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**DOROTHY D. PIPES
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW, 2015**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

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COLLECTION
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NOTES: This interview is part of the Indiana Community Builders Oral
History Project of the Indiana Historical Society.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dorothy (Davis) Pipes was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1927. An African American, she grew up on Indianapolis's Near West Side near the Lockefield neighborhood and attended school at St. Bridget's and St. Agnes Academy, both Roman Catholic parochial schools. During the summer of her senior year in high school she worked at the Madame Walker factory located at the corner of Indiana Avenue and West Street. She also worked at the company's café, called the Coffee Pot. In 1947, she married her first husband, George M. Simpson (1923–1976), with whom she had two sons, George E. Simpson (b. 1947) and Addison T. Simpson (b. 1950). After their divorce, she met and married Maurice A. Pipes Sr. (1927–1994) in 1954, whose two children by a previous marriage, Sharon Pipes-Dillard (1947–2011) and Lee A. Pipes (b. 1948), she informally adopted. The Pipes's fifth child, Maurice A. Pipes II, was born in 1956. Throughout her adult life, Dorothy has lived in Indianapolis. She worked for Western Electric and then Indianapolis Public Schools before retiring. Currently, she resides on Indianapolis's North Side near Crown Hill Cemetery.

Sources:

Information in transcript

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This manuscript was transcribed from a digitally recorded interview conducted on March 30, 2015, at Mrs. Pipes's home on Byram Avenue in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Wendy L. Adams, director of oral history at the Indiana Historical Society (IHS). Wendy Adams transcribed the interview in May 2015, and lightly edited the transcript in July 2016. The interview, which includes the audio recording and the transcript. Also included is a digital disk of photos relating to Mrs. Pipe's.

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