

Interview with
ALICE QUINN

- ES This is Eva Schlesinger interviewing Alice Quinn on April 15, 1985. Can you tell me when and where you were born?
- AQ I was born September 1, 1900, in Duwest, South Carolina. I stayed there until I was twenty-three. Then I came to Oberlin.
- ES How did you happen to come to Oberlin?
- AQ Well, my mother brought me here. My aunt invited her to come with my sister. They went on to New York, and I stayed here and got married. In 1924.
- ES Why was your aunt here?
- AQ She come here and she got married. She come from Duwest too.
- ES When did she come to Oberlin?
- AQ I don't remember. She come here when I was about two years old. I got married in 1924 to Albert Quinn. I had ten children. I have one in Chicago, one in Elyria, and one out in Oklahoma. That leaves 7 here, I think.
- ES What do your children do?
- AQ Bernita works here at the gas station. Mary works for the Co-op. Sara takes care of a lady. Dora works in Elyria, in a store. Grover teaches at a school out in Oklahoma. Albert (that's my oldest son) doesn't work any more. He's retired.
- ES What did he do?
- AQ He worked in a factory.
- ES Where were your parents from?
- AQ Duwest, South Carolina.
- ES What did they do for a living?
- AQ They used to farm. My father died in Greenville, South Carolina.
- ES What did they raise?
- AQ They raised cotton, corn, potatoes, sugar cane--you make molasses out of that--, watermelon, and the different kinds of things you raise on a farm.
- ES Did they own the land?
- AQ No, they rented. They were sharecroppers.