FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

This oral history is copyrighted 2020 , by the Fort Bend County Historical Commission. All Rights Reserved. For information contact: Fort Bend County Historical Commission, Attn: Chairman-Oral History Committee, 301 Jackson St., Richmond, TX, 77469

Terms and Conditions
These oral histories do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the County Historical Commission or Fort Bend County. This file may not be modified or changed in any way without the express written permission of the Fort Bend County Historical Commission. This file may not be redistributed for profit. Please do not 'hot link' to this file or repost this file.

Abstract: Rothwell Ward

Rothwell Ward was interviewed as part of the Missouri City Gymnasium/Landmark Community Center Project. His interview discusses educational limitations for Blacks during Segregation and the M.R. Wood School, where his mother and maternal aunt taught.

Rothwell Ward's maternal grandparents, James and Louise Peel Tucker, of Stafford, Texas, are purported to be the earliest Blacks to vote in Fort Bend County.

Items collected during the Project are on display at a small museum at the Landmark Community Center in Missouri City, Texas.

12 Pages

⇓ Scroll down for Key Words from the Interview. ⇓

Interview Summary

People (in alphabetical order)

Rayford Ward, Rothwell's father
Zenobia Tucker Ward, Rothwell's mother
James Tucker, Rothwell's maternal grandfather
Ella Battle Tucker, James Tucker's first wife
James Tucker's sister, married to Ella Battle Tucker's brother
Louis Peel Tucker, Rothwell's maternal grandmother
J.C. Florea, friend of James Tucker
Dr. Carlos Slaughter, Rothwell's physician
Sophie Tucker, Rothwell's maternal aunt
Mrs. Goodman, New Hope School Principal
Miss Annie M. Scott, M.R. Wood School teacher
Leon Mooring, M.R. Wood School teacher, Coach and Principal
J.J. Court, friend of Rothwell
Steve Perry, friend of Rothwell
L.V. Dugan Hightower, Dulles Junior High School Principal
Jess Pirtle, Sugarland Industries surveyor
Miss Dot Hightower, wife of L.V. Dugan Hightower
Charles L. Jingles, M.R. Wood School Principal
Walton E. White, Sugar Land School Superintendent
Martha Turner, Rothwell's maternal great-grandmother
Magnolia Ward, Rothwell's paternal aunt
Cameron Talbert, Pied Piper Music owner, musician
Julia Talbert, wife of Cameron Talbot, teacher at Turner Elementary School
Miss Williams, M.R. Wood School teacher
Lucchese Family, bootmakers in San Antonio, Texas
Mr. Anderson, banker in San Antonio, Texas

Places/Businesses

Laura Eldridge Hospital
Sugar Land, Texas
Giddings, Texas
Sweet Home, Texas
Dime Box, Texas
2311 North Main, Stafford, Texas
FIS [Farmer's Improvement Society] Cemetery
DeWalt, Texas
Fort Bend County
Hempstead, Texas
Oyster Creek
Galveston Storm of 1915
Blue Bird Clinic
World War I
Beaumont, Texas
Braes Bayou, Riceville, Texas
M.R. Wood School
New Hope School
Staffordshire Road, Stafford, Texas
Fifth Street, Stafford, Texas
Oak Lane School
E.A. Jones Elementary School
Annie Wilcox Elementary School
Dulles Junior High School
The Palms Theater
North Carolina
Avenue E, Stafford, Texas
Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
Denver, Colorado
Pied Piper Music
Texas Southern University
Turner Elementary School
South Carolina
New York
Third Ward, Houston, Texas
Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church
Fort Bend County Fair
Rosenberg, Texas
University of Texas

© 2020 Fort Bend County Historical Commission

Artemesia Bowdon, Superintendent of St. Phillip Junior College, San Antono, Texas
Charlotte Mayfield, M.R. Wood School Principal
Henry Malone, early Black School Board member
Arthur Tucker, Zenobia Tucker Ward's half-brother
Mattie Tucker, Arthur Tucker's wife
Edwin Tucker, Rothwell's maternal uncle
Westerfield Tucker, Rothwell's maternal aunt
Harlan Moore, M.R. Wood School Band Director
Pat Rodgers, Missouri City School Superintendent
Edward Mercer, Missouri City School Superintendent
Lawrence Elkins, Missouri City School Superintendent
Milton Thomas, friend of Rothwell
Carl Joe Mula, friend of Rothwell
Buster Cout, father of J.J. Court
Charles Court, friend of Rothwell
Jean Court, wife of Charles Court, friend of Rothwell
Cindy Frierson, friend of Rothwell
Mary Frierson, mother of Cindy Frierson, Spanish teacher
Cindy DeLaro, friend of Rothwell
Lisa McCune, friend of Rothwell
Vernon [Corky] Madden, friend of Rothwell
James Pattterson, friend of Rothwell
Ann Smith, sister of James Patterson, friend of Rothwell
Geroge Wallace, U.S. Presidential Candidate
Pat Montcrief, friend of Rothwell
Fred Burnside, friend of Rothwell
Mary Curtis, Rothwell's father's cousin
Joe Cole, friend of Rothwell's mother
Ellis Family, Sugar Land, Texas
Helen Jackson, Ellis family member

Events

Prairie View A&M University
Missouri City Gymnasium
Booker T. Washington High School
Heights, Houston, Texas
Lone Star Cab Company
VA Hospital
La Loma Linda speakeasy
Seguin, Texas
Mula Road, Stafford, Texas
ARC [Association for Retarded Adults]
CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps] Camp
North Africa
Schulenburg, Texas
Calvert, Texas
Crabb, Texas
Guadalupe College
Seguin, Texas

© 2020 Fort Bend County Historical Commission