

Albert and Louise Strong

Q: Today's date is July 22nd, 1997. I'm interviewing Albert and Louise Strong at 2305 Foster Avenue, in Evanston. One of one, sorry, one of two.

(break in audio)

Q: All right.

Louise Strong: All right, I'm Louise Sutton Strong.

Albert Strong: And I'm Albert Strong.

Q: OK, sit back, relax, enjoy. (laughter) I guess I first want to ask Mr. Strong, who your parents were. [Did they grow up?] in Evanston, where they came from?

AS: No, my parents, Joanie and Sirius Strong. And they are from communist Georgia. And, they came to Evanston, I think it was around 1922. No, '24. And -- when -- I was just a baby when we came here, and I had three brothers. And I've been in Evanston ever since.

Q: What did your parents do?

AS: Domestic work. My father was a laborer and my mother did domestic work.

Q: Where was your father doing his work? Was it just all-around Evanston?

AS: It was around Evanston, yes.

Q: OK, so, [if anybody's?] hiring --

AS: Right.

Q: And Lou.

LS: Oh, my dad came from Tennessee, but he came here -- his grandmother, he'd never known her, and she went back to Tennessee to look for her children that had been taken away from her, sold away from her. And she was working in Indiana, and she saved enough money to take an excursion back to Tennessee, Nashville, that area. They were in a little town called Eagleville. And my dad was just a lad, you know, teenage, about, I guess nineteen or something. And he came back with his grandmother and found that there was work in Chicago and Evanston. That was in 1900 when he came here. And my mother, she was from Asheville, North Carolina. She had graduated from Allen Home Academy for Girls, that was a parochial school. And then her -- her father was like a -- he was a landscape garden and cement finisher. And he was able to put her through school. She also went to college so when she got her degree she came here, to visit cousins in North Chicago. And consequently, they met, were married, and all of us were born here. Well my dad came here in 1900 so things were really -- you know, he would tell me a lot of things, now I wish I had listened to more of it. Yeah.

Q: Did both of you go to Foster School?

AS: I went to Foster School, yes. And Evanston Township.

Q: What was the experience like in Foster School?

AS: Well, Foster School was predominately black. It might have been, oh, four or five Caucasians there. Which lived in the black neighborhood. But other than that, Foster was all-black. All black. With all white teachers.

Q: Were there any school activities that you were able to be involved with?

AS: Only athletics, at the park across from the school. But school itself had no activities other than we had a little woodwork, like that. But other than that, it was just straight school.

Q: Was there anything at Foster School -- did you find anything disturbing to you or things that rose [question line?] about unfair treatment or was this [oblivious?] to you?

AS: Well, the teachers were pretty hard on some of the [00:05:00] kids. I saw kids getting spanked with rulers and all that, while I was at school. And if you didn't learn, they had a class, what's it called, Special Help. You went to that class. And, that's the way it was.

LS: I didn't get to attend Foster School. My parents lived on the east side of town. They lived on Maple Avenue. Which is -- that part where we lived torn down now. Northwestern

parking lot. But I went to Noyse School, which there is no Noyse School anymore (laughs). And there were very few of us a black there. And we -- we had to -- we had good teachers there that really taught. And they took time to, once in a while, if I would raise my hand, you know, for answer a question, and I wasn't called on, I guess I was what they call pretty sassy. Because I would say, you know, how can you grade me when you don't call on me? You don't know what I know because you're not really teaching me. And I was really, you know -- my mother was right on the case too, she was in the PTA, things like that. And then I had to have Home Economics -- they didn't have it there, so we went to Lincolnwood School for that twice a week, after you reached sixth grade. Then you would transfer to Haven, so I went to Haven in the early '30s and I graduated from there. And then went to Evanston Township High School where they had this black [belt?], I was in 324, but the schools were that way. But the schools were completely integrated when I started the schools because so was the community. My cousins lived in North Evanston, on [Bowers?] Place, we lived on Maple Avenue, and I was born on Jackson Avenue, which was predominately white. When I was born, that was 1919. And my sister, [Tenell?], was born down on David Street because dad said they're

barbershop was at Orrington Avenue and Davis Street. And the blacks had most of the downtown area, that's where they were living, you know. And, dad said that little by little they crowded people back. He said, now, like, Evanston Township High School -- when my sister graduated from there it was on Dempster Street, had you heard that part? Mm-hmm. And then out this way was all white, and vacant lots and things, because when Ringling Brothers would come to town, this was marsh land. And -- just be open fields, Pitner and Fowler had been heard of. And dad said that's why the high school was built out here because it was predominantly white area, and it was wide open space. And they had no idea at all that they were pushing -- they found that they had the -- blacks had the -- negroes as they called, but [back in the day?] you know, colored -- they really had the better part of the city of Evanston sewed up. And they lived in South Evanston, off Sherman, Hinman, Judson, all over. And when they began to -- you know, more and more negroes migrated, they started bunching them together. The streets weren't paved out this way even. But as far as schools concerned, when I went out there, I didn't like it, because there were the [tri-ring?] girls, you couldn't join any of the organizations in the high school. So, that's why they had them at the Y, you know. Girls Reserve and

the Hi-Y and the [Quite Correct?] Girls Club and things like that. We had the ORP boys, the ORP girls, Open Rope Pioneers, that was a nice club. And that was just about the only place we could go for any kind of recreation, other than over at Foster. But I had cousins that went to Foster School and those teachers over there, they said to me, the Home Economics teachers were going to bring their laundry to teach them laundry work. You know, everything pointed toward domestic work. And they had a strong Parent Teachers Association at Foster. I can remember some of the kid's mothers, you know, they went over there and really stayed on the case. And I guess as far as school is -- I was really close to Northwestern in a way, and Bernie Jefferson, Louise Foster, those were very brilliant students that had come from elsewhere. And they -- she lived in a home on Garnett Place, which was [Ayers?] Place at the time. And Bernie lived at the Y, I think he stayed at the Y, either in someone's home. And that's about all I know about school.

Q: What was your experience at Evanston Township?

AS: Evanston Township, [00:10:00] when I started there, you could not sit next to a white student. We had a black row and a white row. Your seat partner had to be negro, black. You didn't have a white seat partner. And, it's a lot

different now. You know, we had homerooms, and you go to class. I was in two or three classes, all-white with the exception of myself. And that (inaudible). They had a big swimming pool, they covered it up so that blacks couldn't go swimming in the swimming pool. And that's the way it was. And they just kept adding on and adding on to the school out there. But, it was kind of rough. Kind of rough.

Q: Were there any -- was it just the whole atmosphere was rough? Like, the teachers would try to promote --

AS: Yeah, well, the teachers, some of them were all right. Other ones were pretty hard on kids because when you come out of Foster School, you really were not prepared for high school. Some of the kids were just pushed on out of the way, you know. So, naturally after a year or so you dropped out. Kids dropped out of school, because they really wasn't prepared for algebra, business training, and all that stuff. Coming out of Foster School. But the other schools were different, you know.

LS: Oh, I was just going to say, there was some very brilliant kids that came out of Foster School. In fact, most of them, you know, that really achieved out of the high school and went on to college. It was there -- if you wanted to learn, it really -- but you had to go through a lot of

changes, like in the music department, [Rafferty?] I think her name was. I'm not sure if that was at Foster or what, but anyway --

AS: Yeah, it was at Foster.

LS: Well, the music teacher there, she was trying to get a black chorus together. And Melvin Smith, you've heard of him. Yeah, talk with him. Well Melvin Smith was the first one that really challenged the music department because he was there, and they hadn't said anything, but they were trying to do that. And I was in the homeroom where all the cross -- you know, like seat seven, range ten, range one through twenty or whatever, and the same seat seven and that made a black belt across the room. And, yeah, it was true that you couldn't have a white seat partner or anything. And it's true that you might have a -- a class with maybe just one or two of the blacks in there. But every teacher that I came in contact with, they wanted to teach. They took as much time with me -- because all of them didn't appreciate some of the things that were being done there. They had no way, you know, but they spend a lot of time -- I had very good teachers out there. And, only thing is that we couldn't belong to the Boots and Saddle Club, that was a horse-riding club. You just

couldn't do those things, they hadn't gotten that far yet, you know.

AS: You were not allowed to the proms.

LS: Well, we had --

AS: We had our proms at the YMCA or the Masonic Temple. You weren't allowed at their proms.

LS: Well, no, they did, you know --

AS: No, you were not allowed.

LS: No, I said, no, you couldn't have [them there?]. But the things that I noticed so much is that I went to school with all the kids at Noyes and [OK?], this kid that, you know, we were really good friends, and parties and things, youngsters. But when we got to high school, "Hi kid," you know, and keep going. Not all of them, but most of them, you know. But, at Foster School they had teachers with bachelor's degrees and then when we began to get teachers like my cousin's wife, Eddie Lee Sutton, I know you've heard of her. OK. She had to have a master's degree in the first place to go over there. But, this is true, the colored mothers, some of them, did not want their children in a black teacher's class. They did protest. Did you hear that? Yeah, well, that was true. And they didn't have sense enough to realize that they would have had more to offer to the children. And I -- I -- Foster School was

[00:15:00] at one time mostly white. Because old man Foster that moved all these houses around, the school was named after him and it was a white school, you know, mostly white. You see how well it was built. It looks better than most of the schools they had around here. But all on Dewey Avenue, Darrow, all of that was white. All on Emerson Street. You know, there was boots stores -- yeah, shoe stores and all that was between Asbury from -- from Asbury all the way down, Nelson Store, and barbershops, everything. And down on Davis -- no, it was on Benson Avenue, like between Davis and Church, that's where all our doctors were. And they were all grey-weather board built, and they had these steps that go up. Cement steps. And that was where the dentist was, you know. I can't think of his name now. But like dad said, the barbershop was down that way, and really -- down Sherman Avenue, all around Nichols School, that area, those are older houses if you notice. And, like, coming out here, this way, we moved on Dodge and I think Foster was paved, just one block of Foster between Darrow and Dodge on Foster. That was our skating rink. (laughter) And we moved from -- in 1920 -- well, I was born on Jackson and we moved over on Dodge Avenue in, it must have been around 1925. And all-brown avenue with [oak community hospital?], all-white neighbors.

And on the corner, there at Simson and Dodge, they were white. And the blacks began to migrate in this new area with new homes. Like this one was built in 1926. And when we moved out here, the canal was high up there, they dug it out, you know. And then every Saturday or Sunday I could go out there and stand at the gate and it was a beautiful bridle path with white fence. And they would be in there riding, (inaudible) all the white people, it was really a nice bridle path. You remember that?

AS: Yeah.

LS: Yeah. And then I might have not -- I might not have been here when they leveled it off, but I remember when they did all the paving and everything out here. And my dad -- my dad worked -- I didn't ever tell you -- he was a plaster, but at that time you couldn't have -- own your own construction company or anything, you had to work for someone. So, he worked for Martin Cochran and Company. And one of the little guys used to throw stones in his mortar, and he said he would pick him up and spank him and then he became a judge here in Evanston, because around 1929, when the depression hit, he was a judge then. And my dad went down and told him, you know that, you know, I have a family, and your dad laid me off but kept the fellow that didn't have a family. He said, so there's only one way to

make money around here. My dad broke policy. That was, like, you know, the lottery. Because he said we had to eat, we had to have clothes, because he had all girls. So, we made it through the depression all right. My uncle, he worked through the depression because public service is what they called it, now it's ComEd, they separated it. But he made gas, and he worked through the whole depression. There were quite a few that did, you know, and were able to buy homes and things. So, it -- it's a -- I don't, like -- going way back, I -- just like dad said, when he first came, he said the outer drive was just all forest-like, you know. And there was a path and he drove for Butler, you've heard of him? Yep. My dad drove (inaudible). And he said how they'd have to sit up on top of the big (inaudible) and it would be cold, and he said they would be warm down in there, with the -- I guess there was some kind of heating element that they had.

AS: Hot bricks.

LS: Is that what it was?

AS: Mm-hmm.

LS: And the little -- dad says the little boy (laughs) -- said the little boy was asking his parents, is that a nigger up there? Kept asking and they kept, "Shh, shh!" Daddy said, let the boy talk, he can only say what he's heard. You

know, leave him alone. And Dad said when he'd get back off from those trip down there he'd be so frozen they'd have to lift him off of the carriage, you know. But, you ask a question.

Q: So, that was -- you had made a comment that if you were black you couldn't own your own company, own your own contracting company.

LS: Mm-hmm. No, there were none, you had to work for someone. Had that been true, you know, if you had the -- now like Mr. [Twicks?], he had his own printing business. But I don't -- Dad said that they didn't have enough money or whatever it was, [00:20:00] they always worked for someone. I guess they came here with nothing, and they had to work. But he laid bricks in the church that we attend, Ebenezer. And I was a bit instrumental in helping them get Ebenezer as a landmark because I know who the construction company was that got the bid on it.

Q: Was he --

LS: And put it up. And that was Martin Cochran and Sons.

Q: OK.

LS: So, my dad laid bricks there. And my aunt started the first choir at Ebenezer. Lola Young Downs. So --

Q: Was Ebenezer at one point located on Vincent Street?

LS: Oh, yeah, in a house. There was -- you know, I think it was [Harn?]. I don't remember that part too much, you know, I just remember mostly about Ebenezer on Emerson Street. But, yeah, there were two or three places that Ebenezer started. And they burned, you know. And when we burned in 1980, the basement didn't burn. I remember my cousin James, he was an old man, about 90 years old, he came to visit us here. And he said when he was a boy they would go to the lake and bring the slate and make the roof, and that's why it didn't get through, they had a slate roof on it before they built. Mm-hmm.

AS: And that's the first fire, was on Benson.

Q: OK.

AS: And then they moved over. And -- see Ebenezer, they built one part of it and then they added on to it, so, that's the second, that was 1907. When they built on Emerson Street.

Q: Yeah, I read somewhere -- the reason I brought that up was that I read somewhere and I can never find any other information on it -- or heard somewhere -- that the reason why the original Ebenezer building, house, was burnt was because the pastor was speaking against some Evanston policy, and people didn't like what was said, so the burning was actually an arson.

LS: Oh, yeah, it's possible. I didn't hear that.

AS: I haven't heard that.

LS: You know, we didn't know that. But I didn't know anything except that it burned, you know.

Q: OK.

LS: But mostly by -- there were -- we didn't have anything else to, you know, to gripe about, we just grew into that, you know. And as we got older, and whatnot -- I was always a rebel in school. I really was (laughs). I got into a lot of little things because I didn't like the way I was being treated, you know. And it was very -- it was very -- it was so prominent, you know, the treatment.

AS: It was a (inaudible) --

LS: And some tried to accept it and I could never accept. And I couldn't accept being a domestic when I knew very well that wasn't what I was cut out to be, and my mom, she never worked. My dad worked and she stayed at home. But, there she had her -- her major was English (AS clears throat) and her minor was music, you know. She played at Ebenezer. But we could not split infinitives. And we couldn't end a sentence with a preposition, you know. And I would say, "I was not." She said, "How do you spell that?" I said, "What?" "How do you spell was?" I said, "W-A-S." She said, "That's 'was.' W-U-Z spells wuz and I don't want to hear it

again." And that's the way -- so I went to school all polite. (laughter)

AS: But you know, it was a very segregated town. We had two theaters, the Varsity and the Valencia. Now we could not sit on the first floor. We had to go up to the balcony. We had a Woolworths, (inaudible) we couldn't sit at the counter. If we wanted a hot dog, we had to stand at the end of the counter. And that's the way it was. Now, where Mount Zion Church is, that parking lot across the street. That was about fifteen houses there. That blacks lived in. And all those houses were torn down to put that parking lot in. So, my family was one of the families that -- no, we lived right behind Mount Zion Church, that was one, two, three -- there was three houses there. [00:25:00] And a store. Mr. Fleming had a store right on the corner there. So, it's -- it's -- back then it was kind of rough around here. Certain jobs, it was just minor jobs that you could get. Shining shoes, wash dishes, or something like that. But, it got better. But at one time it was pretty rough.

LS: You know, some jobs, like -- the El use to run on the ground, I'm sure you heard that already. And the stations, they did -- I guess it was still CTA then, I'm not sure. Rapid Transit, that's what it was, Rapid Transit. And they hired a lot of colored -- they fired the little stoles in

each station, and they would ride from station to station doing that. There was some -- and there were, like, the black-owned drugstore, Morris' Drugstore. That was on, well Green Bay road use to be West Rail Road, you've heard that one. And they had a drugstore there, and little by little black business were moving, you know, into the west -- on the west side of Evanston, more or less. I think Vose Bootery is up on Central Street now, but that was an old family store. And there -- but I -- Evanston was integrated if you ask me, way back when. You know, before they moved all those houses. The Logans, the Suttons, the Lightfoots - I think they were the last ones to move off of -- they were on Forest View Road. And they made an alley out of Bowers Place that my cousins lived on. And they went to Willard School. But when my daughter was going -- when I was in the PTA there was three segregated schools. It was Lincoln, down on Main, I think, and Hinman, down that way. It was Willard. And it was Foster. So that's when we went to bat to desegregate the schools. And Joe Hill was the principle. Have you heard all of those things? Yeah, I said it would be repetitious, you know, things like that. But you had some questions, maybe I can come up with some --

AS: (inaudible)

Q: You answered a lot of questions that I have and you're doing exactly what I want you to do (laughter). I ask questions, you keep going with it.

LS: Keep going. (laughter) Yeah, I'm just jumping from one thing to the other as I think back.

Q: That's fine, that's perfectly fine. [Want to?] switch gears here. What was your first job?

LS: The first job I had was the NYA, National Youth Association, that was, you know, out at the high school, because I went to High School during the Depression. And this was a federal job. And we got six dollars a month, for the National Youth Association. And after that, I had my classes changed so I'd have them all in the morning in the afternoon, and I had -- they called them mother's helpers then. And you'd leave and go to -- you'd leave school and go to your job, and I worked for the [Goldies?]. And they were very nice. You'd be surprised at how they would interview you. There were -- they wanted to know if you spoke properly. You know, they were looking for someone that didn't' speak, you know, the dialect around the children. Yeah. So that was the first [bit of poison?] I got, you know, was working out. And after then, I -- after school and everything, I went to Washington D.C., I married in Washington D.C. And I worked for the

federal government. I went to California and worked because I knew -- I liked Civics, that was one of my favorite subjects. And I knew that we had a quarter of the jobs, you know. For our state and each city had so many and Ralph Church was our alderman at the time -- no, he was our representative, I'm sorry. And he was in Washington D.C. And I just couldn't do domestic work, I got in trouble trying to do domestic work, didn't I?

AS: Mm-hmm. (laughter)

LS: And that's why, when I got old enough for social security, I didn't have any coming (laughs). Not a cent. So, that was -- but, so that was mostly the gist of it. You know, that was all you could do, was domestic work. And I did do it. Then I worked at the [Chanini?] shop which is no longer on Davis and Orrington. I worked there.

AS: (inaudible)

LS: It was jewelry. [00:30:00] They sold jewelry. And I used to take jewelry to be repaired down in the Loop, by [north well base?], they would never expect me of having -- carrying fifty or a hundred thousand dollars' worth of jewelry at any time. I did that, and I learned how they cleaned silver. How they mended all those sorts of things. I worked there. And when plastic first came out I worked at a plastics place where they made all these decorations

for Christmas and holidays and things, you know, out of plastic foam. And I worked at -- it's not Green Bay Road then, it was -- I can't think of the name of it. But it's in that now. It moved out, I don't know where it is. But it's out west someplace.

AS: (inaudible) north --

LS: We made toys and things, you know. [Pressed molders?] and what not. Had an assembly like, I worked on that. What else did I do? But for the last -- for the last, I guess, forty years or so, I haven't worked, only at home, you know. Mr. Strong says he could handle it.

Q: And what was your first job?

AS: (laughs) I did a lot of [little bit of everything?]. Delivered newspapers, shined shoes, cleaned barbershops. That's all you could do then. I used to walk to Wilmette, clean a barber shop and shine shoes. Same thing in the North Side of Chicago. That's all we could do. Until, well, I got a job driving a truck. Oh, I worked at [Clayton Mark?], then I went in the service. When I got out of service, Clayton Mark went on strike so I went and got a job driving a truck. And I did that for about eleven years, and then I went to the postal service, and that's what I retired from. I started in the postal service unloading trucks and dumping sacks of mail.

Q: Was that here in Evanston?

AS: Right.

Q: OK.

AS: And, when I retired, I retired as manager of mail processing. So, I did -- well, with the time as a substitute, close to thirty years there. And I retired at sixty. And I've been retired now seventeen years. So, I was blessed that way. To get the job with the government with all the benefits and things.

LS: It really paid off. He was driving a truck and I think he got to be thirty-four, thirty-five -- I said, How long you think you could be jumping off of that truck, you know? But he was working for a company called [Blue and Clifford?] and he was the only colored that was working there, he drove the truck and he was -- they put him in the union and they didn't even know he was black, in that union, you know. And he was not allowed to do anything other than drive. But he didn't want to not drive and he jumped into the truck one day, to help them unload, you know, the laborers. And he stuck a pitchfork through his foot, and he couldn't even let them know, you know. Otherwise he would have been fined. That's why they have these unions and things. So, I was sitting on the couch and I saw my girlfriend out the window, she said, Tell Albert that he

can go down to the post office, they're hiring. Because they had laid him off for the winter. Paid good salary during the other time, but then they laid him off. And he went down. And he didn't get back and I wondered where he was, and I kept worrying and worrying about -- I guess it must have been about nine or ten o'clock at night he called me, he said, "They put me to work right away. And I had to go and be bonded, and whatnot." And he started with the (inaudible) at the post office and got on just like that. They were in dire need of help. And they sent him to --

AS: Things were different then. (laughs) You know.

LS: Oh, it's different now, you know. He had to, of course, take the test and pass that. And then my cousin -- when my mother came to visit here, the [Vounces?] she kept it pushing. And every exam that come up have him take it whether he passes it or not, you know. And he did pass the supervisor's test and all these things, but they were not giving him the job. And we had a little group -- we weren't little, we were big. Bennett Johnson and Greg Doolin and John Harris, myself, Edna Summers, [00:35:00] we were called the Committee for Better Education.

Q: OK, when was that formed?

LS: When was it formed?

Q: Yeah.

LS: During the Stokely Carmichael and Martin Luther King days.

Because we had the --

AS: In the '50s (inaudible).

LS: It was in the '60s? Angie had started --

AS: No. I was --

LS: -- the school. It was around '64, honey, let me tell it.

When I got involved. And that was around 1964. Up to 1967

I was financial secretary and I still have my books there,

so I know what years it were, you know. And -- you made me

lose my point (laughs). Oh darling. Where was I? Anyway,

we had this committee for better education, and we were

instrumental, really, in getting schools desegregated.

That was the group. Mrs. Cole is dead now, but she was

very instrumental, and we were seeing that Joe Hill would

get a job comparable to the one that he had as a principle,

before they turned Foster School into a magnet school,

you've heard all that I'm sure. OK. And we were right

there at the beginning and the end, you know, saying things

like that. And then Mrs. Summers, she was working at the

Evanston Township High School, she was working at the

cafeteria. And I was chairperson of the review board and

we met out at Lutheran General Hospital, the doctor's

quarters, you know, upstairs. And we realized that the

funds for the [OEO?] program was running out, they were

running out. You know, we had to get people to match them. Whatever. And Muldoon was -- Mrs. Muldoon, she was working for the Board of Education, white woman, she was wearing two heads under one cap, you know, you can't do that too well. And she only had one black person hired and that was my sister-in-law as a cook over there, Hazel Strong. And when she came to the meeting and everything and we were reviewing what she had done, I told her, I see no place here where you have parents involved, and you cannot take these children without involving their parents. And I thought the best thing would be a parent coordinator, you know. And get them in some way. And we fished out a five thousand dollar a year job. Mrs. Summers said, I'll take it -- she was on the board. We said, but we'll lose your vote! She said, I'm sorry, kids. I've got to take it, and she came right out of that kitchen and took that job and then she began to go on to school -- you know, it had a lot of potential. And she did too. And she made it on up through the ranks of the (inaudible). Yeah. And I was always really trying to help people, and Doctor Spencer, he brought sickle cell through, you know. And I worked with that, [Fanny?] Bennett and myself, we spear-headed that. And we -- at the community hospital. And then we had to (inaudible) work still is. And we -- you know, we worked -

- I was, like, more or less out here working on civic work. That was my thing. Trying to get people to register to vote, and we wanted to educate people in everything. You know, like register to voters, getting to the PTA and all of these things like that. And then we would be trying to let them know how the property was around here. You know, that they were planning. When Mayme Spencer became our alderman, she went around --

Q: [Keep going?]

LS: You want me to keep talking?

Q: Yeah, keep going.

LS: She -- she went off to the fifth ward and she saw the plight. And she noted it and she reported it, you know, at the council meetings and things, and the next thing we know, they were gassing up all the bulldozers because they were coming up with a rezoning of the fifth ward. Which meant that the houses had to conform, and you had to have a forty-foot front -- you had to have a 125-foot back, or more. And a certain height. Well this house was too tall to conform, because we had a [41-foot front?]. Across the street they had about an 80-foot front, but no back. And they wanted to rezone us to an R4, from an R5. You know what R5 means, you can have multiple dwellings. And we had to hire an attorney, we hired an attorney, [Ming?], and

when they had that council meeting, he couldn't get here so, you've heard of Bennett Johnson (inaudible) Bennett? Bennett just told them that he was from Attorney Ming's office and that we were asking for a continuance.

[00:40:00] And that happened. And we -- we won the case. They didn't rezone us. And things like that. I was always working in that area. I wanted things better, than they were. And that was when my daughter was in school, going to school. And that's when I got involved.

Q: Was there a problem, through your lifetime, in getting housing, just in the general community? Was it difficult for African Americans to get housing?

LS: Well, it was difficult for them if they were going to buy. You couldn't buy -- you couldn't get an Evanston bank to finance a home. Not even -- you know, when we were coming -- when we were younger, you know, you just couldn't -- like, my brother-in-law, he was going to build (inaudible) on Leeland. And he wanted to get a loan through the state bank, it was the state bank then. And they said they would -- they said they had, how many? They had about 11 negroes in Evanston that were worth over 50,000 dollars, which was a lot of money then. And if he could get one of them or two of them to co-sign, then they would let him have the

loan. So, he went on down to Broadway Bank, like everybody in Chicago. They all got their loans on homes in Chicago.

AS: He had to go to the uptown bank to get a loan to buy a home. He couldn't get it -- we have three banks, he couldn't get a home loan from either one of those banks.

LS: And the church --

AS: They just wouldn't give you a loan. So, most of the people then went to the uptown bank. That's where they got a loan.

LS: And (inaudible), you know. Some of them had -- the people that would couple jobs working in the domestic field, their employers would, you know, go to bat for them and they could buy without going there. Everybody didn't go there. And then there were so many homes around -- like this home was built from the ground for eleven thousand dollars. The house next door was 5,500. To my dad, but 6,000 -- I played in all these houses around here. When they were building them, you know. And they weren't high at all, but it was costly at that time. Mm-hm.

AS: It was a lot of money then.

LS: But we didn't have -- we had all these grocery stores, you know, the [Nice N' Tea?] was what we had. The A & P and the [Nice N' Tea], I don't know if you ever heard of those or not. But they did not hire any black clerks, or

anything. Nelson Store over here on Emerson, which is the magic shop now, I think, or near the magic shop. That was it. They hired because the neighborhoods were changing, more black were moving on to the west side. Mm-hm.

Q: You had talked earlier about the parking lot -- well, what's now the parking lot over by Zion Church. You said you grew up around there? Or --

AS: Yes, I lived over there.

Q: You lived over there?

AS: Mm-hm.

Q: When did that all come down? What year -- or about what year?

AS: Let me see. What happened? [Shan Meran?], that building -- that was a cold year. And, Shan Meran -- no Weiboldt's was there, I think. Yeah, Weiboldt's was there. And we lived between Clark Street and Church Street. Ridge Avenue and Oak. Blacks lived in all that section there, with the exception on Church Street. White lived there. And we all -- but --

LS: That was recent then --

AS: (inaudible)

LS: -- that was recent when they tore this down. That was -- you're talking real -- when you --

LS: No, no, no, I was a kid over there.

LS: But he said when did they remove -- you know, when did they relocate those homes. They --

AS: They tore them down and --

LS: No, they moved some of them.

AS: When?

LS: Mrs. Shirley --

AS: Where?

LS: Mrs. Shirley had to move her sister's house. And they moved --

AS: I'm trying to think of where --

LS: It must have been around -- it was in the '60s, I guess it was.

AS: No, no, no, no, no.

LS: 'Seventies?

AS: Before then. Way before then. It was back in the '40s. Because I never will forget it --

LS: No, honey.

AS: -- that was all sand then.

LS: I know, sweetheart but --

AS: You know how long we both been gone and Shan Maran's? been there?

LS: But, '40s honey?

AS: Yeah.

LS: No, I came back from Washington D.C. in the '40s.

AS: I went to the post office in the '50s and the post office -
- the original post office was on [00:45:00] Church Street
and Orrington Avenue.

LS: No, no, Sherman.

AS: Sherman. Yeah, Sherman and Church. And we were living
over there when the new post office was built.

LS: He just only asked when did they tear it down and make a
parking lot.

AS: Well, I --

Q: You told me a lot more (inaudible).

AS: The new post office was built. But when -- when -- when
all that happened they didn't build that parking lot. They
had a parking lot, Weiboldt's had a parking lot there.
Then when Shan Maran's went in there, they tore Weiboldt's
parking lot down and built their own -- Weiboldt's had a
double-deck lot. You could --

LS: I agreed with you, but not the year.

AS: The year? I'm talking about when it first happened. When
Weiboldt's come in there. [They had a?] -- everybody had
to move out of there. The (inaudible) lived in there, the
Avery's lived in there, Simon Matthew lived in there. And
Rose [Wattnim?] lived in there. Keith family lived in
there. All of us were in there. That was when Weiboldt's
was built. So, that had to be back in the '40s. When they

put all them people out and put a parking lot in there.

And they took that coal yard, which had a big fence around it, and built Weiboldt's.

LS: Honey, Weiboldt's was on Davis Street. You're getting your years mixed up.

AS: Where did I buy you that ring?

LS: At Weiboldt's.

AS: On Church Street.

LS: Yeah, but honey, that wasn't in the forties. I didn't marry you until '49. (laughter) This is funny because I know he's forgetting a lot of things, not only this but he does forget a lot of things. But Weiboldt's was on Davis Street --

AS: I may forget the year, but I know --

LS: Yeah, you're forgetting the year, which is important, honey, that's how history goes. But Weiboldt's was on Davis Street, and Angie is thirty -- my daughter's thirty s--

Q: (inaudible)

AS: Mmm?

LS: What? Huh?

Q: Davis and what?

LS: Between Benson and Sherman on Davis. That's where the old Weiboldt's was --

Q: So, you mean, where the Woolworths is now, it used to be --

AS: Across the street.

LS: Across the street. It was in the eight hundred block on Davis Street. And it was all wooden floors. You know, all-white, but then they finally got a very light fella to run the elevators, you know, that was the only negro that was working there. And Weiboldt's had big, wide wooden steps when you go down in the basement and everything. And, um, if I wanted to buy a hat or anything like that, I had to put tissue paper on my head, if I want -- so, naturally I didn't ever want a hat, wear a hat, you know. And my mom went down there -- my mother died in 1938. She -- so Weiboldt's was still there. And when she went down, she was going to buy an umbrella. And she had picked up what she thought she like, you know, and the moment the clerk told her, Oh, I don't think you'd like that, that's an expensive one, you know. And my mother told her, That's exactly what I'd like. If it's for sale I'd like to buy it. You know, and they just kind of kept you down. You didn't have -- they didn't think we had any money, or anything. But my dad made good money plastering, he really did. And we lived pretty good, you know, here in Evanston. And Weiboldt's was there for a long time. And then, What Albert is talking about -- and we had friends over there

and whatnot. We moved out here -- back here, I was here in (26?), I moved back out here in '51. And all of that happened after '51, over there. David, Thomas, and different ones. Ms. Shirley, and all of them. And some twins lived over there -- Albert didn't even hardly know the people that lived over there after he had moved off of, you know, wherever they lived. I went to high school with your brother, [Jode?], and you all didn't like over on Clark Street then.

AS: What I'm speaking of --

LS: But it wasn't in the '40s. But I was just going to say --

AS: I lived over there --

LS: Let's get the history down, now.

AS: This is what I'm doing.

LS: Weiboldt's is where by sister was born. I told you she was born on Davis. She was born in 1904. On Davis and Benson. And Weiboldt's use to be called Rosenberg or something like that, and they changed the name of it, Daddy said, to Weiboldt's. And when they did rebuild over there where he's talking about, they needed the -- the store was built but they needed a space where the black people lived for parking. And they did have an upper and lower deck, you know, [00:50:00] parking. But Angie, my daughter -- I've got spreads down in the basement, upstairs, somewhere, now

that I bought there, so you know it hasn't been that -- too long ago. And his granddaughter even --

AS: I was a kid when those houses now, moved away. But, when they put Weiboldt's in there I was (inaudible), and that's been some time ago. Because we went to Mount Zion church. I was baptized at Mount Zion Church. So --

LS: In 1940 you were married and had a child.

AS: I said, in the '40s.

LS: No, I don't care what you said, you --

AS: (inaudible)

LS: -- but you weren't a kid. You know what I mean?

AS: I had the date wrong maybe.

LS: Well you do have about 20 years wrong. (laughter) You were married, Albert, and had a child in 1940. [Your daughter?] was born in '39. Now, get it together.

AS: Well, anyway, I remember them tearing it -- (laughter)

LS: I didn't want to bring all that up (laughs).

AS: (inaudible) store there.

LS: If you was a kid I robbed the cradle. (laughs) So, now you coming around, honey? You started at the post office in 1955.

AS: It's been so long.

LS: OK, then, I know you've been [getting a lot of things?].

AS: But I still think when the post office -- there was only, what, about maybe a couple of black carriers and one black clerk.

Q: (inaudible) you remember?

LS: Yeah, mm-hmm. Mr. Sweat --

AS: Sweat.

LS: -- and Mr. Richardson.

AS: No, three clerks, Sweat, Richardson, and Eugene Weatherall.

LS: Yeah, there were three.

AS: And Frank Payton worked in the window. And then when they got the Civil Rights and all that, they had to give some more minorities positions. Charlie Platt was the first black supervisor and I was the second, at the Evanston Post Office. There was no clerks, maybe one of two, [none?] worked in front window. And only three black carriers, at the Evanston Post Office. So, that's something that has changed. At one time it was sixty percent black at the Evanston Post office. And now, it's mostly Latinos there. I don't know what happened.

LS: Well, they changed from a civil service to -- you know, from retirement from being taken from your check, to social security. And they're now trying to get all of those that are civil service workers out, you know. They've set up, like, severance and all that, and all these little benefits

and whatnot to get you out, so everybody'll be on social security. Because the post office has always run in the red. And they've been trying to, you know, bring it -- that retirement thing out.

AS: They want to do, they want to get it on the social security instead of pension. You know. Federal pension.

LS: So, they're trying to do that. But I've seen so many, you know, like, things change. Like, when I lived on Maple Avenue there were only two black families over there, the Baileys and the Suttons, you know, and whoever else lived downstairs. And it was -- I never -- I guess, a lot of people did, because there was Mrs. Alice [Cummingsworth?], she ran a home laundry, you know. She didn't go out to work anywhere. There were a lot of people that worked in their homes that didn't go out to work. But it was, like -- when I started working it was three dollars a week. And car fare. That's for half a day, I guess if you worked a whole day you got five dollars, a week. And car fare, like that. And I remember trying, it was in 1940, and I didn't know Albert then. It was in 1940 and I come back home from Washington D.C. and I took this little job because my mother was running short and I went to the employment [00:55:00] agency and they sent me up to Kenilworth. To the Schaeffer's, to work up there. And it was like --

Q: What employment agency was that? (inaudible)

LS: It was Mrs. Smith, Mel Smith's mother had a -- did you know that? Yeah. Smith's Employment Agency. And she sent me up there. And that was going to be eighteen dollars a week, you know. And car fare. And I had worked four days when she put my uniform on the doorsteps, after the house was all cleaned, the win -- not windows, but I had done the glass sliding doors, and the shower, you know. All that little (inaudible), no, you wouldn't know. But however, she did not pay me the four dollars for those -- a dollar a day. And it wasn't at all. Instead of me going back to the employment agency I took matters into my own hands, broke out all they windows. You know, I was just that angry with her. She wouldn't answer the door. And I called on the phone, she answered, and I said, "This is Louise." She hung up. And that was -- that was the beginning of World War II. Around that time. And things were still pretty nasty at that time. But, oh, I had a cousin that worked at the Icehouse, it was called Powers Icehouse on Ridge Avenue where Whole Food is -- what they call, Whole Food, up there? Yeah. And he worked there and -- dealing with the ice. You know, you go about to the icehouse and get your ice. And one thing I noticed, the houses -- we all lived in houses and seemed like all the

apartments and things were in an area that, still occupied by white, a lot of it, you know. And they put the ice in the back, you know, when I went out to work or any place at all, their ice didn't come -- you know, before refrigeration, their ice was put in from the back porch. That little door they opened, put it in. And we just didn't have all the -- we had all the houses and -- on -- right across from [Quinn?] Powers there's a little house on the corner, that the girls lived there, and that was Cross Furniture. And Butler, that great -- oh it was a beautiful -- well you can kind of see that building before they tore it down, they put it in the research park.

Q: I did see it (inaudible).

LS: Yeah, they had the Butler. They wouldn't even let us have the name, you know, the [Warner?] Park or anything. And the Y really got away from us, in this way, we didn't even know when the Christners bought it, but we got a minister that was -- Reverend McKinley Young, he's Bishop McKinley Young now, and we tried to get it. It was a 165 -- no, it was 65,000 they wanted, I guess it was. And we were going to buy it from the Christners. And the city let us know, if we did buy it or whatever, they were condemning it. You know, if we bought it, you know, we didn't have the money to get it together. And they weren't going to fix it up

to sell it. So, it was condemned by the city. Every move we made to preserve anything at all, the city was right there to tear it down and take it away from us. And Evanston is a very prejudice town, they do a lot of underhanded work, like Bob Wheeler was the city planner at that time. And he --

Q: Keep going.

AS: Oh, I was going to say, Bob Wheeler, the city manager, planner, whatever they called it at that time. And we got the prints where they were coming straight down Dodge Avenue with an island all the way down. Which meant they would be tearing down all the houses on the -- those plans are still in the making somewhere, you know -- they still want to get rid of all those houses on Dodge. And they've even had what they call the edifice, you know, which was one church that was on Dodge. It was a house but it was -- they couldn't tear those things down. And we did see them do a lot of things to the black neighborhood, to eliminate homes and things like that. They were either non-conforming or they were -- but, before then they let a developer come in, they let a developer come in and put these three houses, you know, west of here? They put them on two lots, that's why those people -- those houses won't sell. The one next door, this is my uncle's house that was

moved down here from Bower's Place in North Evanston because black lived all through North Evanston, they lived in South Evanston, but very few of them lived on this side of town, but they lived on the east side of town. And, like, I know, when I moved on Garnett -- when we moved on Ayers Place, that was in 1928, my mom was going to go back to Asheville, North Carolina to live, she thought. (laughs) But she didn't, and it was predominately white at the time. [01:00:00] But there were quite a few prominent black people, Mr. [Chitton?], they taught music. And, you probably heard of Mrs. Smith, [Letsi?] Smith, yeah. And, most the people up there were kind of well off. On Garnett. They changed it to Garnett because of Garnett -- what was he?

AS: Hm?

LS: Mr. Garnett? He was a veteran.

AS: He was a veteran.

LS: And that was the first street I have known in Evanston that was named for a black man, that was Garnett Place.

AS: They named the post after him.

LS: Yeah, they named the post, the Garnett Post.

Q: I'm going to stop the tape right here, switch tapes. Are you two comfortable?

LS: Yeah, I'm comfortable.

(break in audio) [01:01:05]

Q: -- and Louise Strong, 2305 Foster Avenue. Tape two of two.

AS: -- around here somewhere. They had the --

LS: [Made that?] every paper he ever wrote. I mean printed, I believe she's got every last one of them. My sister -- I have a sister that's 96 but she only goes for 95. (laughs) But she's like, you know, like you were forgetting years.

AS: Hm?

LS: You were forgetting years and I notice that you forget some things sometimes, but I never correct him, usually, but this is going in, you know --

Q: I eventually verify years but I do -- I get a lot of perspective this way.

LS: Yeah.

Q: What I do is --

LS: But I had to remind him, he wasn't --

Q: -- go back and do all the research.

LS: -- he wasn't -- I had to remind him he wasn't a little kid then. (laughs) A little kid when they moved those houses.

AS: I was a youngster. (laughter)

LS: Boy, you missed -- you skipped a lot of years.

AS: Yeah, well.

LS: I didn't meet you until 1947 or '48. And you --

AS: It was back then.

LS: -- were good and grown then.

Q: I have two questions off hand. I'll try to remember as I go along.

LS: Mm-hmm.

Q: During my research I remember reading a flyer of a theater group, I think it was called the Negro Theater Group, in Evanston, and I think they did -- the flyer I saw was a play that was being done at Nichols.

AS: Nichols?

Q: Nichols School, and I think it was in the, probably the '30s. Late '30s.

LS: Probably was. Nichols was built around that -- let's see. Yeah, it was -- yeah, Nichols was functioning then. Mickey [McGreery?], he graduated from Nichols.

AS: I don't remember --

LS: About 1934, something, yeah.

AS: A play?

LS: Yeah, they would have plays.

Q: It wasn't a play; it was a play group. It was called the Negro Theater.

LS: Ah, the Negro Theater.

AS: Yeah.

Q: It was, like, a group called the Negro Theater.

LS: No, I didn't know about that.

Q: And then there was, I think, the Colored Museum, over on Garnett.

LS: Oh.

Q: Was it on Garnett? I think it was probably done out of somebody's home.

LS: Only person I can think of --

AS: It was near --

LS: [Garrison?].

AS: I think it was up near (inaudible).

LS: Yeah, that's what I'm saying, I can remember Mrs.

Garrison. And she met with us girls, she met with girls. She lived at 1115 Garnett Place. And she was teaching and reading. We had book club, you know, a book club. We read a lot of Yerby, and different ones. You know, Man Without a Country. And -- but we never had any plays. They may have -- see, I left and went to Washington D.C. to live with my older sister for a while. Long time really, you know. And I missed a lot of the things here in Evanston but all I can mostly remember is when I was here and what I knew before I left. And that was nineteen years. And then Dad and them sit around and talk about things, you know. He would talk about how they lived -- he lived on Clark Street over there by Mount Zion, Mount Zion is one of the

oldest churches in Evanston, if not the oldest. I don't know if it's the oldest.

Q: It's the third oldest.

LS: Hm?

Q: Third oldest.

LS: Third oldest. And what about -- which is the oldest?

Q: Ebenezer.

LS: Ebenezer is?

Q: Second Baptist, and then Zion.

AS: Second Baptist came from First Baptist.

LS: Yeah, OK.

AS: And --

LS: Well, I'm trying to think. Yeah.

AS: Because we got together here a year or so ago. First Baptist and Second Baptist. All these other little churches come from those three, just about. Except Church of God and Grace. Springfield is split of Mount Zion. Bethel is a split of Ebenezer.

LS: Well, I remember when that happened.

AS: Second Baptist -- there use to be a Second Baptist right there at Dewey and Emerson. That was a split of Second Baptist.

LS: That was just recently torn down. That was just recently torn down. When I say recently, I mean, within the last,

maybe -- when I say recent I mean the last twenty years, maybe. But might not even be that long. Because Reverend Bradford was the minister there. It hadn't been all that long that they tore that Second Baptist down. And that's where the Jacob [S?] Blake Manor is supposed to be going up. You've heard of that? [05:00] Yeah. I hope we can get it going. Lot of hurdles.

Q: Over in that area on Clark, was that Fleming's Grocery Store --

AS: Right.

Q: -- on that corner? Did you go there a lot?

AS: Oh, (inaudible), Fleming's was the only store around then. Fleming's had a grocery store there, and then, when he left there, I think he went on Emerson Street, there. Right around the Masonic building there. Yeah.

LS: I know Junior Market was there.

AS: Yeah, that's where he went when he left that corner. Because we use to go in there as kids and (inaudible). And where -- the parking lot where Dominick's use to be, there was a packing house there. That's where Fleming use to go and buy his meat. He'd go in there -- take his car and go in there and that's where he got his meat from.

LS: Oh, yeah, that was the packing house. The railroad tracks ran right across Church Street and that whole area, I guess

you got that too. The packing house and after the packing house it was Public Service. They built a nice-looking building there. And then I guess Dominick's came in after that. But Fleming's moved -- when I got to know about Fleming's, was over here on Darrow where -- you know, where Ramy's is? That was -- that use to be a vacant lot because when I could get on the west side -- my mother didn't allow us on the west side (laughs) of Evanston, I don't know why. She didn't. And I had a cousin that lived over on Darrow and when I would go over to her house, I would see this goat tied -- you know, a goat was tied out there, right in Evanston. Evanston had goats, had turkeys (laughs). The [Bacon's?] had turkeys down here. And it was real kind of country. And there was a little church where Friendship is now, it looked like a little one -- one-horse school. You know, it looked like a little one-room schoolhouse, is what I'm trying to say. It was a little gray, little house, with the wooden floors and everything. And that was the beginning of Friendship Baptist Church. And if you come out this way all you could see was just space, you know, and dirt roads. Dempster wasn't paved or anything, you know. And it wasn't developed. That was all, the land was here but it hadn't been developed. And some smart developer came, they put a house on twenty-foot front, you

know, if they let them. But they put them out, just through them up all around, there's nothing consistent. Like in Baltimore, have you been there? And see all the white steps, you know, everything. But Evanston, just a brick here, whatever. And it just went that way.

AS: There was another house right next to Mount Zion. That's where Dorothy [Lipschrim?] lived.

LS: Have you heard of --

AS: Just west of -- west of Mount Zion.

LS: She was the org -- she's our -- she's a musician. She played the piano and she was the minister of music at Ebenezer. She just died recently. But a lot of people at Mount Zion seem to come to Ebenezer. But, the churches are really dying on their feet, you know. The congregation. It's so many in Evanston but if everybody in Evanston decided to go -- all the black people decided to go to church one Sunday, the same Sunday, wouldn't have enough churches to hold them. But, yet, still, they always complain about we have too -- it's just a city of trees, churches, and schools. And as my mother used to say -- she died in 1938, but she knew then, if you can exist in Evanston, barely exist, you can live good anywhere else. Because the economy was so high.

AS: But, you know --

LS: And it's been that way, you know. Excuse me, go ahead.

AS: Go ahead.

LS: No, I was just talking about the economy.

AS: There have been plans, really, to make a big change in this city. You know, you know where Clark Street -- do you know where Burger King is? If you ever notice where they put that street in there, see, that was Clark Street. And they run -- do you know what that is? Elgin Road. They had planned to bring people in off of Sheridan Road, swing down Emerson, they were going to widen Emerson Street to get out here to [10:00] Skokie Highway. That's Elgin Road. Clark Street they just wiped out, just about all together wiped out. Except the part over by Northwestern.

LS: Yeah, that was Bob [Peele?] and them, that was their plan.

AS: That's the Elgin Road, starting at Vincent Avenue.

LS: It's a new -- this is a new bridge over here too, since we've even moved back out this way. They took those two houses and turned them around. They're on Foster now, and they did widen it. And what they intend to do -- it's been so hard hitting the express ways and what not. And if you're on Emerson you see how crowded it is. And I don't think you can even get on Sheridan Road through Emerson anymore. I don't think so, can you?

AS: No, they blocked some of that off.

LS: They blocked some of that off and they really intended to come through -- like I was telling you some time ago, they intended these houses were to become non-conforming and they were going to tear them down and the term we used was just, of course, well, the bulldozers are gassing up, you know, to wipe all of this. Because they find that we're in the prime part of town. And they would like to get it back. Just like south side of Chicago. I remember when we couldn't go any further than South Park, the -- Sixty-third and South Parkway. You couldn't go over -- or just recently that -- my girlfriend, she wanted to move on East End in Chicago, you couldn't move on East End now, that's just, oh. You go away. And things have revolutionized, and changed so. But Evanston, still about the same to me. The complacency in the population is still here. Very few -- like, I'm so proud of a young man like you, you know, really trying to get something, you know, that people will have to grasp on to and hold on to and a lot of it has been buried. I just wish my dad was here to really talk and I'm sorry I didn't listen to him more. And ask questions. But Dad could tell you, I remember when old man so-and-so, you know, owned this, and they had horses and buggies. And I can remember the -- Mr. Roy, his name was Roy Boy, he swept the streets. They had street sweepers all down that

-- because we had the cobblestones and bricks. And -- but there's always been colored that worked for the city. They always had some working for them. And, in terms of if you wanted to achieve and get ahead, you could. But that was the thing that was lacking, was the motivation, you know. The people weren't really motivated to do any more than they would, you know, let them do. Couldn't -- wouldn't climb out on the limb, there was too much "Yes, sir." And "No, ma'am." And all of that going on. You know, it was just a few people that really wanted to tackle City Hall. Like Jourdain did. I wouldn't dare tell you about him because I know you've heard all about him. And -- did -- Rose is over there, his daughter, did you talk with Rose?

Q: Actually I want to speak to Jourdain III.

LS: Oh, you did?

Q: I -- well, I want --

LS: I call him Buddy. (laughs) Yeah, that's Buddy Jourdain, yeah.

Q: I'm sure I can, I haven't approached him yet and talk and I did approach Rose already. She's given me a lot of insight with other things I've been working on for this project, so.

LS: Oh yeah, she did a book, I've got it down there. *Those the Sun Have Loved, Those the Sun Have Loved*, it's all about

her family. And we had a book party for her. One of my church clubs. Yeah. The Hardwick Guild is named after Rose's grandmother, Mrs. Hardwick. Uh-huh. And that's an ongoing auxiliary at Ebenezer.

Q: That Guild is still going on right now?

LS: Yeah, if I can get it started up again. Mrs. Jourdain, unfortunately I think she -- well, I think it's Alzheimer's and she was our president again this time, and I was vice president. And as we got older some of the people just didn't want to, but she's got a -- have you met Robert Boss? He was -- he's at Haven School, I think, right now. I don't know if he's working as Physical Ed or if he's still Assistant Principle, or what. Because Lorraine was principle up there when Angie, my daughter, was going to school. At Haven. And a lot of doors have been opened and closed, I would put it that way. You know, if you don't take advantage of something when it's present, you know, if you don't -- so many people didn't realize, like, you know, like getting grants. We got a grant to do the Sickle Cell Drive, I think it was about -- at that time, about 1,400, [15:00] something like that, to do that Sickle Cell Drive. Then I worked with WTTW, Channel 11, and it was -- that was really interesting. And that was this Attorney Fry, and his wife, I worked with her. Then he got in trouble and so

I didn't get to -- I didn't work anymore because Mary was the one that I worked with, mostly. And he was an attorney for quite a few of the black people around here but he was kind of underhanded. And --

AS: Crooked.

LS: Yeah. (laughter)

AS: Tell it like it is.

LS: (laugh) So, after he wasn't very well-liked anymore, and Mary, she was real nice and it was mostly all white that was working. Two of us, that was Fanny Bennett and myself. But I had the time, because Mr. Strong told me a long time ago, when he would come home, he couldn't tell if I was going out or just coming in, you know. Because I'd be dressing up for here when he come home. And he decided that I'd just stay home because I bought too many clothes and wasn't helping him any, so just stayed home, that's what I had to do. (laughter) Oh, boy. So that's why I had the time to spend, you know, doing these things. But it was just here and there. And getting kids back in school - - they had a -- out at the Evanston Township High School, they would expel the kids. If they weren't attending regularly, and I had to go and get books and look up -- find out what -- how could you expel someone, what were the reasons? And it was the lack of physical ed -- you know,

physical education -- no, physical exam is what I'm trying to say. If they didn't have a physical exam, or if they have been -- if they had been in a mental institution, or, you know, like that. Those were the only reasons for expulsion if you were trying to go and, you know, you had been, it wasn't exactly mental, but it was something like that. They were expelling these kids because the truancy, they were expelling them because -- they can suspend them. But not expel. And then they had a halfway house over here, the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center. And I can't think of his name now, but I had a VIP button, you know, when I would go out to talk with these (inaudible) parents, they didn't care what their chil-- whether they were in school or not. And I went out there and I told them that if this wasn't stopped, or something else was done to help these children, that it was going to hit the newspaper, because I'm from the Chicago Tribune - they didn't know the difference - and then, for a while there was no suspensions, but then they started this halfway house over here. I went over there and found that this teacher over there -- when I went over, they were looking at *The Beverly Hillbillies*. You know, which was hardly educational. You know, it might have been but that wasn't what they were there for. And this teacher over there, he told me he was

on a day-to-day contract. That his wife was sick, and that he knew it was wrong, or he didn't feel that it was maybe the right thing to do so I got that halfway house over there broken down. Get these kids back in school. The Moss boys, across the street, I guess his moth -- the one of them I did get back in school. His dad wasn't even interested. He had a record shop up here. Loyal Moss, Moss' Record Shop? And Maurice was a smart kid, but he was just too smart. You know, he just didn't fit in, he was ahead of a lot of them in his way. And they had expelled that kid, I went out there and got him back and I laid Mattie and Loyal out, they're my neighbors, they got these kids, and they're going to let over them. So, I got so many kids back in school. And there was Paul Edlund. And Paul had an IQ of, oh, it was way above average, I can't exactly tell you what it was now. And they were -- they didn't know what to do with him, you know. That poor kid later on hung himself, you know. And we tried to get the parents involved with their children. And that's one thing that you can go out there to Evanston Township High School now and you probably won't see very many that are out there. Functioning in the PTA. There's one, her name is Evelyn Davis, she's been president -- she was president last year, and she's been re-elected, she was president all

of this year too. And she had things moving. Like my granddaughter, she's in the honor society out there, [20:00] Yvette Robsinson. And she's a freshman. And I was talking to Evelyn, you know, the president out there. I can't go but, Angie could go - that's my daughter - she could go out there, you know, to see what's going on. And she does go, she goes out there for all the conferences and different things like that. And now Yvette is looking for a part-time job. She's fifteen (laughs). And she's looking for a part-time job now, but she went to summer school out there. And there are a lot of children that are really doing well, and it's not -- we just don't seem to get around to lifting up the ones -- even the Evanston Review, they don't have very much on them. You know, like, the four little girls that brought in the championship? That's what Elaine was talking about. And that's what I got into, and that's why she called you. (laughs)

Q: Yeah, she called me. (laughter)

LS: That's exactly what happened.

Q: Then I said --

LS: That Emerson Township High School. Boy, because I really kept them -- I just stayed on them about any little thing. Yeah. And I would write them on stationary, Committee for Better Education.

Q: There was a -- I don't know if this ever happened, if it ever aired, but on radio station WIND, in 1969, was going to air a series -- or did air a series called Evanston Racer. And it was on race-relations in Evanston.

LS: In '69.

Q: In '69. It was December of '69.

LS: They probably did and I probably -- you know, I forget so many things. You know, I'm interested then, and I read, and I got to the point where --

AS: 'Sixty-nine.

LS: -- I don't retain as much as I use to. Like I told you, I'll be seventy-eight next week.

AS: I wonder if that's when the City Hall was on Oak Street. When they were trying to get all the property from Lake Street to Simpson, on Dodge.

LS: Oh, that Mayfair Triangle?

AS: No, no, that's not the Mayfair Triangle.

LS: You read about that didn't -- you heard about the Mayfair Triangle?

Q: Yeah, we were talking about WIND radio.

AS: Mm-hmm.

LS: Yeah, we were. He said he remembers that.

AS: No, I said I wonder if that's when this was. I don't remember it on the radio. But that was -- that was during the time Burt Wheeler was here.

LS: OK.

AS: That --

LS: Bob Wheeler.

AS: Bob Wheeler.

LS: But they went to Arlington, [out from?] Washington D.C., but I do know that the last few years, through [E-EAC?], I'm a member of that, (inaudible) ecumenical, and we've had little groups meeting for home (inaudible) called Building Bridges. You know, race relations. And they wanted to know -- like, when I was there, what is it we could do, you know. And I said, I think the best thing, is, like, there's this Jewish fellow, he's Jewish, I said, for me to learn all about your culture. You know, the things -- the traditions and things. And then you could learn about mine, you know, study up on it, read some history. There's not too much of it in Evanston because Negro history was not taught here. The only thing that I could find in the library that I really knew -- but I didn't -- my mother had Paul Laurence Dunbar. But all her history books were gone, and they just didn't teach anything. I didn't know that there were great statesman, and things like that. Have you

been to the Woodson Library? In Chicago, you know. Have you been there? Yeah. Nothing about Evanston there, is there. No. Very little.

Q: If Evanston doesn't have it, no other place would have it.

LS: No. (laughter) If Evanston doesn't have it, a lot of it's been destroyed because we didn't get a lot of -- now, when I was a kid the Evanston Review was free. And by us living on the east side we got it, but they did not deliver out on this west side, but so far. And then, later on, of course, you paid for it. But for years and years and years, the Evanston Review carried all of the stories. And like my mother said, the Tribune, they didn't have to always put Negro. You can tell sometimes that -- that it's not, you know, everything -- a suspect, you know, like that. And the News Index, it was a little Evanston paper. But all it would carry -- it's just like the Evanston Review still does, police reports, [25:00] the Blotter. But they never had anything like I was saying about these young geniuses that we have, and young students that are really getting no recognition. Not even too much from a lot of the churches, you know. But my granddaughter got a letter from Helen [Cromer?] Cooper, at Second Baptist. But she didn't -- she wasn't able to get there that Sunday. And then Albert's daughter by his first marriage, she taught school for

thirty years. [Arnita?] Young, she taught in the Chicago school system, because I guess -- I don't know why most of the young black teachers taught in Chicago, rather than out here. I guess it just went --

Q: They were actually discouraged.

LS: Oh.

Q: Especially when the first waves of black teachers coming to Evanston were put first into Foster.

LS: Yeah.

Q: And those were -- even before the Foster thing there were already black teachers here but they weren't allowed to teach in Evanston --

LS: That's true.

Q: -- a lot of them got teaching jobs in Chicago.

LS: Yeah.

Q: And then they slowly came to Evanston, because more or less like a force to. So.

LS: Yeah, that's true. I can remember that -- I can remember Eddie Lee being one of the first ones. You know. And she was a speech therapist.

Q: She also opened a publishing company for a while, didn't she?

LS: Pardon?

Q: She also had a publishing company for a while?

LS: I don't know if she did or not, but she did publish her own book.

Q: Yeah.

LS: She had a company, her own book company. Yeah. That's so sad. Her husband is my first cousin, you know, and she -- when she left, when she passed, it just sort of blew him away. She was doing so many things, you know. He was a physical therapist, and they were all born here in Evanston too. Yeah. My sister that was born in 1904 she died about three years ago. But the rest of us are still living. One is ninety-five, on Jackson. [Mrs. Cosby?] She's the one that's got all of Melvin's papers -- [Milson's?] papers. And she was the oldest active member at Ebenezer, and we were breaking ground for the Jacob [S.?] Blake Manor, she broke the ground. That was very -- it was nice, it was cold that day, but we wrapped her up real good. Yeah.

Q: Is she -- is she able to talk, do you think?

LS: Pardon.

Q: Do you think she'd be able to talk?

LS: Did she talk?

Q: No, I mean, I think I skipped -- missed that part --

LS: And I don't hear that well.

W: -- is she -- did she pass or is she still --

LS: She's still living. My sister's -- yeah, this was just a few weeks ago.

Q: Do you think it's possible to interview her too?

LS: I suppose you could. She would probably be able to tell you some things that, like, I don't know. I don't know, she might be. I haven't been over to visit with her for a long time, but my daughter was there, taking pictures, you know. And she's very alert.

Q: What's her name?

LS: She's still on Jackson Avenue -- Mary Cosby. Mary, Cosby. 1940 Jackson. And her phone number is 475-7523.

Q: Probably a [some personal?] information first.

LS: I -- huh?

Q: If you could, introduce me to her --

LS: Oh, talk to her. Do you have Catherine Dotson? Dotson. D-O-T-S-O-N. Catherin Dotson?

Q: No, I don't.

LS: Now, she went to school with my sister that was born in 1904. She went to school with [Tenell?]. And her -- she was Catherine Bell, and then Dotson. Catherine Bell Dotson. And so, she's still living and very alert. And she's on Emerson Street, over here. May have her phone number, I don't know if she's in the book or not.

Q: Yeah, I'm sorry, I'll try to -- I'll speak up more. My dad told me that my voice just fades away.

LS: Yeah, it does. Like, a -- (laughs) and I don't hear too well. Catherine, she's 1912 Emerson, and her phone number is 475-7381. Now, [30:00] I could tell you about her. She will know a lot about Clark Street, and the High School that was on Dempster. She'll know all of that. Because my sister was her very best little friend. And I didn't know my mom -- you know, like, when [Tenell?] was, like -- so she's told me things recently about my mother that I didn't really know. You know, I didn't know if she went to church, I know she played the piano and she played the organ, and all of that. She was an only child, so I didn't have any aunts, anyone to ask about my mom because -- so Catherine has told me a lot. How she'd bake them cookies and things, you know. My mother was very, very good. She loved people and [I do too?].

AS: [Nineteen forty-four?].

LS: Did you read it?

AS: Hm?

LS: Did you go through it when Angie wrote it?

AS: Yeah.

LS: That should have some good stuff in there about -- I don't know about the negro history. But I do know this must,

like, Northwestern and none of these stores would hire, you know, would hire the colored people. And finally they decided, Northwester, to hire busboys, you know, in the cafeteria. And they hired all of our little fair boys, you know. Because they didn't want to boys getting to the girls, but I'm telling you it's going to happen anyway. There was [Bobby Boston?], he married one of the girls. But they had all light people. They had no brown skin, dark brown skin or anything. They all had to be fair. Charlie Sizemore and Louis Carter. All these different ones, those were the first employees over there as black young men. But I lived on Maple Avenue and I'd some them all -- the boys use to bring Louise Foster -- she was so pretty, and she was a co-ed. But she couldn't stay on campus, and she lived on Garnett Place which was Ayers Place then.

AS: (inaudible)

LS: And they walked -- but the boys, the white boys still walked her home so --

AS: -- stay at the YMCA.

LS: It was always been that -- you know, black and white, the white guys were taking her home, white boys walk her home. Yeah.

Q: I just lost my question. (laughter)

LS: No more questions? (laughter)

Q: I just lost it. I had a question, and I lost it. Oh, I remember. Did you ever try and visit or eat in Cooley's Cupboard?

LS: Oh, no but --

AS: Work.

LS: Work there, that was all you could do was work there.

AS: Work in the kitchen,

LS: At Cooley's Cupboard, and they had the bakery upstairs and they just had black that worked up there. And that was a -- oh, yeah, they hired a lot of black. They hired Mr. Dobbins, Clarence Sanders --

AS: Otto worked there too.

LS: Otto, yeah, mm-hmm.

Q: Was there -- if you remember, was there a Mason's Restaurant? A restaurant called Mason's Restaurant?

LS: Mason's Undertaker.

AS: Was an undertaker.

LS: Mason's Undertaker.

AS: There was a restaurant in the Masonic Building.

LS: [Lafume's?] Coffee Pot.

AS: The Masonic Building on Church Street.

Q: OK.

AS: There was a restaurant there. But --

LS: Masonic Building on Church Street?

AS: Sure.

LS: Where?

AS: On the ground floor.

LS: Where?

AS: Hm?

LS: On Church Street, you mean Emerson?

AS: No, on [Emerson Street?], the Masonic Building.

LS: (laughs)

AS: On -- there was a (inaudible) restaurant.

LS: I said, it was [Lafume's?] Coffee Pot was in there.

AS: But I don't remember --

LS: Called it the Coffee Pot.

AS: -- the Masons, called Masons. There was Mason's Undertaker
--

LS: Right down the street was Mason Undertaker. And next door
to Ebenezer there was [Hopgraves?] Undertaker Parlor. And
he got into politics and that kind of killed his business.
And he eventually gave it up, sold it. And, that's where -
-

AS: Well, he was in with Mason, and then he went on his own.

LS: But that -- but I don't remember the Mas -- there was a
woman named Ms. Mason, she might have sold out of her
house, I don't know.

Q: OK. That might be [35:00] -- I have a -- a timeline, I
(inaudible) right. I read about Mason's Restaurant.

LS: You did?

Q: And it was a (inaudible) timeframe as to when it was.

LS: Oh, yeah. I can't --

Q: It might have been earlier than 19 --

LS: It might have been before my time. Maybe Mary'll know
about that, my sister. Maybe Mary'd know about the Mason
Restaurant. But I don't know if she'll know anymore
because she was reared in Tennessee. I guess she was grown
when she came here. Maybe after I was born.

Q: During World War II, I know there was --

AS: Hm?

Q: During World War II, I know there was a lot of, I guess,
controversy about the housing, in Evanston. I know they
had veteran housing along the canal.

LS: Oh, yeah.

AS: Yeah.

LS: They put all of these veteran houses on the north side.
But we -- see was it west?

AS: Hm?

LS: On McCormick they had all those --

AS: McCormick.

LS: McCormick, and they didn't take in the black on McCormick over there, and you had to have three children. At least - - you know, you had to have children, and everything, and they lined those all up. And some blacks did go down and complain, you know, that they couldn't get them. So, they put a few of them up between Dewey and Darrow. On the canal banks and it was the, one, two, three. They had four, they put four over there. And each four had three families in it, you know, three units. So that meant that they had, three by four, twelve families, of black. Now my cousin wanted to get in there, but she only had one child. And then the Evanston Review, it had one soldier and his wife, and they had one child, how happy they were to be in there, you know, advertising, their happiness, that they found in this and what Evanston was doing. She took that Evanston Review and went right straight down there and told them, I have one child, but my husband served in the Navy, you know, and he's just as entitled to one of these veteran homes as anybody else, and it's right here in black and white where you don't have to have three -- they gave her a unit. That was Helen. She's dead now, but she got in over there. And, yeah, it was quite a controversy about it. You know, segregated them. All white on one side of the canal and all black on the other side. But there were many

more units over there. Over by the Arboretum and everything. Oh, yeah. Yeah, that's true. And what else did -- we didn't have any places, you know, like, to go to for any formal thing, except at the Masonic Temple. Before that was built, Mr. Smith down the street told me that they had something on West Rail Road -- they called it the lodge, the Mason's Lodge, or something.

AS: Oh, yeah.

LS: On Green Bay Road. He said around Payne Street, between Payne and Noyse. Up that way.

AS: Mason's built this building.

LS: I know they did, I said, before you were born (laughs), I guess ever came this way, he was talking about you, Mr. Smith down here. He said my mother played the piano. He was on one of the horns. He used to play at church, because all the churches -- this drumming, all that, is not new. You know, they have the drums and the horns and all that, that's not new in the church. Is that interesting?

Q: This is interesting.

LS: It is.

AS: I looked at some of the prices in there, then, and now.
(laughter)

LS: Is that the only one she had?

AS: I thought I had three of them.

LS: This was --

AS: But I --

LS: -- this was in - [Bob?], this man, his name was [Juder?]. I forgot his last name. But anyway, he passed, and her boyfriend had to clean out the basement, you know, and she saw these old Evanston Reviews, and he had -- you know, they were throwing them out and she just thought she'd take out a couple of them. And brought them home and Albert's been holding on to them ever since she did that. That was back in, I guess around 1980.

Q: I'm finding a lot about, when talking to other people, they say that, Yeah, my parents grew up here all their lives, and (in the past we?) threw everything away.

LS: Yeah.

Q: They know now they lost a lot of information --

LS: Yeah, a lot of good information. I did the same thing, no, Albert threw it away, it was in the desk. My aunt had [40:00] a desk out on the porch. And I kept the desk because it was an antique. And I had a lot of, you know, clippings, a lot of things that she had in there. Cleaned them out, threw them out. I had -- they had a Victrola and they had all of Bessie Smith's --

Q: Really?

LS: Yep. Took it outside, tore it up, threw it out, and that still hurts. (laughs) It was a Victrola, wind up, you know, oh, man. I said, You didn't.

Q: Actually, I'm looking for one of those for myself.

LS: You are? Oh, I don't know what possessed him to --

Q: I collect things like that.

LS: Yeah. Like the ice box, you know. Ice box. Yeah.

Q: I've interviewed several other people. I interviewed Martha Walker.

LS: Oh, yeah.

Q: Elizabeth --

LS: Now her daddy's the one that had [Twicks?], you know. Yeah, she should have a lot. Did she throw it out?

Q: No, actually her son actually did a lot of stuff and she's been trying to get some of it back or borrowed from her son for a while so I can look at it.

LS: Oh, that'd be wonderful.

Q: So, that's one thing I'd like to do. In general, so you know, if you do come across things, like newspapers, like that, or photographs -- especially photographs --

LS: Mm-hmm.

Q: -- anything, you know, the older it is the better.

(laughs) I'm looking for things like that. What I've been

doing -- I have about thirty photographs that I've acquired so far.

LS: Mm-hmm.

Q: And I don't keep them. What I do is, I make a copy of them. Make a copy (inaudible).

LS: Well, see, anything I have would be like from Ebenezer, down in there. You probably have that, with all the choir out front?

Q: Yeah.

LS: Yeah, got that one. Yeah, everybody had those. And then there was just newspaper and it had -- I guess Martha probably has that. One of her dad's newspapers that he did on Ebenezer and it told about all the fires of Ebenezer and everything. And when you come in Ebenezer you look at this window that's facing east. And that's the [Twicks?], their name is on that one. And then the one that faces Emerson Street, some of the old family, the Banks, and then my family, we have window -- you know, stain glass window, our names in those across the front. And Martha should have a lot of things because I used to hear Dad talk about the pews. He belonged to a [whisk?] club. And they would -- he'd be going down on Judson, you know, down south Evanston. But east, you know. And, oh, that was in the newspaper, in Advertisements, you know. And I gave it to

Albert, I said, you'll keep it. And he don't remember it because I put it in his room, you know, because he was pretty good at keeping things, you know. And he couldn't find it when I wanted it a couple of months ago, or so. He didn't have it and I said, Oh, m -- But that --

AS: (inaudible) Earl Young and Jean Walker graduated in 1943.

LS: OK. (laughs) Now, she was another teacher. She taught gym, physical ed. You talk with her?

Q: No.

LS: Her name is Jean Hunter now; husband's name is Albert H -- Al Hunter. And the -- I know that Jean would know a lot too because her family (inaudible), they were old Evanstonians. In fact, her grandfather use to be the janitor up at Ebenezer. Did you ever know him?

Q: Is it part of the -- you said Jean Hunter?

LS: Mm-hmm.

Q: She like part of the Hunter sisters?

LS: No, no, no, no, no. She's the only girl that they had. But the Hunter sisters, Albert's brother married into that family. So, have you talked with any of them?

Q: No, I haven't. Actually, I wanted to get in touch with one of them, at least, or something and see (inaudible) [for it?].

LS: Oh, we just wrote Blanche's number down because Chi-Chi was living in the old Hunter house on 1719 Emerson. And they're rehabbing it. And she had to move out, and she's with her aunt Blanche, and she gave us her aunt's phone number, she's there. Oh, where'd I go? Looking for -- they're at 1623 McDaniel, 328-6188. That's Albert and Jean Hunter, and Jean was the physical ed instructor. And she - - she's not quite as old as I am. [45:00]

Q: I'm telling you, you're not old until you give up.
(laughter) That's (inaudible).

LS: Give up, but not give up like my uncle always use to say, give out but don't give up. You know, keep on trying. So she would probably know -- have some pictures and things, I'm thinking. I haven't talked to Jean for a while. But you can always tell her that Louise Strong thought that they might, you know. And have you talked with Laverne Strickland? You've heard of her, haven't you?

Q: Yes, I have.

AS: I don't know how Laverne is, she's kind of peculiar like. And she was trying to get something together at one time, a book or something. But this to me, is, interesting. The old post office over on Sherman, it had all these beautiful steps. You know, you could go up, and we were just sitting right in the middle of everything, we could walk to the --

well, the El ran right behind our house, you know. And when they were moving it from the ground, up into the air, and everything, that was our sandlot. You know, we played in the sand and all that. For it would get right to Davis, where the Davis Street El station is now, and it would start going down. And there was a lot of artwork done, people drew around there because there's an old man [Whiteside?], he used to stand up there all the time, you know, with the old [North Shore?] Station. And they had a fire and then -- they had to -- all of it had to be fired and stoles and things. And he would always be down there, watching the women go to work, and they'd just sit on their [whiteside, and go missy?] then they'd eyeball them. But the artist was painting his pictures, they painted him into it, just didn't seem like it was there, if he wasn't standing there. You know, the picture wouldn't be complete. And -- yeah, there was Mr. King, the ice man, and Cole, you heard about them. Yeah, Mr. King and Mr. Taylor. And then Mrs. Taylor, they were both members of Ebenezer, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, and then there was something that came up that she didn't like so she moved out to the Y and started a church at the Y with a few members. And then eventually they built Bethel, and it's a very successful church. And I think it's a completely

[tithing?] church and they're doing good. Yeah. But Catherine Dotson is going to be able to tell you like -- did they tell you about --

Q: Catherine Dotson? I think I -- I know who Catherin Dotson is, I mean, I think I know Catherine. I never knew her last name.

LS: The old lady?

Q: Yeah.

LS: Yeah.

Q: The reason why I --

LS: She has a son, George.

Q: The reason why I know her is she gave me and my wife a wedding gift.

LS: She did?

Q: She came by and said, "I didn't know where to send it to and I just happen to come in here and here's your gift."

LS: Oh.

AS: Hmm-hm.

Q: A wedding album.

LS: Oh.

Q: Yeah.

LS: Were you married recently?

Q: Yeah, April.

LS: Congratulations. Oh, that's nice.

Q: So.

LS: I don't know that --

Q: -- stop here.

LS: Hm?

Q: [I think we call it stops?] here.

END OF AUDIO FILE