

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Calvin Jackson

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

Interview # AI-A-L-2010-022

Calvin Jackson, a school administrator and consultant on school reorganizations in Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois – School District Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: June 1, 2010    Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPLM Volunteer

Transcription by: Susan Burke, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Richard Herndon & Jan Culp, ALPL volunteers

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# Abstract

## Calvin Jackson, *Agriculture in Illinois*, AI-A-L-2010-022

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Calvin Jackson was born on August 13th, 1935 in Virden, Illinois. He grew up in Virden, and attended Eastern Illinois University for his undergraduate degree, then the University of Illinois, and finally Southern Illinois University, where he earned his PhD in Education in 1975. Jackson served as a high school principal in Girard, which led to him becoming a key resource person during the consolidation vote on North Mac, the consolidation of the Virden and Girard, Illinois school districts in 2009.

Dr. Jackson was interviewed about his role in school consolidation in largely rural districts of Illinois. Dr. Jackson is a legislative contact for the Illinois Association of School Business officials. He also served in that capacity for the Illinois Association of School Administrators, and taught administrative courses for the University of Illinois in Springfield and Illinois State University. Dr. Jackson often works as a consultant for school organization, specializing and serving on state panels, workshops and district resources. This expertise came from his involvement in the merger of three school districts in the 1980s, leading to the creation of Prairie Central Consolidated #8 (Fairbury, Cropsey, Forrest, Strawn, Wing and Chatsworth).

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** school reorganization/consolidation in Illinois rural communities; legislative agreements on school reorganizations; incentives for school reorganizations; Illinois General Assembly; Illinois State Board of Education; history of Girard; history of Virden; school consolidation of Girard and Virden school districts; Prairie Central Community Unit School District (CUSD)

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