An Interview with Marcia Young

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
IHPA Legacy Oral History project

Interview # HP-A-L-2016-005

Marcia Young, the long-time curator of the David Davis Mansion in Bloomington Illinois, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library’s IHPA Legacy Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:
Date: Jan 21, 2016 Location: David Davis Mansion in Bloomington, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Peter Harbison, ALPL Student Historian Program Coordinator

Transcription by: __________________________
Edited by: ____________________________

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 2:49 / 2.82 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 9, 2017.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract
Marcia Young, IHPA Legacy, HP-A-L-2016-005

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Marcia (Dildine) Young was born September 19, 1942 in Terre Haute, Indiana. The family moved to Miami, Florida, where Marcia attended school. She graduated from Miami High School in 1959, earned an undergraduate degree from Wellesley College, Massachusetts, and received a master’s degree in history from Columbia University and later a Ph.D. in history from Harvard University in 1985.

Marcia married Michael Young in 1968 and the couple moved to Bloomington in 1970 where Michael accepted a position teaching history at Illinois Wesleyan University. Marcia served as the acting director of the Illinois State University Museum from 1987 to 1990, eventually becoming director. In 1990 Marcia became the site manager for the David Davis State Historic Site while it was in the midst of a five-year, $2.5 million restoration. The site consists of the historic Victorian style mansion and grounds of Judge David Davis, a close friend and confidant of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln appointed Judge Davis to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1862, and he served there until becoming a U.S. Senator from 1877 to 1883. Marcia talks at length about her career with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and about the art, architecture and history of the David Davis mansion and grounds. She retired as site manager in 2014.

**Subject Headings/Key Words:** David Davis Mansion Historic Site, Bloomington, IL; historic preservation, restoration; Illinois Historic Preservation Agency; Dr. Michael Young

**Note to the Reader:** Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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