

T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection

ABSTRACT

INTERVIEWEE NAME: Dorothy Williams

COLLECTION: 4700.0613

IDENTIFICATION: McKinley High School graduate, class of 1951

INTERVIEWER: Shawnda Hollins

SERIES: McKinley High School Oral History Project - History of McKinley High School

INTERVIEW DATE: June 15, 1995

FOCUS DATES: 1948-1951

ABSTRACT:

Tape 897, Side A

Introduction; Williams born in 1932; educational level of parents, they did not attend McKinley High School; Williams attended McKinley from 1948 to 1951; she is currently a housewife; importance of academics at McKinley; participation in sewing and chemistry clubs, and honor society; she was a very good student; kids behaved better in those days; role models growing up; sings the McKinley alma mater; appreciation of Mrs. V.T. Jones, chemistry teacher; dress code included socks; got married right after high school; importance of McKinley as the only black high school in the area at that time; achievements of McKinley graduates; in her day, students were more focused on their studies; kids have more distractions these days; current hobbies are sewing and cooking; she has eighteen grandchildren; wanted to be a nurse, but there were no nursing schools in Baton Rouge; if she could do it over, she would go to college and be a nurse and postpone marriage until age thirty; played basketball and volleyball at McKinley; hopes McKinley can remain "the pride of black people"; encourages future McKinley graduates to get as many degrees as possible; rivalry between McKinley and Capitol High Schools; suggests other people to interview; graduation attire included white dresses, she made her own; price increase of class rings; belief in success of McKinley Oral History Project; conclusion.

TAPES: 1 (T897)

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 16 minutes

PAGES TRANSCRIPT: 14 pages

OTHER MATERIALS: Interviewer notes and word list; Correspondence

RESTRICTIONS: None