

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Jackie Jackson

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Agriculture in Illinois* Oral History project

Interview # AI-A-L-2015-021

Jacqueline 'Jackie' Jackson, the daughter of a Wisconsin dairy farmer and author of the *Round Barn* book series telling the stories of that life, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: May 27, 2015 Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield

Date: May 28, 2015 Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History, ALPL

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Transcript  
being processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 2:16 + 1:06 / 2.27 + 1.1 = 3.37 hrs

Session 1: Jackie's concerns about the future of agriculture in American and world

Session 2: Global perspective on the future of family farm and agriculture

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 02, 2015.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in  
Springfield, Illinois.

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# Abstract

Jacqueline Jackson, *Agriculture in Illinois*, AI-A-L-2015-021

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Jacqueline ‘Dougan’ Jackson was born on May 3, 1928 in Beloit, Wisconsin, one of four children who grew up on a 650 acre farm started by her grandfather in 1909. Her father Ronald ran a famous dairy operation in rural Beloit, known for its round barn and several other dwellings as well as for hybrid seed corn. This interview is a continuation of an interview conducted by Mike Maniscalco of the Illinois State Museum in early 2008. That interview was part of a major collaboration between the Illinois State Museum and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library’s oral history program.

From the time she was young, Jackie has collected stories about her family’s life on the farm, as well as stories about her neighbors and acquaintances. Since 2008, she has published three volumes in her *The Round Barn* series, using the countless stories and memories she has collected over a lifetime. At the time of this interview, Jackie was awaiting publication of volume four in *The Round Barn* series. This interview is based on Jackie’s musings on a question that Mike Maniscalco asked at the end of the 2008 interview – what she saw as the future of farming. She begins volume four with her answer to Mike’s question. Her concerns for the future of agriculture, and indeed the world, are many, ranging from global warming and overpopulation, to declining seed diversity to the decreasing viability of the family farm, to what she calls Big Ag, Big Pharm and Big Oil. During this interview Jackie reads extensively that article, and responds to a series of questions. Try as she might, Jackie is pessimistic about the world’s future, fearing that we are approaching a potential crisis, either from global warming, over-population, or a collapse of agriculture in general.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** *The Round Barn* book series; Beloit, Wisconsin; global warming; overpopulation; future of small family farms; Consolidated Animal Feeding Operations; Monsanto Company; Ronald Dougan; Elizabeth Kolbert; Roy Wehrle;

**Note to the Reader:** Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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