

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Hilbert D. Stanley

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Stanley, Hilbert D., 1931-2010
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley,
Dates:	March 6, 2004
Bulk Dates:	2004
Physical Description:	5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:11:24).
Abstract:	Education administrator, church leader, and high school principal Hilbert D. Stanley (1931 - 2010) worked in urban schools and helped in reorganization and decentralization, desegregation, drug abuse leadership training, and career development programs. He served as the president of the National Alumni Association of Morgan State University and as chair of the Morgan State University Foundation's Board of Trustees. He was also the executive director of the National Black Catholic Congress. For his work, Pope John Paul II appointed Stanley as a Knight of St. Gregory the Great. Stanley was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on March 6, 2004, in Baltimore, Maryland. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2004_018
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Hilbert Dennis Stanley, an educator, was born on February 24, 1931, in Cambridge, Maryland. He attended the all black Robert Moton School. Although he was not sure if he could afford college, with a gift from his mother and grandfather, he was able to go on to Morgan State University. He excelled in school, earning a B.S. degree in biology in 1952 and an M.S. degree in science in 1972. Stanley went on to Wayne State University in Detroit, and in 1978 earned an Ed.D. in administration and supervision.

Stanley taught science, but soon became a high school principal at Edmondson High School. He also served as principal at Lake Clifton Senior High School and Southwestern High School. As an urban area administrator, Stanley's assignments included system reorganization and decentralization, desegregation, drug abuse leadership training, and career development programs. He also served from 1981 to 1984 as the director of human services and education liaison officer to the Mayor of Baltimore, William Donald Schaefer. In 1993, Stanley retired from the Baltimore City Public Schools and became an instructor part time at Morgan State University. He has remained loyal to his alma mater, serving as the president of the National Alumni Association and also as its treasurer. He has guided the improvements in procedures and practices in the Alumni Office management, created new positions, and has been helpful in renovating and making available a building to house alumni operations. Under his leadership, he expanded the newspaper, developed an investment portfolio, and took fiscal responsibility of the budgetary issues. Stanley now serves as chair of the Board of Trustees of the MSU Foundation.

Stanley has served as director of development for the NAACP Baltimore Branch ACT-SO Program. He serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Baltimore City Historical Society. As an extension of his interest in

educational activity and civil rights, Stanley became involved in the concerns of African American Catholics. From 1991 to 2002, Stanley was executive director of the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC). With some three million Catholics of African descent in the U.S., the NBCC provides leadership and programs aimed at raising the consciousness of the Church to the history and cultural values of African Americans. Pope John Paul II appointed Stanley as a Knight of St. Gregory the Great. Stanley played a key role in the construction of "Our Mother of Africa Chapel" at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The canonization by Pope John Paul II of St. Josephine BAKHITA, the first African woman, took place at the Vatican in 2000, and was attended by a pilgrimage organized by Stanley. A relic of St. BAKHITA was placed in the altar at the "Our Mother of Africa Chapel."

Stanley was an R.O.T.C. graduate and served as an officer in the U.S. Army. He now resides in Baltimore.

He is a widower and has a son, a daughter, and several grandchildren.

Hilbert D. Stanley was interviewed by *The Historymakers* on March 6, 2004.

Mr. Stanley passed away on February 12, 2010.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Hilbert D. Stanley was conducted by Sandra Ford Johnson on March 6, 2004, in Baltimore, Maryland, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Education administrator, church leader, and high school principal Hilbert D. Stanley (1931 - 2010) worked in urban schools and helped in reorganization and decentralization, desegregation, drug abuse leadership training, and career development programs. He served as the president of the National Alumni Association of Morgan State University and as chair of the Morgan State University Foundation's Board of Trustees. He was also the executive director of the National Black Catholic Congress. For his work, Pope John Paul II appointed Stanley as a Knight of St. Gregory the Great.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

- Stanley, Hilbert D., 1931-2010
- Johnson, Sandra Ford (Interviewer)
- Lane, Edgar Carey (Videographer)

Subjects:

- African Americans--Interviews
- Stanley, Hilbert D., 1931-2010--Interviews

High school principals--United States--Interviews

African American Catholics--Interviews.

Morgan State University--Alumni and alumnae--Interviews

Organizations:

- HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)
- The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection
- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Baltimore City Public Schools

Occupations:

- Education Administrator
- Church Leader
- High School Principal

HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers|ReligionMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, March 6, 2004. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, Section A2004_018_001_001, TRT: 0:31:13 ?

Hilbert D. Stanley was born on February 24, 1931 in Cambridge, Maryland. Stanley's parents, Emma Magee Stanley Lewis and James Stanley, were both born in Talbot County, Maryland on the Eastern Shore. They married in 1930 and divorced in Stanley's youth. Stanley's mother moved to Baltimore, Maryland where she worked as a nurse's attendant, and his father moved to Wilmington, Delaware where he worked for an oil company. Stanley was raised by his paternal grandparents on an African American block in a predominately white neighborhood in Easton, Maryland near members of his extended family. He did not know his maternal grandparents. Stanley visited his mother and sister in Baltimore more frequently than his father in Wilmington. Stanley recalls attending conferences of the Holiness church with his grandmother; he converted to Catholicism in 1948. Stanley attended Robert Russa Moton High School prior to court-ordered integration. He preserved his grandparents' house from destruction upon their death.

High school principals--United States--Interviews.

African American Catholics--Interviews.

Morgan State University--Alumni and alumnae--Interviews.

Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, Section A2004_018_001_002, TRT: 0:30:43 ?

Hilbert D. Stanley grew up in segregated Easton, Maryland where there were limited occupations open to African Americans. As an adolescent, he worked as

a janitor and managed his school's sports teams. Stanley graduated from Moton High School in 1948 and earned a scholarship to Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. At Morgan, he joined Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and ROTC. Stanley graduated with a B.S. degree in biology in 1952 and began teaching at Edmondson-Westside High School in Baltimore. He subsequently served as assistant principal for Lake Clifton and Forest Park High Schools before returning to Edmondson as principal. Stanley briefly worked for Mayor William Donald Schaefer as education liaison and earned his Ed.D. degree in administration from Wayne State University. In 1991, he retired from the Baltimore City Public Schools. At the time of the interview, Stanley volunteered with the NAACP ACT-SO Program. He describes the historical relationship between Morgan State and Baltimore community.

Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, Section A2004_018_001_003, TRT: 0:28:39
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Hilbert D. Stanley developed Career Majors, a program designed to prepare students for career success, while principal of Edmondson-Westside High School in Baltimore, Maryland. After retiring from Baltimore City Public Schools in 1991, he began working with the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC), which was founded by Daniel Rudd in 1889. The organization resumed holding national congresses and implemented a slate of educational programs in the 1980s. Stanley quickly ascended from a volunteer position to executive director of the organization. Pope John Paul, II appointed Stanley a Knight of St. Gregory the Great. As executive director, Stanley oversaw the creation of the Our Mother of Africa Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Black artists were commissioned for the chapel's artwork, and a relic of Saint Josephine Bakhita rests in the altar. Stanley organized a pilgrimage to Vatican City for Bakhita's canonization in 2000.

Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, Section A2004_018_001_004, TRT: 0:31:12
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Hilbert D. Stanley earned his Ed.D. degree in administration and supervision from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan in 1978. In 2000, Stanley organized a pilgrimage to Vatican City to attend the canonization ceremonies for Josephine Bakhita. He adopted Bakhita as his patron saint. Stanley retired as executive director of the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) in 2002. He volunteered with the NAACP ACT-SO Program; sat on the board of the Morgan State University Foundation; and served as president of the Seton Hill Historic Society in Baltimore, Maryland. Stanley considers his greatest achievements, reflects upon his role as an educator, and describes his hopes for the African American community. He expresses gratitude for his good health and shares advice for future generations. He explains the importance of history, describes how he would like to be remembered, and reflects upon his legacy. Stanley concludes by narrating his photographs.

Video Oral History Interview with Hilbert D. Stanley, Section A2004_018_001_005, TRT: 0:09:37
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Hilbert D. Stanley narrates his photographs.