would you say graduated of the sixty something?

MJ: Oh, I'd say about forty something.

BG: Of that group that graduated, could you estimate how many went on to college?

MJ: Quite a few went on. Wow, that's a good question. I'd say from my class about seventy or eighty percent of them went on to college.

BG: That's amazing.

MJ: Yes, because I can remember all of the people that I felt very close to in my class went on to college. I'd say the majority of the people graduated. The books that we had were used books that came from Chapel Hill High School.

BG: How about pots and pans and things like this in home economics or band uniforms and things like that?

MJ: Well, I'll show you a picture of the band. We had to furnish our own white pants and black jackets for the band members when the band first started. For the pots and pans, that was a part of the school and they were already here. Ms. Pope was the home economics teacher. We had to sew things. We learned to sew. We had to furnish our own materials and our own patterns.

BG: When you left for college I assume you weren't married.

MJ: No, I was not.

BG: Did you feel that you had been prepared adequately to run a household at that time?

MJ: To run a household?

BG: Yes. Let's say that instead of going to college you married, could you cook, could you sew, could you clean, could you run the house?

MJ: I was a person who was sort of like a tomboy. I wasn't into a lot of sewing and a lot of cooking, but I was in just about every activity that they had at school, all the different groups that they had at school.

BG: When you say different groups, do you mean sports?

MJ: I mean sports and the different clubs that they had at school.

BG: Singing, dancing?

MJ: Well, I was in the choir. We didn't have any dance groups when I was in school, but we had a person that taught tap and clog over at Hargraves Recreation Center and she was a person who graduated years before we did. We had one teacher who taught us tap and clog and she is originally from Chapel Hill. She is one of the teachers, but she came a little later after I was in high school. She taught us some dances and things like that.

BG: Did you play an instrument?

MJ: Yes.

BG: What did you play?

MJ: I played the trombone.

BG: Were you in the marching band?

MJ: I was in the marching band and I will show you a picture. I was in the band and Mr. Pickard was our first band director. Then after he left there was a Mr. Bell who came. I don't know what happened later down at the new Lincoln School on Merritt Mill Road.

BG: Can you tell me how you perceived the values that you saw at Orange County Training School that became Lincoln here at Northside, how you saw this influence what went on at the new Lincoln High School off of Merritt Mill Road?

MJ: I never had the opportunity to attend the new school at Merritt Mill Road so I can't say.

BG: You had two sisters who went there or a brother and a sister who went to Lincoln.

MJ: Yes, but I was away. After '56, I was away for about forty years.

BG: For forty years?

MJ: Yes, for just about forty years I was away. I began spending more time here in about the last eight or nine years.

BG: Where did you go?

MJ: I went to Courtland, Virginia. I taught in Courtland, Virginia, and then I taught in Washington, DC.

BG: What did you teach?

MJ: I taught health and physical education, and I taught civics at McKinley High School and Jefferson Jr. High School in Washington, DC.

BG: When you started teaching, did you teach in a segregated school at first?

MJ: No. Well, it was segregated in Courtland, Virginia, and I taught health and physical education there, and I also coached girls' basketball. Incidentally, my team was second runner-up in the state.

BG: That's great. How long did you stay there?

MJ: I was there for a year and I went to DC at that particular time.

BG: Do you remember that year that you went to DC?

MJ: Yes, in 1959.

BG: Were the schools integrated there?

MJ: Yes.

BG: How did you feel you were accepted in the integrated school? First of all, were there many black students?

MJ: I felt very good and there were several black teachers at McKinley High School. I taught social adjustment classes, and I was a substitute teacher there prior to becoming full-time in Washington, DC. I started to work with Parks and Recreation. I worked several jobs for Press Intelligence and that is a place that people can send accounts in and they can find out what is said in the newspapers. It was a newspaper reading job that I had. I did that for a while and I worked for Alexandria, [VA] in Parks and Recreation with the Recreation Department. I worked there the first summer I was in Washington, DC.

BG: When you were teaching full-time did you have other jobs as well?

MJ: No, when I was teaching full-time I did not have another job, but I stayed in school until about 5:30pm. The principle would come by. I taught civics and when someone did not get their homework they had to remain with me after school. I constantly talked to the parents, and I tried some of the things that my teachers taught me when I was here at Orange County Training School. I stayed in touch with the parents, and I let them know that if the student had not done well in school or the student did not have homework then the student had to stay after school. The principle many times came by and said, "You're still here?" I said, "Yes."

BG: Sounds like award-winning teaching to me. Did you get any awards as a teacher?

MJ: Yes.

END OF TAPE 1, SIDE A

START OF TAPE 1, SIDE B
JONES, MARY NORWOOD

JANUARY 17, 2001

BG: Mary, did you win any awards as a teacher?

MJ: Yes, I was awarded my first year teaching at McKinley. I did some things that no other teacher had ever done. I never had any youths that sat in the bleachers. They always helped, you know the students with some of the physical education classes that sit in the bleachers; those students had many things to do. I would send them to the library and the librarian knew about this, and they would assess the rules or regulations of games and they had to report those to me and they were graded accordingly. I gave students more than just dressing for class and participation. I also gave them written tests. I had the senior students do those. I had all ninth graders that came from one school. I had all ninth graders that came from one of the junior high schools to McKinley High School. I had all of the females and they had to have written tests.

BG: How long did you teach?

MJ: I taught for about four or five years and then I stopped teaching. I was the second female ever in a very special juvenile delinquency prevention program and we had teachers that came from New York and Philadelphia to orientate with our program prior to going into the classroom.

BG: Was this a federal program or a local program?

MJ: Yes, it was with--. See the District of Columbia had all governmental jobs until of late for the so-called home rule and then all the jobs were governmental sponsored.

BG: Could we stop here and continue. I would like to talk to you a little bit more, but I am running out of time.

MJ: Oh, all right.

BG: Would that be all right with you?

MJ: Yes.