

Basic Detail Report



Title Interview with Trevel Ritchens

Date 2001 May 23

Primary Maker Trevel Ritchens

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description (a-d) Audio cassette tape of an interview with Trevel Ritchens, who was interviewed by Fiona Vernal on May 23, 2001. (e) Black and white portrait photograph of Trevel Ritchens. Topics discussed include Ritchens' generational links to the West Indies; migrating from Nevis to the United States in the winter of 1977; his links to Ireland and Irish heritage; cutting wood for fire, domestic,

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and childrearing duties; his father's occupations; community and religion;

reasons for migrating; what would have happened if Ritchens had not migrated;

typical day-to-day life as a boy in the West Indies; shunning farming work; social

activities, such as cricket; the perception of race relations in England versus the

United States; migrating to Connecticut; his family purchasing a home in

Windsor; travel back to Nevis; Ritchens' fear of flying; adjusting to the cold

climate; what he missed about his childhood in Nevis; going to school in

America; getting picked on in school because of stereotypes and accents; his

initial unfamiliarity with American racism; race relations in Nevis and in America;

his sister explains to him racism and what being a "minority" means; making

friends; finding that Black American aren't always natural allies; finishing his

education at the University of Hartford; buying a house; working with his father

at a manufacturing company; West Indian heritage; West Indian clubs; and

teaching his son to be independent. 2013.26.34a-d consists of two sides, the

tape, and a J-card. 2013.26.34e: photograph

Dimensions Duration (side 1): 45 Minutes, 36 Seconds Duration (side 2): 8

Minutes, 57 Seconds Duration (total runtime): 54 Minutes, 33 Seconds