

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with David J. Maurer

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library  
*Historians Speak* Oral History project

Interview # HSI-A-L-2020-054

David J. Maurer, Professor Emeritus of History, Eastern Illinois University (1962-1995) was interviewed on the basis of his long teaching career and his role in creating the Historic Administration Master's Degree program as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Historians Speak-Illinois History* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: August 14, 2020

Location: Telephonic interview at Mauer home, 524 Deer Run Trail, Charleston, IL 61920

Interview Format: Digital audio, Telephonic

Interviewer: Robert D. Sampson, Ph.D., ALPL volunteer

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

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

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Time: 1:27 / 1.45 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on February 8, 2021.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Transcript  
being processed

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# Abstract

David J. Maurer, *Historians Speak-Illinois History*, HSI-A-L-2020-054

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** David Joseph Maurer, Professor Emeritus of History at Eastern Illinois University, was born June 9, 1935 in Canton, Ohio, a son of Harry Joseph and Elizabeth Rose (Fehn) Maurer. He attended Canton parochial and public schools, graduating from McKinley High School in 1953. He received his undergraduate degree in history for Beloit College (WI) in 1957 and did his graduate work at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, receiving his Ph.D. in 1962. That same fall he joined the history faculty at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois, retiring in 1995. He married Ellen Joyce Maurer in 1957.

Among Maurer's publications are: *The Emerging University: A History of Eastern Illinois University*, 1974; *Essays in Illinois History in Honor of G.H. Seymour*, 1968; and contributions to the *Biographical Dictionary of American Mayors*, 1981. While at Eastern Illinois University, Maurer primarily taught U.S. political history, particularly the 20th century. He served as chair of the department and was a founding member of the Historical Administration Master's Program which, until its loss to university budget cuts in 2016, was one of the nation's leaders in museum studies and administration, archival studies and historical interpretation at living history sites. Dr. Maurer is a former president of the Illinois State Historical Society and served on the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** Museum studies; U.S. history in the 1960s, World War II; college teaching in Illinois; Department of History at Eastern Illinois University, 1962-1995; Historical Administration Master's Program, Eastern Illinois University;

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