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Name of Interview: Alice H. Battle

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Filmed by: George Daly

Transcribed by: Donna Williams, March 24, 2004

[First few words of interviewer could not be heard.]

Q....2002. My name is Ginger Nieman Corson, and we have a special treat today. Normally, we talk to people who grew up in Shadyside with their memories of Shadyside, but today we have someone who saw people grow up in Shadyside. Today we have an educator named Mrs. Alice Battle, and I'd like to thank you for joining us today. Now your time at Shadyside spanned quite a number of years. You want to tell me when you started here and when you retired?

A. Yes. I started at Shadyside in 1948, and I was here... first in a two-room school. Then that school was renovated and it became a seven-room school, and so in 19, well it was in '70, so I was here from '48 through all of the changes through '70. And in 1970, we were in the process of building a new school at Shadyside...hadn't broken any ground at that point, but we knew it was happening. But the principal at Lothian had become ill, and so they moved me from Shadyside for a year and a half. At that time, I didn't know how long I'd be gone, but I knew I'd be back to the new school. So they moved me from Shadyside. I was gone for a year and a half, and then for the re-opening...or for the opening of the new school, I was back. In fact, I was back before the new school opened but I was just away for a year and a half. Out of 30-1/2 years, I was at... well, no, 35 years of teaching, I was at Shadyside 30-1/2 years.

[Type text]

Q. OK. Now the new school that you're talking about, was that Lula Scott school?

A. No. The new school would be the new Shadyside School.

Q. New Shadyside School. Oh, OK. So the seven-room was at Lula G. Scott?

A. That's right.

Q. OK. Well, since we're talking about Lula G. Scott, can you tell me who she was?

A. Yes. She was a former teacher who came to give...she lived...she was from up north and I can't tell you exactly where, but she was from up north, and she came to Churchton as a neophyte teacher, really. And she started teaching at Churchton, and so she taught at Churchton for quite a few years; but naturally when Churchton and Shadyside became...the old Churchton which was a two-room school, and the old Shadyside, which was a two-room school, we were joined together to make that seven room school. And so when you came we decided to name it after Lula G. Scott who was this new teacher. At that time she wasn't but by that time she was

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retired, but she was a teacher. I think she made quite a name for herself in the community, and she did marry one of the Scotts from Shadyside.

Q. Do you know what the "G" stands for?

A. No. I really don't.

Q. Oh, OK. Do you know what her husband's name was?

A. No.

Q. OK. Now when you talk about the two-room school that was in Churchton, where was that?

A. That was on...coming from Deale to Thomas Lumber Company, it's a very steep curve...a sharp curve, and that school was right on that curve, it was a two-room school.

Q. So it was on 468?

A. On 468.

Q. Do you know who...is there a building there now?

A. No, there are homes there.

Q. Do you know who lives there?

[Type text]

A. In that particular building, that particular area, I could not say.

Q. A real sharp curve. I don't have any idea.

A. Rogers Road...there's a Rogers Road that goes off of that, 468, but still Churchton Road. When you come to Deale to Churchton you make that steep bend in the road. Just before you get to the post office, just before you get to the Churchton Post Office.

Q. OK, so we're more headed to Deale. I'm leaving Shadyside, headed to Deale?

A. Well you can head for Deale. You can come from Deale to Shadyside.

Q. Right, right. So it's between Deale and the lumber company. OK. I was on the wrong road. OK. That's not 468. That's like 258 or 256.

A. Yes, yes. 258.

Q. 258, OK. All right. OK. So it would be on the right-hand side if we were headed to Deale?

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A. It would be on the right hand side if you were coming to Shadyside.

Q. Coming to Shadyside?

A. Yes or coming to Churchton (?) or used to be (?)

Q. OK. So it would be on the right-hand side of the road. So in accordance with where the post office is now in Churchton, it would be before that?

A. Before that but on the same side of the road.

Q. OK, well that gives us a good idea, 'cause I had no clue there was a school there. Now had did you come to be an educator

A. There was nothing else for me to be. [Laughing.] My mother was an educator. She was a teacher. My father's mother was a teacher. She came down from Canada and made her roots in this area in Anne Arundel County. On my mother's side, she had three sisters, and all of them were teachers. On my father's side, there were no teachers, except his mother. But, you know, we were just surrounded by a family of teachers.

Q. Wow.

A. Nothing else for me to be but a teacher.

[Type text]

Q. Now do you have brothers and sisters?

A. We had...there were four boys and three girls. Four boys first, and then three girls.

Q. Any of them teachers?

A. All three girls were teachers...are teachers. Now the youngest girl became a nurse first, then she found she couldn't stay away from it either. And after a few years she went back to teaching.

Q. What was your maiden name?

A. Holt...H-O-L-T.

Q. OK. And you were born in...?

A. I was born in Prince George's County, but we moved over in Anne Arundel County in 1932.

Q. Did...your brothers and sisters come, too?

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A. The whole family. We all moved over.

Q. All right, 'cause I went to school with some Holts...Alice Holt comes to mind.

A. Oh, that's my niece.

Q. OK. Now, OK so where did you go to college and what not, and how did you come how does that decision get made?

A. I went to college in Bowie, and my first year teaching...well, our supervisor...we had one...see, at that time everything was segregated. So we had one supervisor responsible for all of the colored schools in Anne Arundel County, and her name was Sarah G. Jones. She was the supervisor. So every decision that was made as far as who would be a principal, who would be a teacher, who would be anything, in colored schools of Anne Arundel County was made by Sarah G. Jones. So I didn't know her that well. When I graduated from college, and it was a four-year college at that time, when I graduated, there was an opening at Rutland. It was a one-room school...Rutland Elementary School... The road is still there, the school is gone. And so, I wanted a job. It didn't matter to me whether it was a one-room school or, well, you didn't think about anything else. You knew that you were...had to start some place. And so this was... So I was sent... I was placed at Rutland for one year. And then the next year, there was an opening in October, an opening came at Churchton. And see, that was a little nearer to my home. And so Miss Jones, again, she'd placed me at Rutland, so then the next year, we'll move you a little closer home, said we'll move you to Churchton. So in October, the person who was there

[Type text]

resigned, and they moved me to Churchton. So I was at Churchton for two years, and then along...again it was October, that the principal at Shadyside.... There were two Shadysides: Shadyside white...Shadyside colored. Principal at Shadyside was transferred to Bates...to the Middle School at Bates.

Q. Do you know what her name was?

A. Uh huh. Mary B. (?) Wiseman, was transferred from Shadyside, and she has quite a history at Shadyside. She was at Shadyside for 18 years as principal and teacher. So when she was transferred, there again, and Miss Jones came around...I don't know how she picked me out, but she wanted to know if I wanted to come to Shadyside. Well I had no reason not to. At Churchton, I was teaching 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grade; and at Shadyside, I would be teaching 4th, 5th and 6th and 7th grades. But you know, that's OK. I love children. It didn't matter to me who I taught. I don't think the money problem ever came in question as to whether I'd be getting any more money or not. Possibly I was; I don't even remember now what I did. But when she suggested it, I mean, you know, just because she wanted you to do it, so you did it because she wanted you to do it. [Laughing.] Now had I had a reason for not doing it, then it would have been accepted, too. But she wanted me to do it so I did it. So I came to Shadyside in 1948. And then it was in about '52 or '53 that they renovated the school, and they named it Lula G. Scott in '52 or '53. And then, I forgot... did I say '52 or '53? And then lateron, after the renovation, in '64, integration.

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Q. When did you become principal?

A. When I moved down.

Q. Oh.

A. See when they changed me from Churchton to Shadyside, I became the teaching principal.

Q. Oh, OK.

A. At Shadyside.

Q. Now how many other teachers were there?

A. One.

Q. You.

A. One other teacher.

Q. Oh, one other teacher? Who was that?

[Type text]

A. Lillian (?) Burrell(?) She was a teacher...she was at Shadyside for quite a few years...before I came to Shadyside. Because after I came to Shadyside, she was only there for one or two years, after I came to Shadyside. But before that, she could've been there for as long as Ms. Wiseman was there. Ms. Wiseman had been there, I'd say for 17, 18 years, and Lillian Burrell was there close to as long as Ms. Wiseman

Q. Now was she from Shadyside

A. No, she was from up north also. Lillian Burrell was from up north. I'm not sure if she was from Delaware or just where she was from but she came down, and she never married. And she lived in Anne Arundel County for the rest of her life.

Q. OK. Can you kind of give me a sequence of how the teachers started to trickle in, and how maybe the school got bigger, or the classes got bigger...that sort of thing?

A. Well, you see when we...at the end...when the school was built...when the renovation, first renovation was made, the teachers...there were two teachers at Churchton that automatically came to Shadyside. Julia Talliferro (sp?) Smith was the principal at Churchton, a two-room school...she was principal there...and myself was... were 1st, 2nd, 3rd grade teachers at Churchton. Now I was at Churchton, and I was under Julia Talliferro Smith but she was Julia Talliferro at that time. And so, therefore, when she came...when Churchton's children were

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picked up and brought to Shadyside, they were...and I said seven-room school, but we weren't a seven-room school first. Let me go back. We were first a four-room school.

Q. Oh.

A. And that school was picked up and brought. That's why it's not up there. [Laughing.] I was thinking, now where...what happened to that school. But that school didn't burn down...that school was picked up and brought down to Shadyside.

Q. Son of a gun!

A. And that school on the back of the old...that school is still there, looking out over the ballfield.

Q. So when I was going there, it was where the two 6th grade classes were...Neena Carter and Miss Smith?

A. Yes.

Q. And Miss Smith?

[Type text]

A. That's right and that was the old Churchton school. And so when...again, the teachers came with her. Then, within a few years, that's when the renovations began...the next renovation took place, where the 1st, 2nd and 3rd... all of the new part was added to the old school. And so, I can remember...I'm not sure whether Yvonne was one of the first ones, but (?) still at Julia Smith, she was Talliferro, and Olivia Thompson, and Frances Neal. By that time, Frances was with me because Lillian Burrell had moved to another school at Harmon. So Frances was with me, and myself. So that was four of us...the new...the first renovation. And then within the next...I think it was around '58, it could've been before that, they added on the first four or five rooms to make...we had seven classrooms. 1st and 2nd and 3rd grade and Special Ed...That's when we moved to...?? And we had a cafeteria...at that time...not a cafeteria. We still had to eat in the classroom.

Q. OK, a kitchen?

A. But we had a kitchen. If I'm not mistaken, Margie Thompson worked in that kitchen...who was that...do you remember?

Q. Miss Irene?

A. No...

Q. I don't remember her last name, though.

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A. Right now, I don't remember either.

Q. But she made the best peanut butter cookies in the world. [Laughing.]

A. Yes, we had an excellent staff in that kitchen. So we were so happy that this transition had taken place because now we were able to...well, I didn't have to worry about taking lunch because we'd get our lunch for free.

Q. Sure.

A. Then it was in 1964 that integration took place, and this is when 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade became...went to the old Shadyside...the old Shadyside down on the corner.

Q. Is that what we called the green school?

A. Right, and the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades came up to the Lula G. Scott School. And where were you?

Q. At the time...the first year I remember being integrated was 3rd grade and I was at the green school.

[Type text]

A. You were at the green school...then the next year you came down...

Q. I came down to Lula G. Scott, right. Now I want...I have never asked anybody this, and I don't know if you know, why did it take so long for integration to occur? I mean who...what happened? Did somebody finally say, 'OK, this year, you know, 1964, or whatever year it was, we're going to have everybody together'? Why did it take so long?

A. Well, it was just a mindset that people had...that they couldn't do it all at once. And even with the integration, all of the schools were not integrated during the same time.

Q. Wow.

A. For some reason again, you know, it was that mindset.

Q. Was there a law passed or...

A. Yeah, the law was passed.

Q. Ok, so something finally...

A. Something finally came down...

Q. In writing...

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A. Something finally came down in writing that you are going to have to integrate. This is what happened.

Q. So I don't think I was even in school in '64, and I think my brother said, you know, he graduated in 1967 and I think he, you know, (?) would have been(?) integrated like a year or two before he graduated from Southern. So it was just kind of a trickle effect that happened around the county or around the state?

A. Around the county and the state because in many of the other counties around the state again, they were much longer in being integrated than even Anne Arundel County.

Q. Now how...remembering back how...what was the feeling about it? Was there resistance? Was it welcomed? Was it resisted by one side and welcomed by the other? What happened?

A. I never felt it.

Q. OK.

A. I never felt any resistance at all to...we knew that it had to happen, you know. And so I really

[Type text]

don't think...there might've been some 'over the table' that you heard, but personally, I never felt, you know, resistance against integration because this was the next step that had to be taken.

Q. Because my husband's in the Air Force, and we travel all over the country, and every area of the country, you kind of get used to the attitude that's been there. And like out west, everybody's like, "Oh, well, sure, we'll try that." But the more you get toward the mid-west or the East it's "we've always done it this way, we're 'gonna keep doing it this way, you're not 'gonna tell me how to do this". You know, so I was curious if there was much resistance.

[Slight 'blip' as something is dropped??]

A. You're asking how I became interested in education...in the field of education; but again, we knew...when I say we, family wise, we knew. My father and mother didn't have one cent to put in the bank for their children to go to school...to go to college, but we were going. [Laughing.] They knew that we were going college, and so my oldest brother went to Morgan. Second brother, he ended up getting married before he got into college. Third brother went to Morgan, finished Morgan, and the fourth brother, he was "AAGGHH, that's not for me". But all of them, with the girls, there wasn't any question, you know. We weren't looking at anybody, we weren't doing anything else. But the first thing we were going to do is go to college and get our degree.

Q. Now do you think...I mean, so that was an attitude that your parents had?

A. Yes.

Q. Was it verbally spoken or...?

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A. Oh, yes.

Q. OK

A. Yes. You didn't make any mistakes. You didn't misunderstand anything that they said.

Q. Well, that's wonderful.

A. About going to school.

Q. See, 'cause when I was growing up, there was three kids. We weren't going to college. There was no question - we were not going to go to college. And if we did, it was going to be our own deal, you know, we were going to pay for it, and so on and so forth. 'Cause we just grew up working class. You were going to graduate from high school, and you were going to get a job. OK, well that's wonderful to know that the attitude of your parents... that's just the way it is.

A. Yes. Right.

[Type text]

Q. OK. Now let's talk about...OK, so now we've got the two schools running...1st, 2nd and 3rd grade at the green school... 4th, 5th and 6th grade at Lula G. Scott. Tell me how the brand new school, the one that's currently 'the' Shadyside Elementary School. Tell me how all that kind of came about and when?

A. Again... Sarah Lee Jones...she knew that we needed a new school in our area. Plus our superintendent, at that time, he was also very, very excited, and he knew we needed down in Southern Maryland and Southern Anne Arundel County, we needed a school.

Q. What was his name...the administrator?

A. If I'm not mistaken, I think it was Dr. Denton(SP?), if I'm not mistaken. I can be wrong. We just needed this new school, and they knew that I worked closely with all of the person(?), Howard Norwall(SP?) was one of the supervisors at the time, Sarah Lee Jones, but I worked closely with them as far as the planning for the new school is concerned...as far as the quads, you know. This was completely new...open space elementary school. Could we do it or could we not? And so we worked closely together, and by that time we had a very strong staff at Lula Scott. We had...trying to think... Willimay (??) Barnes, she was Ferguson at one time...Barnes... Doris Brown...Doris Crowner Brown, Frances Brown. All right, Willa Mae was first grade teacher; Doris was second grade teacher; Frances Brown was third grade teacher; Catherine Wilby was 4th grade teacher; and...

Q. Cordella?

A. Cordella was one of the Aides.

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Q. Matthews? She was my 4th grade teacher.

A. No, no, no.

Q. Oh, we're not there yet?

A. Not there yet. [Laughing.] Olivia Thompson was fifth grade teacher; Julia Smith was...Julia Taliferro Smith was sixth or seventh; Fredell (sp?)...what were you saying about Fredell Matthews?

Q. Um huh...she was my 4th grade teacher; Miss Thompson was 5th and Nina Carter was my 6th grade teacher.

A. Right. For a while there, she was a 4th grade teacher, Fredell, but then she stopped as teacher and then when I came back, as teacher's aide. She became a teacher's aide. So all of those...we had a good staff. Who was the Phys Ed person? Same person that's ? there... Castro.

Q. Even Mamie Castro.

[Type text]

A. Our music program, music, fine arts and all like that. So we had the nucleus of an excellent staff. So then the new people...when they found out about...well when they...in the '70's, when they came to the new school, '71, we still have the crux of our staff there. Then the others...they had to do... It had to be the excellent people they ?? They were surrounded by nothing but superior people.

Q. Now how many new teachers did you have to hire?

A. We ended up having about sometimes?? 18 or 19 all together.

Q. And Miss Roeder was the librarian. I don't think I know her first name?

A. Peggy...Peggy Roeder.

Q. And I don't remember who the music teacher would have been. 'Cause I don't remember a music teacher at Lula Scott.

A. We had a music teacher, but they were only there one day a week.

Q. A travelling music teacher.

A. A travelling music teacher.

Q. Don't remember who that was though.

A. Could've been Abernathy.

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Q. Don't remember that name.

A. Could've been Abernathy.

Q. Miss Long!

A. Laura Long

Q. Right. She was my...I remember her from teaching... she taught me piano for like one lesson [laughing.]

A. Yes, she was a music teacher.

Q. All right...so, and then both schools wound up being...the old schools...one was like a senior citizen center for many years, Lula G. Scott Senior Citizen Center; and it really broke my heart when they stopped doing it down there because so many of the elderly people around here...they

[Type text]

just weren't going to go up to Edgewater. And then the green school turned into the Moose Lodge.

A. Right, right.

Q. All right. So we got the new school, and it's still going strong, and what year did you retire?

A. I retired in '80.

Q. 1980, OK. Well, before we get off that...off of school, I want to make sure that we get on camera what you would do to quiet the children down when you walked in a room. [Laughing.] I want you to show it.

A. No, you tell me! [Laughing.]

Q. You want me to tell it?

A. Yes!

[Camera pans back to show Ms. Corson.]

Q. Well, Miss Battle would walk into the room, and, I mean, we're talking a couple 'a hundred kids, right?

A. Yes.

Q. And they would be yacking and yacking and yacking...and, you know, just kind of a loud hum, say the cafeteria or auditorium or wherever it was that we were having a meeting, or even the

classroom with the 30 children in there. And Miss Battle would walk in, and she would just raise her hand [demonstrates by holding up her right hand], wouldn't say a word! And within thirty seconds, that room was quiet. [Laughing.] And I just wondered, 'what are you thinking?' I mean, what is coming out of your eyes that's making every body quiet, 'cause nobody can do that. [Laughing.]

A. Well, I imagine it was...they'd heard about me.

Q. Yeah, right! [Laughing.] Your reputation!

A. I had a reputation, right. But they just knew this is what I expected.

Q. And you've got that word 'expected' there. I like that, because if you just expect somebody to do something, they kind of do it.

[Type text]

A. Right.

Q. And that's just incredible...OK, well I was just wondering what hypnotic power you had. [Laughing.] But it comes down to expectation. Let's talk about kids, then and now. What's the difference between kids back then and kids today.

A. You know I really cannot answer the question about kids today. I think I had my time's being spent in the schools... since retiring...I haven't gone there as much as I would like to because of conditions...and, my physical condition. I don't really...looking back at my kids then, one of my kids...they just knew what we expected and they did it. And seemingly they tried their best to do their best...they knew that. The only way they could get it was to work this head and work hard at it. As far as discipline...having a problem as far as discipline was concerned...did you say you were(??) Matthews? She was one of our...for many years, she was our Special Ed teacher.

Q. That's right.

A. When we had the new renovated school.

Q. And that's correctly named "SPOT", too, because you need to be a special person to teach those special children.

A. Yes. And so, now you go into the classroom...I don't know what I'd do. I would look for the same thing. And I would be disappointed if I didn't see the same type of behavior on the children's part and on the teacher's part. They are putting forth...that the teachers are putting forth their best for every minute that they're working there. And that the children are working hard trying to do their best. So I'm not a good person to do a comparative...to do a comparison of the difference then and now because again...

Q. How about when you started and when you stopped? I mean do you ever remember saying

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"kids never did that when I first started teaching" or anything like that?

A. Huh ugh, [shakes head in the negative].

Q. You felt like they were kind of the same?

A. Basically.

Q. And the teachers?

A. Basically.

[Type text]

Q. How about parents?

A. [Long pause.] I didn't have any problems with the parents. We didn't have any problems.

Q. OK. I guess mainly what I'm getting at is, today we have so many two-income families that, I mean, my personal opinion is they send their children to school, and that's the babysitter.

A. Yes

Q. And I have heard teachers and other parents say, "This child has no idea that they're here to learn; and they think they're at the babysitter's still because they've been at the babysitter since they were a baby. So they think, OK, I'm here during the day...I'm here to be entertained.

A. Right. Yeah, I can imagine. I mean I can see what you're saying, but possibly, I still have a few more years to get more involved with children, but right now, regardless I'm involved with my grandchild. So I'm watching her grow.

Q. Good. That's wonderful. How old is she?

A. She's three years old, and she can spell her name. She can't write yet...I'm not worried about that yet, but she is one little smart kid...and so is her brother...he's older.

Q. OK, she's got a brother, too? And how old is he?

A. Four...he's four years old.

Q. And what are their names?

A. One is LeRoy, III (third??), and the other is Sydney...S-Y-D-N-E-Y, named after my brother but spelled with a "Y".

Q. All right. So then that brings me to your children. Tell me about your children.

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A. All right. Lisa is...she's a doctor...General Practitioner...and working out of Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. When I say 'out of Johns Hopkins' not directly in Johns Hopkins but in one of their...

Q. Satellites?

A. Satellites...that's the word I like to use...one of their satellite operations. So she's doing very well.

Q. Is she married?

A. Married at (??) Just got married last year

[Type text]

Q. Wonderful! So what's her new name?

A. Her new name is 'Singletary'(??).

Q. Ok, all right. And then you have a son?

A. And we have our son, Leroy, Jr. and he's into music. He's...I said before...'you've got to give me a resume of just what to say... what I can say about what you're doing', you know. So he's into writing music, he's into interpretation of music, he's into playing the piano; he's very good with the piano. He's very good with the trombone. And he plays for several church groups, plays for Franklin. He plays for St. Matthew's and he plays for my church at Adams(?). Plus he plays for a Baptist church, (??) name(?). So he's involved every Sunday as far as piano.

Q. Wonderful, and how about your husband? Tell me a little bit about him.

A. Well, he's been in music all of his life.

Q. No kidding?

A. All of his life...

Q. So, your son gets it honestly? [Laughing.]

A. He gets it honestly. And Battle is timpani drum, and he's 'Roy Battle and the Altones' for at least 40 years, or even longer than that. I'd say closer to 50 years, because when I met him, he was a member of 'Roy Battle and the Altones'.

Q. Is that how you met him?

A. I met him through a co-worker of his. He was teaching. He taught at Douglas. He taught instrumental music at Douglas in Upper Marlboro. And a co-worker of his was a good friend of mine. And so I met him through her and...but even at that time, he was a member...he was

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playing in the group 'Roy Battle and the Altones'. So he's been ...he doesn't do it as much now, maybe once...two or three times a month he's involved, but he's still busy.

Q. Well good, good. Now I know...

A. OK...one other thing, he's a member of the Tuskegee Airmen...one of the original members of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Q. Wonderful, good, good.

[Type text]

A. He just went to Florida, about three weeks ago now, to be a guest speaker down in Miami, Florida... I'm going to have to give you the information over the phone; but he was a guest speaker representing the Tuskegee Airmen.

Q. Now is he from this area?

A. He is from New York; he is originally from New York.

Q. And what brought him to this area?

A. A friend of his, Oscar Smith, who was from New York, taught at Morgan. And so he persuaded Roy to come to Morgan, and he went to school there...well, he went to school in New York for maybe a couple of years, then he transferred to Morgan and stayed there until he got his degree. The first school that he went to was Douglas, and he stayed at Douglas for the rest of his teaching career, all of his teaching career, until he went into guidance just before...possibly six or seven years before he retired. From guidance, he went into vice- principalship, and went back into guidance.

Q. OK, wow, so there's lots of education all over the place. Now are there any Shadyside students that you still keep in touch with or you know that they went off and made good? You know...anything like that ? students?

A. I know quite a few but I would hesitate to recall their names; but I do keep up with them; in fact, many of them are doing beautifully, but as I said, I would hesitate to call their names because I would leave someone out.

Q. OK.

A. But I feel that our children have done very well for themselves...(??) Shadyside.

Q. Good, good, well they had good leaders...they did. Well that kind of wraps up my questions. Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

16.

A. [Slight pause.] ...that knowing now I think together as a team we worked well together.

Q. Well good, good.

A. And that's because...first of all, we were working...she was principal here...I was principal there...we were still coordinating...because she was first, second, third grade principal...I was fourth, fifth, sixth principal... so we still had to coordinate everything that we did. But once she moved to the new situation, we did a beautiful job, and in the new school. We did well.

[Type text]

Q. Good, good. I thought of one more question: What happened to your paddle?

A. [Laughing.] I still kept it. [Phone rings in background.]

Q. You still have it?

A. I still have it.

Q. Ok, we've been off camera a couple minutes now while we turn this phone off. And we were in the middle of talking about Miss Battle's paddle. And I know that...didn't you have a sign...didn't you get them to sign it after you/they?? got paddled?

A. No.

Q. OK, that was a different paddle. [Laughing.] Ok, but anyway, I do remember getting a swat one time, and I don't remember whether I had done anything wrong or that I was complaining to my mother that I had never gotten paddled before because that was like such a big deal to get sent to the office to get paddled. But tell me, 'cause you can't paddle a child today, I mean you can't hardly even raise your voice to 'em much less, you know, hit 'em, so tell me what you think that has caused. I mean do you think there's a difference in schools now?

A. I would imagine that there is a difference in school, but I really think that it's the type of training that the teachers had. I feel that most can use their psychology work and I think they can still do a terrific job. And I feel that...but again...I'm gonna get back to the school, and I'm not sure which school... maybe I could come on down to Shadyside. [Phone rings in background.]

Q. That you can see the children of the children you helped teach.

A. That's right and just do an observation - not an observation - but do observations, so that I can see for myself just what is happening with the children of Shadyside because I have not been as involved as I would like to have been since our retirement from the school.

Q. All right. One of the other things that was brought up during our little break there was Sears. I didn't know about the Sears connection to the school houses down here. Can you elaborate on that a little bit?

A. I'm not that knowledgeable about it, and what was the name?

Q. Rosenberg

A. Rosenberg. But I do know that Mr. Rosenberg funded the schools and the establishment of the schools for black children...they didn't call them 'black' in those times... but the colored children in not only in Anne Arundel County but in many, many of the counties and many, many states. He just wanted to be sure that those little kids went to school.

[Type text]

Q. And he was the owner of Sears & Roebuck?

A. Mrs. Daly said he was possibly on the Board of Directors or something like that.

Q. OK.

A. Now, again, I need to do a little more research on that.

Q. That's OK.

A. But I...No, this will help me...

Q. Oh, OK.

A. To be able to do a little more research on it to find out just to what extent his involvement was, because I know he definitely was involved.

Q. That's very interesting. I had no clue. I had no clue that had happened. Well thank you so much for joining us today. I've learned a lot, and it's so good to see you again.

A. It was good seeing you...my goodness.

Q. [Laughing.] Thanks again.

A. You are welcome.

[Interview ends and camera stops.]

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