

Storyteller:	Allen, Lillian	Interviewer:	Gray, Carolyn
Date:	June 29, 2006	Original StoryCorps Log Files:	MBX001542_L1
			MBX001542_L2
			MBX001542_L3

Timecode Notes

1:35	Tell us how you got to Pittsburgh. Let me tell you how I got into the world first. Born 1909...midwife.
3:00	Difficult for L go get passport because no official records at the time she was born. On large numbers of children
4:02	On mixing of Indians and Blacks in her family and slaveowners. But did things they weren't supposed to. A fair relative that passed for illiterate immigrant.
5:46	Many fair relatives, high cheek bones and small eyes.
6:30	On coming to Pittsburgh. Recalls her mother being sick. I did not understand why deceased mother in box. Mother's burial. Father tries to explain to her about heaven.
8:50	Memory of uncle.
9:55	At 6 years old, saw WWI. "They" came to South to pick up black war that wanted to go North. Saved relatives and went. Her aunt took L to Pittsburgh.
11:19	Lived in Pittsburgh but visited South in summer. When she was older, she was sent back south. Siblings resented...difficult to adapt to culture.
13:03	Kept to herself, read a lot.
13:18	What did you do to get yourself out of there? Talks about farmland uncle amassed after Emancipation and heart it was distributed in family.
15:00	On father's menial skills.
16:10	It does not sound like life was not too bad. Why so anxious to leave? Never felt like she belonged.
16:40	So what did you do? Talks about her grandfather who learned how to read and write when it was still illegal for negroes to do so.
18:00	Did not drink coffee because afraid to be dark. No one wanted to be dark.
19:00	Father had another family.
19:44	On meeting husband and seducing him to leave.
21:19	Seventeen years old married woman so she could not go to school. She did housework.
22:00	So happy to het hire at Kauffmann's. \$13.50 a week. Sundays and holidays off.
22:44	Then you met my father...was not really friendly. Decided to go for picnic where she met prince charming. L's aunt liked him.
24:07	No place to court. They would meet in museum. They got married after two years.
24:48	Became a beautician. When union came to department store, 16 workers laid off, including L.
25:56	How did you get to beauty school? Had wanted to learn about massage. Would take care of her body, exercise.

27:04	Went to beauty school while she was off from work in afternoons. On attending night school.
29:10	Had biggest Black beauty shop in Pittsburgh, PA. on seeing Little Richie in man's beauty shop. Diane Carroll came to shop.
30:53	Lena Horne lived nearby. Talks about her legs and was she married.
32:37	When I was three, you decided to go to Alaska before it was a state. Went there because she did not need a license there. Many blacks there at the time.
33:41	Exciting there, many prostitutes there. They need their hair done.
34:53	Did not recognize mother when she came back after months in Alaska. Worked for United Airlines.
35:47	Has been to every continent. C travelled with L.
36:00	In Bali, people carried L because nobody lived to go there.
37:44	You have written your biography? Working on it.
38:25	Reads from her autobiography.
40:40	Expresses appreciation for mother – human.
41:10	Give me some words of wisdom. No words of wisdom, three husbands and they are dead. Alone by, can't be bothered with a man. On mother's healthy appetite. Secret no smoking, no drinking, no omen to stop her from sleeping at night.