

Code	902008
Subject	Nora Skillern
Date	unknown
Interviewer	mark sack
Abstract	Nora Skillern, a member of the Shaker Lakes Women's Committee (Friends of Shaker Lakes), discusses her personal experiences and philanthropic roles at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center. Skillern details fundraising campaigns for the Center, and credits her interest in outdoor recreation to her background as a child growing up in England, where she visited metropolitan parks and learned to garden. Skillern also discusses working for the English colonial government in Africa during the era of decolonialization, and her childhood experiences in England during World War II.

minutes:

- 0 introduction and background
- 1 growing up in England, childhood visits to "metropolitan parks"
- 2
- 3 working for English colonial government in Africa during decolonization
- 4 Shaker Lakes Nature Center: "an oasis in the suburbs"; educational programming
- 5
- 6 Women's Committee: role in fundraising, programs
- 7
- 8
- 9 plant sale, Women's Committee renamed "Friends"
- 10 battle to stop Heights highway development
- 11 Shaker Lakes Nature Center: changes in staffing
- 12 Women's Committee
- 13 philanthropy, Sterns Trail
- 14 possible interview subjects; book: The Travel Bug (1972, 1976)
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19 working on the fundraising committee
- 20
- 21 Party in the Park "was a good fundraiser"
- 22 high taxes in the Heights Area
- 23 "developers [would] love to put up condominiums around shaker lakes"
- 24 WWII experience
- 25 "I went to school with a gas mask on my back"
- 26 bombing raids, cancellation of extracurricular activities
- 27
- 28 gardening provided food and personal edification
- 29 end