

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Carl Edwin Anderson

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## Overview of the Collection

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| <b>Repository:</b>           | The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616<br>info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com  |
| <b>Creator:</b>              | Anderson, Carl Edwin, 1934-  |
| <b>Title:</b>                | The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson,  |
| <b>Dates:</b>                | November 19, 2003  |
| <b>Bulk Dates:</b>           | 2003   |
| <b>Physical Description:</b> | 5 Betacame SP videocassettes (2:12:05).  |
| <b>Abstract:</b>             | Academic administrator Carl Edwin Anderson (1934 - ) has served the Howard University community as director of student activities, associate dean of students, vice president of student affairs and part time lecturer in education. He has also held appointments with the D.C. Board of Education Advisory Committee for Alternative Schools, and served as president of the Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund. Anderson was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on November 19, 2003, in Washington, District of Columbia. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview. |
| <b>Identification:</b>       | A2003_278  |
| <b>Language:</b>             | The interview and records are in English.  |

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Student affairs administrator Carl Edwin Anderson was born September 29, 1934, in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended Dunbar Elementary School and graduated from Charles L. Sumner High School in 1952. He received both his B.A. in government in 1956 and his M.S. in college personnel administration in 1958 from Southern Illinois University. Anderson later earned an Ed.D in administration in higher education from the University of Maryland in 1969.

His lifelong relationship with Howard University began in 1958 when he was the head resident of Cooke Hall. By 1960, Anderson was director of student activities and by 1964, he was associate dean of students. In August of 1969, Anderson was appointed vice president of student affairs and as such he developed and administered a broad range of services for 12,000 students, overseeing a of \$40 million budget and 400 employees. Anderson also worked as a part time lecturer for graduate and undergraduate level courses in the education department. Serving through the Black Power and Vietnam eras on a college campus, Anderson's job was often complex. In addition to his professional affiliations, Anderson is a member of the NAACP, the National Urban League, and the Washington, D.C. Board of Education Advisory Committee for Alternative Schools. For over ten years Anderson served as president of the Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund. From 1991 to 1995, he was a member of the professional staff of the Post Office and served on the Civil Service Committee of the United States House of Representatives.

Anderson is active in a number of groups and organizations, including the Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society in Political Science, Psi Chi Honor Society in Psychology, and the Phi Delta Kappa Honor Society in Education. He is also the recipient of many awards. Anderson and his wife, Ida, have three children, all graduates of Howard

University.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Carl Edwin Anderson was conducted by Larry Crowe on November 19, 2003, in Washington, District of Columbia, and was recorded on 5 Betacame SP videocassettes. Academic administrator Carl Edwin Anderson (1934 - ) has served the Howard University community as director of student activities, associate dean of students, vice president of student affairs and part time lecturer in education. He has also held appointments with the D.C. Board of Education Advisory Committee for Alternative Schools, and served as president of the Kappa Scholarship Endowment Fund.

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## 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®.

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## 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.

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## Controlled Access Terms

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

### Persons:

Anderson, Carl Edwin, 1934-

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Anderson, Carl Edwin, 1934- --Interviews

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Howard University

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## Occupations:

Academic Administrator

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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## 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 Carl Edwin Anderson, November 19, 2003. 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).

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## 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.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson, Section A2003\_278\_001\_001, TRT: 0:28:50 ?

Carl Edwin Anderson was born on September 29, 1934 in St. Louis, Missouri. His mother, Blanche Elizabeth Hooper Anderson, was born in 1909 in Uniontown, Kentucky. She migrated to Brooklyn, Illinois at three years old and later to St. Louis, Missouri. Several of Anderson's maternal cousins were fair-skinned and passed as white-- one cousin was the owner of a whites-only barbershop. Anderson's mother finished the second year of high school and worked as a homemaker, raising eleven children. Anderson's father, Raymond William Anderson, was born in 1907 in St. Charles, Missouri. He dropped out of school in the sixth grade after the death of his father to support his family. He worked as a janitor for most of his life and as a sexton in the Kingshighway Presbyterian Church, a predominantly white church in St. Louis. Anderson describes the sights, sounds and smells of his childhood neighborhood in St. Louis, including neighborhood barbecues, the local grocery store and the watermelon peddler.

Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson, Section A2003\_278\_001\_002, TRT: 0:29:40 ?

Carl Edwin Anderson describes himself as an inquisitive and well-behaved child and remembers playing makeshift cork ball. He attended Paul Laurence Dunbar Elementary School in St. Louis, Missouri, and Charles H. Sumner High School where he was a member of the city-wide student government association, president of his graduating class and president of the high school YMCA, the Hi-Y. He graduated from Sumner in 1952, and attended Southern Illinois University (SIU) in Carbondale, Illinois where he studied political science and expressed an interest in public service. SIU was his first experience in a racially integrated academic setting. During his first semester, Anderson was awarded a scholarship to cover his tuition. As an undergraduate student, Anderson pledged Kappa Alpha Psi. He earned his B.A. degree in political science in 1956. After graduation, he was awarded a graduate assistantship to complete his M.A. degree in college personnel administration at SIU.

Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson, Section A2003\_278\_001\_003, TRT: 0:30:15 ?

Carl Edwin Anderson and his wife were childhood sweethearts and married at a relatively young age. He earned a M.A. degree in college personnel administration from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois in 1958 and accepted a position at Howard University in Washington, D.C. as a resident hall director under dean of students Dr. Armour J. Blackburn. Anderson talks about Blackburn's management of student organizing-- including the expulsion of thirty-nine students; the culture of student unrest that developed amidst the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War; as well as the influence of Stokely Carmichael, H. Rap Brown and others at Howard University. Anderson was promoted to director of student activities and later, made acting dean in 1969 after Blackburn suffered a stroke. Anderson describes the nature of disciplinary action at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and the conflict between students, faculty and the institution.

Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson, Section A2003\_278\_001\_004, TRT: 0:31:00 ?

Carl Edwin Anderson talks about student protests and demonstrations at Howard University, in Washington, D.C. in the 1960s, '70s and '80s. He remembers his interactions with Stokely Carmichael, Courtland Cox and other student leaders on Howard's campus. Anderson was the lead administrator communicating with the student activists who took over a Howard administration building in 1968. He was made vice president of student affairs at Howard University in 1969. As

a vice president, his responsibilities intersected with the admissions, financial aid, student employment, student judiciary and several other departments. Though he was an administrator, Anderson also viewed himself as an educator and found opportunities to teach students how to make good decisions. Anderson explains his philosophy as an administrator; he describes his hopes and concerns for the African American community; and, he remembers former president of Howard University Dr. Mordecai Wyatt Johnson.

Video Oral History Interview with Carl Edwin Anderson, Section A2003\_278\_001\_005, TRT: 0:12:20 ?

Carl Edwin Anderson remembers Dr. James Madison Nabrit, Jr., president of Howard University from 1960 to 1969, who allowed him paid leave to complete his doctoral work. HistoryMaker Dr. James E. Cheek assumed presidency of the University in 1969, and appointed Anderson as vice president for student affairs. Anderson concludes by reflecting upon his legacy and describing how he would like to be remembered.