

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Lois and Clarence McLemore**

Lois and Clarence McLemore are current and long time residents of Mayfield Park. They tell their experiences growing up in the days when Sugar Land was a segregated town. They discuss such issues as “knowing your place”, education for blacks, school discipline, family and community closeness, work conditions, financial advantages to living in a company town where everyone was employed. They address the changes that have occurred since desegregation and affirmative action. And they discuss the raising of their children.

27 Pages

⇓ *Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview.* ⇓

Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Sonya McLemore – sister of Clarence
 Ken Hall – Sugar Land High School
 Curtis Hall – Sugar Land Constable
 Mr. Morton – manager of Palms Theater
 Little Stevie Wonder - visitor
 Johnnie Taylor – visitor
 Big Willie May Bell Thornton - visitor
 Hal Whitaker – accidentally killed at work

Places / Businesses

Imperial Sugar
 Four Corners
 Discipline in Public Schools
 Municipal Pool
 M.R. Woods School
 Palms Theater
 Whites Restaurant
 Warwick Hotel
 Mercantile
 Sugar Land Dry Goods
 Chevrolet Motors
 Nalco / Visco
 Brown & Root
 Comerica Bank Braeburn/Third Ward

Events

Father worked for Imperial Sugar at the
 “Dunk” unloading 150 pound bags of
 raw sugar
 Company script
 Segregation between whites and blacks
 and Hispanics and blacks
 Discipline in the black community
 Integration following Supreme Court
 decision in 1954
 Federal Urban Renewal projects
 Affirmative Action