

Basic Detail Report



Title Interview with Doreth Flowers

Date 2001 May 21

Primary Maker Doreth Flowers

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description (a-d) Audio cassette tape of an interview with Doreth (Dee) Flowers, who was interviewed by Fiona Vernal on May 21, 2001. (e) Black and white portrait photograph of Doreth Flowers. Topics discussed include Flowers' childhood in Jamaica; being raised by her maternal aunt and uncle; explaining her relationship with her biological father and the father who raised her;

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seamstresses in her family, which was one of the few opportunities for women

to run their own businesses in Jamaica; paying for school; her brother migrating

to Canada; her aunt migrating to the U.S; as a domestic worker and eventually

working at a hospital; Flowers receiving a scholarship to study nursing in

England in the 1970s; the sense of family and community in Jamaica; childhood

activities, such as telling stories, putting on plays, going to agricultural shows,

and church; myths about the United States and England; her first impressions of

England; race and class in Jamaica and the U.S.; why Flowers came to the U.S.;

why the decision to leave nursing in Jamaica was difficult; England and the U.S.

compared in terms of racism and the cohesiveness of the West Indian

community; Flowers gets a job as a nurse and settles down in Connecticut in

1980; first contacts and social activities in the West Indian community; the West

Indian Social Club; cooperation among the clubs; Flowers' agenda as president

of the West Indian Social Club; challenges as a West Indian migrant; initial

American perception of West Indian education; relationship between West

Indians and African Americans; migration and West Indian women's

independence; generational differences; her career; West Indian sayings; and

thoughts on being a woman president at the West Indian Social Club. 2013.26.32

a-d consists of two sides, the tape, and a J-card. 2013.26.32e: photograph

Dimensions Duration (side 1): 47 Minutes, 34 Seconds Duration (side 2): 35

Minutes, 47 Seconds Duration (total runtime): 1 Hour, 23 Minutes, 21 Seconds