

## **Title Page and Abstract**

An Interview with Ida Jackson

Interview #: SAA-A-D-2004-021

Conducted by the Springfield African-American History Foundation  
for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Ida Jackson was born in Springfield and grew up in the John Hay Homes housing project. She later worked for the Federal government and various social service agencies, and was a plaintiff in the school desegregation suit filed against the Springfield school district.

Interview date(s):	June 26, 2004
Interview Location:	Springfield, Illinois
Interview Format:	audio cassettes
Interviewer:	Barbara Dickerman
Transcription by:	The Tape Transcription Center
Edited by:	Christy Barcus, Daniel McCarthy, Cheryl Pence
Total Pages:	15
Total Time:	40 minutes, 35 seconds / 0.68 hrs

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

## **Abstract**

### **Ida Jackson Springfield African-American History Foundation Project**

**Biographical Information and Synopsis:** Ida Jackson was born in Springfield, Illinois, on September 12, 1938, the second of ten children. After her parents died, Mrs. Jackson raised four of her younger siblings, along with her own six children. She grew up in the John Hay Homes on 15<sup>th</sup> Street, attending Palmer Grade School and Lanphier High School, where she was the first African-American cheerleader. Mrs. Jackson discusses the various jobs she has held, with both the Federal government and within the community. As a community worker and a student, she became a plaintiff in the 1974 lawsuit for the desegregation of public schools. She discusses the effects of the lawsuit on her family. She also discusses her unsuccessful campaign for mayor.

**Topics Covered:** Springfield, Illinois 1940s – present; John Hay Homes; Springfield Public Schools; desegregation; racism; politics; Second Timothy Baptist Church; Springfield Urban League; Springfield Housing Authority; Internal Revenue; Family Service Center

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