

Basic Detail Report

Title Interview with Martin Roach

Date 2001 May 23

Medium digitized audio cassette tape

Description (a-d) Audio cassette tape of an interview with Martin Roach, who was interviewed by Fiona Vernal on May 23, 2001. He was interviewed at The Barbadian Club. (e) Black and white portrait photograph of Martin Roach. Topics discussed include Roach's family and childhood in Barbados; his parent's and brother's occupations; his impression that money is easy to come by in America; his aunt's migration story; memories of Barbadian migration to Panama; coming to the United States in 1946 on contract labor; coming on a boat to Florida to cut sugar cane; his job at a hotel in Barbados before going to Florida; staying in Florida for 18 months for wages of \$4.00 per day; racial discrimination at work; motivation for extending his contract to 18 months; Roach goes to New York in 1947 and is an illegal alien for a while; employment in New York as a janitor and tailor; marriage; life in New York; leaving New York for Connecticut; his uncle's advice for saving money; getting a job at Hartford Rayon Company in Rocky Hill in 1957; finding a place to live and the logistics of buying a home; West Indians at the Hartford Rayon Company; training as a machinist at Prince Tech and working at for Chandler-Evans; working for Chandler-Evans and retiring in 1979; adopting two children; some West Indian sayings; meeting his wife and

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marriage; the beginnings of the Barbadian Club; and changes at the Barbadian

Club. 2013.26.35a-d consists of two sides, the tape, and a J-card. 2013.26.35e:

photograph

Dimensions Duration (side 1): 46 Minutes, 31 Seconds Duration (side 2): 45

Minutes, 35 Seconds Duration (total runtime): 1 Hour, 32 Minutes, 7 Seconds