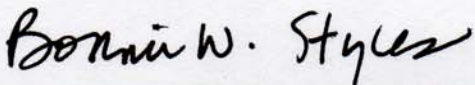


Performance Report Cover

1. Federal agency and organization element to which report is submitted Institute of Museum and Library Services		2. Federal grant or other identifying number assigned by federal agency LG-24-07-0047-07		Page 1	Of 5 Pages
				3a. DUNS number 075600627	
				3b. EIN 37-6018727	
4. Recipient organization (name and complete address, including zip code) Illinois State Museum Society, 502 S. Spring Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706-5000				5. Recipient identifying or account number ISMS-1799	
6a. Project/Grant period start date (mo/day/yr) 10/01/2007	6b. Project/Grant period end date (mo/day/yr) 9/30/2009	7. Reporting period end date (mo/day/yr) 9/30/2008		8a. Final Report? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
8b. Project URLs if any www.museum.state.il.us/avbarn/				9. Report frequency <input type="checkbox"/> annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> semi-annual <input type="checkbox"/> quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> other If other, describe	
10. Please transmit the performance report as instructed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.					
11. Other attachments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Transmit accompanying documents with this cover as instructed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services					
12. Certification: By submitting this report I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this information is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.					
12a. Typed or printed name and title of authorized certifying official Dr. Bonnie W. Styles Museum Director				12c. Telephone (area code, number, extension) 217-782-7011	
				12d. Email address director@museum.state.il.us	
12b. Signature of authorized certifying official 				12e. Date report submitted (mo/day/yr) 10/31/2008	
13a. Typed or printed name and title of Principal Investigator/Project Director Dr. Robert E. Warren Curator of Anthropology				13b. Telephone (area code, number, extension) 217-524-7903	
				13c. Email address warren@museum.state.il.us	
14. Agency use only					

Burden Estimate and Request for Public Comments: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average ten minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comment regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Chief Information Officer, 1800 M Street, NW, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20036-5802, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 3137-0029, Washington, DC 20503.

Oral History of Illinois Agriculture

Second Interim Narrative Report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services



PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTION

Purpose of the Project

The Oral History of Illinois Agriculture (OHIA) project is supported by a two-year IMLS National Leadership Grant awarded to the Illinois State Museum (ISM). The purpose of the OHIA project is to develop new digital oral-history resources telling the story of Illinois agriculture, and to encourage active audience use of these resources in online and museum settings. The project is creating an interactive Web module—the *Audio-Video Barn*—featuring digital oral-history interviews with people involved in various aspects of agriculture and rural life in Illinois. Some of the interviews are being digitized from audio tapes archived in libraries at Northern Illinois University and the University of Illinois at Springfield. In partnership with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM), we are also recording fifty new interviews with a diverse array of people of various ages from throughout the State of Illinois. Most of the new interviews are being recorded with digital camcorders so that video images as well as sounds can be made available on the Web module. Audio and video files are being digitized (when necessary), edited, and transcribed. Interview files are also being indexed by theme, topic, and geographical location so Web visitors can search them interactively for subjects of special interest. A project evaluator is developing an assessment of visitor interests and needs, which will help us design effective search tools and associated educational resources. The evaluator will also conduct an outcome-based evaluation in later stages of the project. The interactive *Audio-Video Barn* will give museum and Web visitors a rich, personal view of Illinois agriculture—past, present, and future.

Project Activities

Promotional Activities. We have promoted the OHIA project in a series of presentations, exhibits, and media outlets. In October we presented an interactive exhibit in a Digital Showcase plenary session at the Oral History Association (OHA) conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The exhibit included an 8-x-4 foot poster entitled “Oral History of Illinois Agriculture: An IMLS National Leadership Grant to Give Voice to the Rural Heartland” (Appendix 1). We also set up three computer displays, including a PowerPoint summary of the project and two interactive computer stations illustrating the search capabilities of our Web module for finding interview material of interest to students, teachers, and other visitors. Jeff Baron interviewed Robert Warren on the OHA exhibit floor for a live broadcast of the Saturday Light Brigade radio program, which is carried by five public-radio stations in western Pennsylvania. We presented a similar poster exhibit in October at the Conference on Illinois History, sponsored by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in Springfield, Illinois. We are also scheduled to present our poster exhibit in November at the Museum Computer Network Conference in Washington, D.C. In April, our project was highlighted in a Brown Bag seminar and at an Illinois State Museum open house. The *Illinois Times* newspaper published an article about the project in June. Information is also available on the project’s *Audio-Video Barn* Web site (www.museum.state.il.us/avbarn/).

Supplies and Materials. Most of the equipment needed for the project was purchased in the first stage using IMLS and cost-share funds. However, we found it necessary to cancel our order for a Gateway computer after repeated delays in shipment. In its place, we have ordered a Sony laptop that is due for delivery in November.

Visitor Interest and Needs Assessment. Our Evaluator, Dr. Tom Clark of TA Consulting, completed his “Front End Evaluation Report” to help guide the project’s development of educational resources (Appendix 2). The report builds an understanding of how teachers use Web-based resources, agricultural content, and oral history in their teaching. It also reveals what supports teachers will need to use the proposed resources, and the educational context of this teacher use. The report is based in part on an online survey that was disseminated in May to a cross-section of Illinois K-12 teachers, with the assistance of the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Education Association. The survey found that (1) teachers use Web-based resources in lesson planning and classroom instruction; (2) teachers use a wide range of agricultural content in their lessons in support of standards-based instruction; (3) the level of interest in the Web-based educational resources we will offer is fairly high; (4) standards-based instruction will be an important consideration in our development of educational resources; and (5) the OHIA project can support teachers by collaborating on training and by providing standards-aligned, educationally appropriate, and high-quality digital online content. One outgrowth of this study is a teacher workshop we plan to host at the ISM Technology Learning Center in summer 2009 to test our new “Doing Oral History in the Classroom” instructional unit.

Digitization of Audio Tapes. Audio tapes from oral-history archives at Northern Illinois University (NIU) and the University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) have been digitized and converted to Waveform (.wav) files. The NIU collection consists of 18 interviews from northern Illinois; the UIS collection includes 45 interviews from central Illinois (Appendix 3)

Digital Indexing Workshop. In September, ISM staff hosted a wide-ranging two-day workshop with two of our project partners, Dr. Michael Frisch and Douglas Lambert of Randforce Associates LLC, University at Buffalo Technology Incubator (SUNY). The purposes of this workshop were to (1) discuss search terms used in the digital indexing of oral-history interviews, (2) identify tools that will be developed to help people find what they want in the *Audio-Video Barn* Web module, (3) discuss the design of the Web module, and (4) plan our interactive exhibit for the Oral History Association conference in Pittsburgh.

Oral History Interviews. The OHIA project selected 50 individuals for new oral-history interviews. Twenty-five interviews were assigned to ISM project staff, and the remaining 25 to ALPLM staff and volunteers. To date, the two institutions have completed 69 interviews with 72 different individuals (Appendix 4). The interviewees represent many different aspects of agriculture and are widely distributed across Illinois (Appendix 5). Five additional interviews are scheduled for completion in the near future.

The ISM crew launched its interviews in December 2007 and has completed 45 interviews with 48 individuals (Appendix 6). Among these are 37 sit-down interviews and 29 walk-and-talk interviews (Appendix 7). Interviewees range in age from 12 to 96, and include grain farmers, beekeepers, elk ranchers, 4-H kids, and growers of pumpkins, peaches, oregano, and organic chickens. The ALPLM crew has completed 24 interviews, including 22 sit-down interviews and 15 walk-and-talk interviews (Appendix 8). Interviewees include veterinarians, corn and soybean researchers, fish farmers, and animal-science professors.

Digital Processing of Interview Data. Digital audio, video, and image files are labeled and downloaded after each interview to a 1TB Seagate external hard drive. Files are then transferred for permanent storage to two LaCie RAID arrays (3TB and 4TB). High-definition video files are

rendered to standard-definition AVI files, and working copies are burned onto DVDs. Descriptive information includes interview abstracts and captions for audio, video, and image files.

Indexing of Digital Audio. Indexing of digital audio and video files is accomplished using Interclipper software. The first step, performed by Randforce, is to chop each file into meaningful segments (SEGs) of about 8-10 minutes in length. Each SEG is then indexed with an expansive set of descriptive control words (CONWORDS) that can be used by researchers or casual visitors to search for segments containing material of interest. Segmented files are then studied to identify and code story clips (CLIPs), brief (1-3 minute) interesting passages within segments that focus on a single topic. ISM and Randforce staff continuously refine the control-word list to ensure that all potentially interesting topics, concepts, events, and objects can be easily located in the interview database. To date, all 18 of the NIU audio interviews and 39 of the 45 UIS audio interviews have been segmented, clipped, and coded for content. The six remaining UIS interviews will be completed in the near future.

Indexing of Digital Video. The first step in this process is to transform high-definition video files to standard-definition video files and transport them to Randforce for initial processing with Interclipper software. To date, four ISM interviews have been segmented, clipped, and coded for content. The remaining ISM and ALPLM interviews will be completed in the next six months.

Transcription of Interviews. New interviews are being transcribed by the Tape Transcription Center, a division of The Skill Bureau in Boston, Massachusetts. Twenty-two interviews have been transcribed to date, including 13 ISM interviews and nine ALPLM interviews. All 45 of the old UIS interviews were transcribed before the onset of our project. The 18 old NIU interviews are to be transcribed by NIU students.

Development of Web Module. Development of the *Audio-Video Barn* Web module is underway. The current goals are to transfer Interclipper data into a MySQL database and create searching and browsing methods on the Web site using PHP scripting language. We succeeded in doing this with a test set of metadata associated with about 1700 audio clips. We have also identified an open-source flash-based video and audio player (FlowPlayer) and have begun to experiment with scripting to deal with the segments and clips themselves. Our Web developer is also assessing two content-management systems, Omeka and Drupal, for building the final version of the Web site.

Development of Educational Resources. Three educational components will be developed for the *Audio-Video Barn* Web module.

1. **Doing Oral History.** This component will use video clips to show teachers and students how to conduct oral-history interviews. Middle-school students in the ISM Tech Academy will produce and perform in these videos. Each one will illustrate a step in the interview process: (1) choosing and researching your subject, (2) deciding on the proper interview format (sit-down or walk-and-talk), (3) preparing a list of questions, (4) learning about interview tools and technology, (5) conducting the interview, (6) using open-source computer software to digitize, edit, and transcribe the interview, and (7) presenting the interview on a classroom Web site.
2. **Making a Documentary.** This component will show teachers and students how to create video documentaries. It will provide instructions and downloadable digital materials, including video and audio clips, historical photographs, music, and other historical resources.
3. **Learning with Agriculture.** This component will provide agriculture-based lesson plans founded on National and Illinois State Educational Standards for a variety of subjects,

including Language Arts (reading, writing, speaking, listening), Social Studies (history, economics, geography, anthropology), Agriculture (crop sciences, animal sciences), and Technology (computers, agricultural engineering).

Outcome-Based Evaluation. The outcome-based evaluation of the *Audio-Video Barn* Web module is scheduled in our proposal for the last three months of the project (July–September 2009). Given the fact that the module’s public release will be made at the end of the project, very little time will be available to evaluate public response under the auspices of the IMLS grant. For this reason, we plan to initiate the evaluation process in the summer of 2009 with an A-V Barn Web Workshop for K-12 teachers at the ISM Technology Learning Center. Teachers will use and evaluate our “Doing Oral History in the Classroom” instructional unit, which is currently under development. Teacher comments will inform the final development all teaching units in the Web module.

Interns and Volunteers. ISM project staff were assisted by four volunteers and interns. Erin Richey and Jennifer Wyatt, recent high-school graduates from Springfield, volunteered during the summer to help index interview files and write image captions. In September we were joined by Lee Scropos, a volunteer intern from Illinois College, and Ashley Abruzzo, a work-study student from the University of Illinois at Springfield. Lee and Ashley are indexing interview files and working with archival images. ALPLM staff were assisted by three volunteer interviewers (Dick Hull, Don Shandrow, Elizabeth Simmons) and three interns for digital processing (Tom Gardner, Nicholas Stefanski, Megan Coyle).

Goals and Accomplishments

The OHIA project has accomplished a great deal, including the recording of 69 new oral-history interviews, the digital indexing of 63 old audio interviews, and the development of novel ways to post searchable audio and video media on the Web. With one exception, all aspects of the project are on schedule (Appendix 9). The only area of concern is our late start on the indexing of digital video files. If indexing is not completed in April 2009, we may have to extend this activity into the summer.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

In submitting this report, I certify that all of the information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Robert E. Warren Curator of Anthropology October 31, 2008

APPENDICES

1. Poster Presented at Oral History Association Conference, Pittsburgh (1 p)
2. Visitor Interest and Needs Assessment: Executive Summary (1 p)
3. County Map of Old Interview Locations (1 p)
4. List of New Interviewees (2 pp)
5. County Map of New Interview Locations (1 p)
6. List of ISM Interviews Completed (6 pp)
7. ISM Interview Length (1 p)
8. ALPLM Interview Length (1 p)
9. OHIA Project Schedule of Completion (1 p)

ORAL HISTORY of ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE:

An IMLS National Leadership Grant to Give Voice to the Rural Heartland

Dr. Robert E. Warren, Mike Maniscalco, James S. Oliver, Sue Hutt, & Dr. Erich Schroeder
Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL

Doug Lambert & Dr. Michael H. Fritsch
The Renaissance Associates, LLC, Alton, NY

Dr. Mark DePue
The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, Springfield, IL

SEARCHING THE AUDIO-VIDEO BARN

All Illinois farmers possess the equivalent of a time capsule in their barns. It is up to you to search the barn for the treasures of the past. The audio-visual program is a treasure trove of information about the life of the farmer. The audio-visual program is a treasure trove of information about the life of the farmer. The audio-visual program is a treasure trove of information about the life of the farmer.

ILLINOIS FARMS
Number of Farms (Thousands)

LAND ACQUISITION & LOSS
The land acquisition and loss of the farmer is a complex process. The land acquisition and loss of the farmer is a complex process. The land acquisition and loss of the farmer is a complex process.

CLOSING OUT SALE MONDAY, MARCH 2
The closing out sale of the farmer is a complex process. The closing out sale of the farmer is a complex process. The closing out sale of the farmer is a complex process.

FROM HUMAN POWER TO GPS
The transition from human power to GPS is a complex process. The transition from human power to GPS is a complex process. The transition from human power to GPS is a complex process.

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE

The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process. The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process. The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process.

THE ORAL HISTORY of ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE PROJECT (OHAIP)

The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process. The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process. The oral history of Illinois agriculture is a complex process.

Oral History of Illinois Agriculture Project: FRONT END EVALUATION REPORT

By Tom Clark, Ph.D.
TA Consulting, Springfield, IL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a Front End Evaluation of the Illinois State Museum's **Oral History of Illinois Agriculture** (OHIA) project, a two-year program funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences through a National Leadership Grant. The Front End Evaluation will help guide development of educational resources in year two of the project.



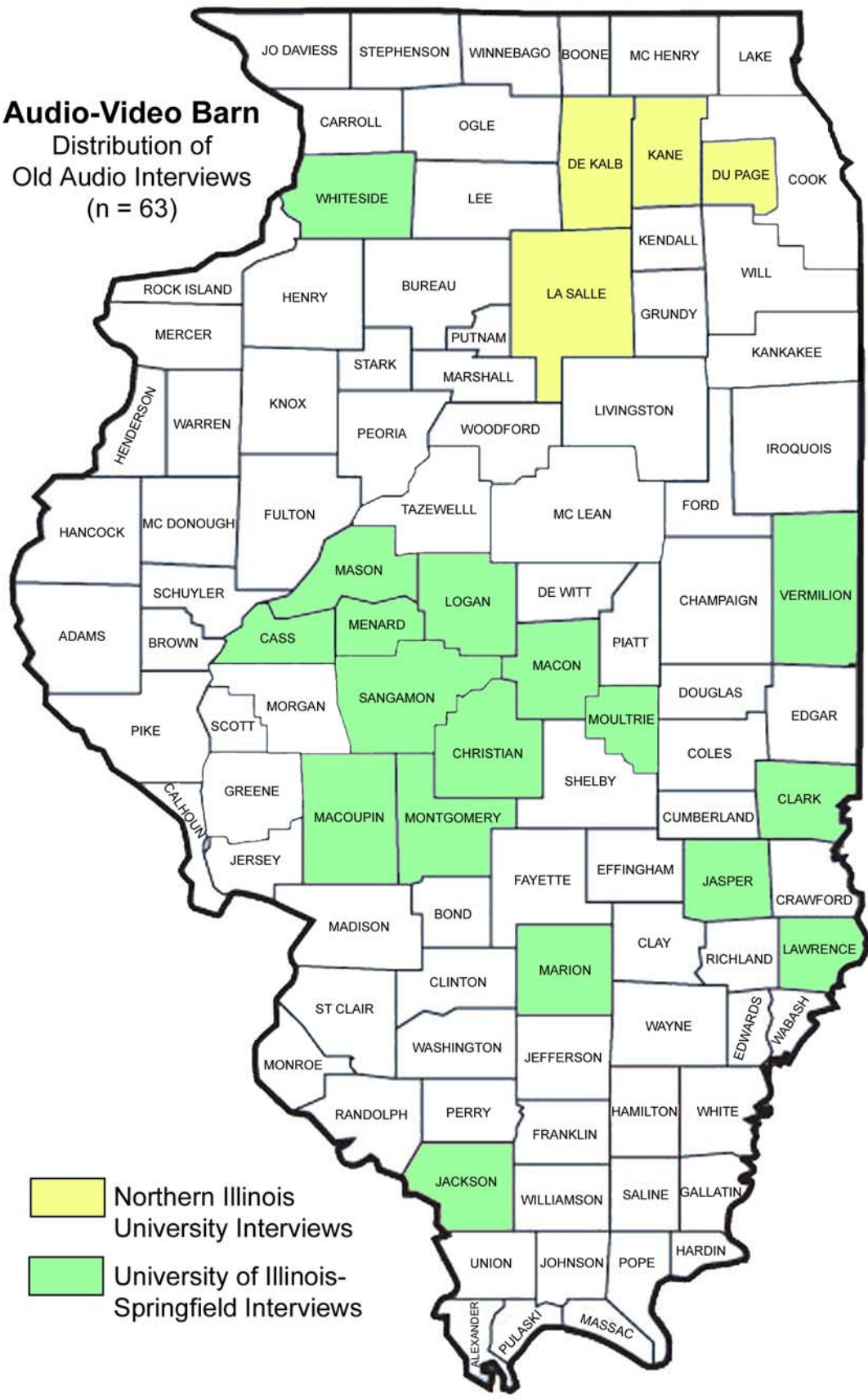
Evidence was gathered through a review of the literature, an online survey of Illinois K-12 teachers solicited to participate through postings by Illinois State Board of education and state teacher associations, and a review of educational exhibits and resources currently available online. These multiple sources of evidence helped build an understanding of teacher practice, needs, and interests, as well as potential ways to structure and support the project's educational resources to help ensure widespread and effective use by K-12 education audiences.

Through this Front End Evaluation, project evaluator TA Consulting conducts an *Audience Analysis* for a key visitor population—K-12 educators and their students—to address five questions of interest:

- 1) How do teachers use Web-based resources in their lesson planning and classroom instruction?
- 2) How do teachers currently include agricultural topics/history in their curricula, and Oral History and related methods in their teaching strategies?
- 3) What is the level of teacher interest in the proposed Web-based OHIA educational resources?
- 4) What is the educational context of teacher use of OHIA Web-based resources?
- 5) What structure and support do teachers need to incorporate OHIA Web-based resources in their teaching?

The Front End Evaluation concludes with an exploration of *Recommendations for Resource Design*. The recommendations build especially upon the review conducted of online exhibits and resources offered by other museums and organizations for K-12 educational audiences.

Audio-Video Barn
Distribution of
Old Audio Interviews
(n = 63)



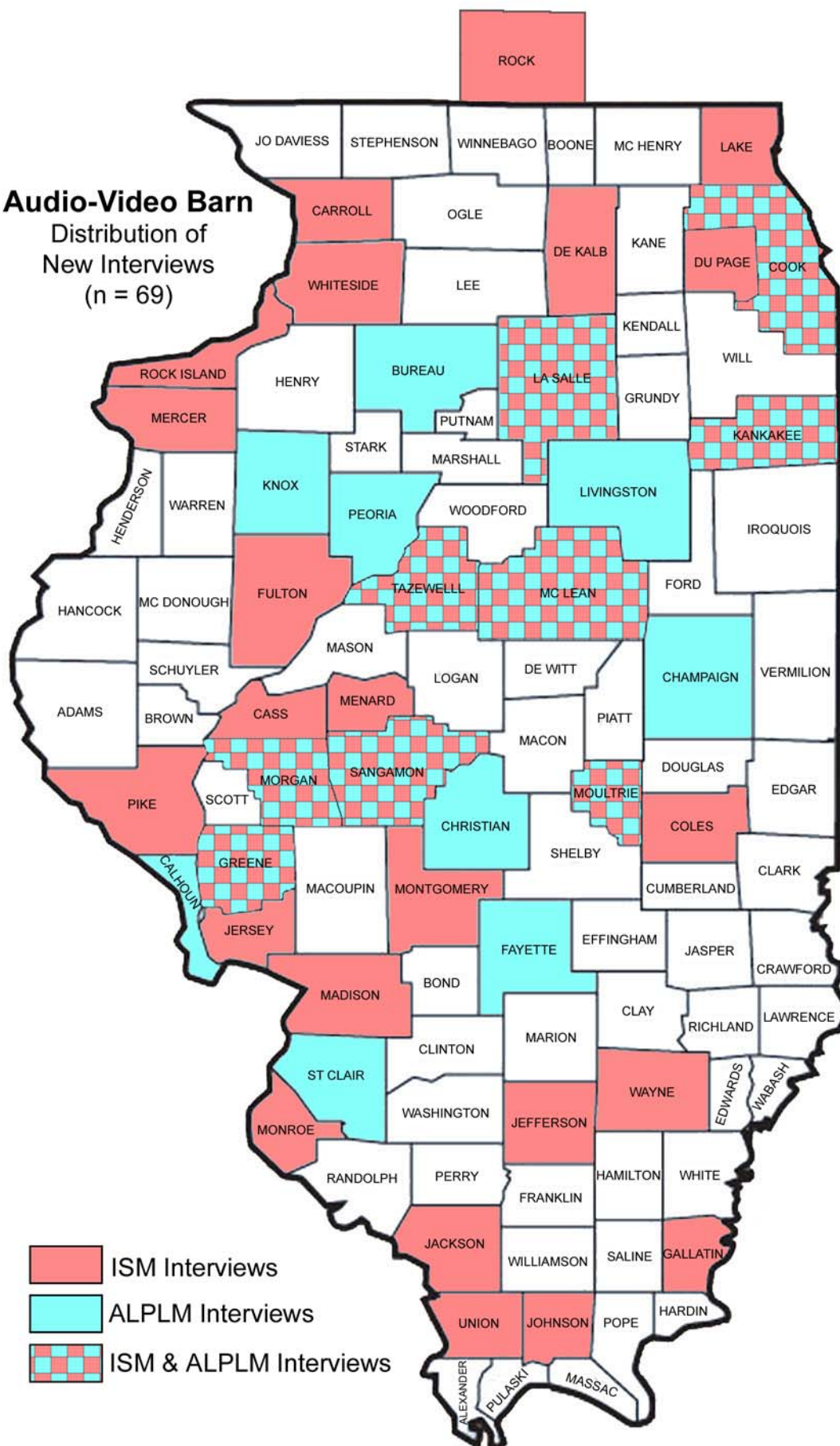
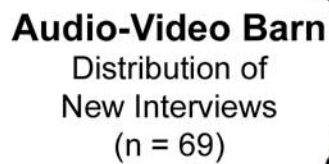
Oral History of Illinois Agriculture: List of New Interviewees

	Last Name	First	Age	Sex	County	Experience
✓	Ackerman	John	46	M	Tazewell	Pumpkin farmer; diversified to preserve family farm
✓	Ackerman	Raymond	89	M	Tazewell	Memories of Ackerman Farms as a young man
✓	Ackerman	Yvette	45	F	Tazewell	Operates Ackerman Farms Store and a shop in town
✓	Arteman	Benjamin	18	M	McLean	State Reporter of FFA in Illinois, 2008-2009
✓	Ashby	Austin	18	M	Carroll	State Vice President of FFA in Illinois, 2008-2009
✓	Barker	Makenna	12	F	Fulton	4-H member who displayed vegetables at Illinois State Fair
✓	Biehl	Dr. LeRoy G.	74	M	Champaign	Emeritus Professor; Swine Extension veterinarian
Nov	Black	Stephen J.	62	M	Greene	Operates a 5th-generation Sesquicentennial Farm
Oct	Block	John R.	73	M	Knox	Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture (1981-1986)
✓	Brewer	Parris	49	M	Cook	Marketing Coordinator for <i>Growing Home</i> , Chicago
✓	Burrus	Jim	58	M	Morgan	Raises grass-fed beef and organic chickens
✓	Cunningham	Eileen	86	F	Greene	Retired nurse & farm wife raised near the Illinois River
✓	Dahlstrom	Neil	32	M	Rock Island	Author of <i>The John Deere Story</i> (2005)
✓	Eckert	Chris	35	M	St. Clair	President of Eckert's Orchards, Inc.
✓	Gebhart	Paul	57	M	Christian	Organic chickens, turkeys, and cattle
✓	Geerts-Davis	Manda	26	F	Whiteside	National Junior Advisor for Columbia Sheep Association
✓	Glosser	Dr. Deanna	58	F	Sangamon	Director of <i>Slow Food Springfield</i>
✓	Goldsmith	Dr. Peter	49	M	Champaign	NSRC Soybean marketing
✓	Gray	Pam	54	F	Sangamon	Director of Illinois State Fair Museum
✓	Hambleton	Ruth	54	F	Jefferson	U. of Illinois Extension educator; founded Annie's Project
✓	Harrington	Roy	82	M	Rock Island	Retired mechanical engineer for John Deere & Company
✓	Harston	Myles	56	M	Livingston	AquaRanch Industries: Tilapia fish and hydroponic crops
✓	Hartke	Charles	63	M	Sangamon	Director of Illinois Department of Agriculture
✓	Hatfield	Dianna	19	F	Wayne	Active 4-H & FFA member; seeks career in Ag marketing
✓	Heavner	Andrew	20	M	Monroe	State Secretary of FFA in Illinois, 2008-2009
✓	Heavner	Jody	38	F	Pike	Manager of elk production at Pea Ridge Elk Ranch
✓	Herschberger	Lorene	57	F	Moultrie	Amish farm wife. Mother of 13 children
✓	Herschberger	Oba	59	M	Moultrie	Amish farmer. Holstein dairy and Belgian horse breeding
✓	Holst	Brian	44	M	Rock Island	Manager of the John Deere Collectors Center
✓	Hughes	Matthew	43	M	McLean	Corn and soybean farmer in a productive county
✓	Jackson	Jacqueline	79	F	Rock, WI	Author of <i>Stories from the Round Barn</i> (1997)
✓	Janssen	Nate	33	M	Lake	Manages large dairy operation at Golden Oaks Farm
✓	Jeckel	Russ	82	M	Tazewell	Pork producer who started confinement
✓	Johnson	Jay	41	M	Morgan	Organized large-scale train shipments of corn to Texas
✓	Johnson	Lloyd	69	M	Madison	Retired African-American farmer and gospel singer
✓	Johnson	Mark	42	M	La Salle	Raises Southdown sheep and judges sheep shows
✓	Johnson	Mark	42	M	DuPage	Agricultural Specialist for Kline Creek Farm
✓	Johnson	Michael	59	M	Carroll	Tree farmer and professional landscape photographer
✓	Johnson	Patricia	63	F	Carroll	Manages tree farm and high-grade lumber business
✓	Kinsella	Jim	67	M	McLean	Farmer widely regarded as father of no-till agriculture
Nov	Kruckeberg	Jerry		M	St. Clair	Horseradish farmer
✓	Kull	Dr. Linda	54	F	Champaign	Coordinator of soybean production research for NSRC
✓	Larsen	Ann	18	F	DeKalb	State Treasurer of FFA in Illinois, 2008-2009
✓	Latting	Mike	55	M	Kankakee	African-American farmer and rodeo operator

Oral History of Illinois Agriculture: List of New Interviewees

✓	Martinez	Jose	45	M	St. Clair	Mexican migrant worker at Eckert's Orchards
✓	Mauricio	Martin	36	M	St. Clair	Manager of migrant workers at Eckert's Orchards
✓	Meteer	Sam	19	M	Menard	State Vice President of FFA in Illinois, 2007-2008
✓	McClow	Keith		M	DuPage	Director of Kline Creek Farm, an 1890s living-history farm
✓	McGuire	Irene	76	M	Jackson	Operated peach and apple orchard in family since 1820s
✓	Nash	Dr. Marilyn	51	F	Champaign	NSRC Soy products
Oct	Nelson	Phillip	50	M	La Salle	Current President of Illinois Farm Bureau
✓	Parrett	Dr. Douglas	57	M	Champaign	Professor of Animal Sciences at UIUC
✓	Reed	Timothy	36	M	Jersey	Agriculture teacher at Southwestern High School
✓	Reid	Dr. Debra	48	F	Coles	Associate Professor of History at Eastern Illinois Univ.
✓	Rhodes	Harry	48	M	Cook	Executive Director of <i>Growing Home</i> , Chicago
✓	Ross	Charles	61	M	Morgan	Farmer who raises Montadale sheep
✓	Roney	Janet Shuman		F	Moultrie	Daughter of Charles Shuman (Pres. Amer. Farm Bureau)
✓	Runge	Dr. Edward		M	Fayette	Professor of Soil & Crop Sciences, Texas A&M University
✓	Russell	Edward	64	M	Johnson	Operates new vineyard and winery: Bella Terra Winery
--	Samuelson	Orion		M	Cook	Host of National Farm Report, WGN Radio, Chicago
✓	Scates	Stephen J.	70	M	Gallatin	Senior partner in large family farm near Ohio River
✓	Scully	Michael	82	M	Sangamon	Applied principles of biodynamics and organic farming
✓	Shuman	Paul	69	M	Moultrie	Former IFB Board member; Son of Charles Shuman
✓	Siebert	David		M	Peoria	Extension livestock specialist
✓	Steele	Harold	81	M	Bureau	Former President of Illinois Farm Bureau
✓	Sirles	Betty		F	Union	Manages fruit harvest crews at Rendleman Orchards
✓	Sirles	Wayne D.	41	M	Union	Manages packing shed at Rendleman Orchards
✓	Sirles	Wayne "Ren"	66	M	Union	Operates Rendleman Orchards (peaches, apples, nectar.)
✓	Sullivan	Cavan	24	M	Menard	Raises ring-necked pheasant, quail, deer, and bison
✓	Sweatman	Leland	79	M	Cass	Retired farmer and Allis Chalmers implement dealer
✓	Sweet	Geneva	96	F	Morgan	Farm wife whose father-in-law photographed farm in 1890s
✓	Thurman	John	48	M	Kankakee	African-American farmer in economically challenged area
✓	Vanderpool	Ellis	75	M	Cass	Beekeeper who sells honey at Springfield farmer's market
✓	VanDrunen	Ed	71	M	Will	President of Van Drunen Farms (herbs, food processing)
✓	Weingartner	Dr. Karl	62	M	Champaign	NSRC Soybean processing
✓	Weitekamp	Kaitlin	19	F	Montgomery	State President of FFA in Illinois, 2007-2008
✓	Wieneke	Robert	46	M	Calhoun	Produces peaches, wine & small grains
✓	Zwilling	Clayton	18	M	Mercer	State President of FFA in Illinois, 2008-2009



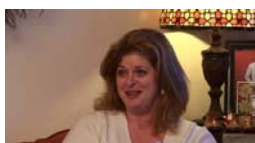




- Illinois State Museum (ISM) Interviewees
 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) Interviewees
✓ Interview completed
Nov Interview scheduled
-- Interview planned



Oral History of Illinois Agriculture

Interviews Completed by Illinois State Museum



No.	Name	Age	Interview Date	Interviewer	Length* (minutes)	County	Abstract
1	Ray Ackerman 	89	12/19/07	Robert Warren	111 SD	Tazewell	Ray was born and raised on his family's small Centennial Farm near Morton. He participated in the farm's beef, dairy, and grain operations during the Great Depression of the 1930s.
2	John Ackerman 	46	12/19/07	Robert Warren	92 SD	Tazewell	To save the family farm, John (Ray's nephew) has transformed it from a typical grain and livestock operation. He now raises a variety of crops (pumpkins, ornamental gourds, mums, apples) and has opened the farm to agritourism.
3	Yvette Ackerman 	45	12/19/07	Robert Warren	25 SD	Tazewell	Yvette (John's wife) has diversified the farm by creating a shop that offers Illinois foods and home décor in a converted farm building. She also established a second shop in the nearby town of Morton.
4	Leland Sweatman 	79	1/28/08	Mike Maniscalco	81 SD 41 WT	Cass	Leland is a retired farmer and Allis Chalmers implement dealer. He has experienced many technological advances in tractors and other farm machinery from the 1930s to the present.
5	Oba Herschberger 	59	2/5/08 5/29/08	Mike Maniscalco	71 SD 114 WT	Moultrie	Oba is a retired Amish dairy farmer. He now breeds and raises Belgian draft horses, and uses the horses to pull plows, planters, and other implements on his farm.
6	Lorene Herschberger 	57	2/5/08 5/29/08	Mike Maniscalco	68 SD 5 WT	Moultrie	Lorene is an Amish farm wife and mother of 13 children. She is following in the footsteps of her own mother, Elizabeth Bontrager, as a maker of fine quilts.
7	Jacqueline Jackson 	79	2/25/08 3/5/08	Mike Maniscalco	488 SD	Rock, WI (Sangamon)	Jacqueline grew up on a dairy and hybrid-corn farm in southern Wisconsin. She is a retired English professor and author of two books about her family farm: <i>Stories from the Round Barn</i> (1997) and <i>More Stories from the Round Barn</i> (2002).


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8	Eileen Cunningham 	86	3/26/08	Mike Maniscalco	143 SD 8 WT	Greene	Eileen grew up on a farm in the lower Illinois River valley near the town of Eldred. She later farmed with her husband and worked outside the home as a nurse.
9	Geneva Sweet 	96	4/3/08	Mike Maniscalco	95 SD	Morgan	Geneva is a retired farm wife and bank cashier. Her father-in-law was a photographer who began taking pictures of the family farm in the 1890s.
10	Lloyd Johnson 	69	4/10/08	Mike Maniscalco	146 SD	Madison	Lloyd is a retired African-American farmer and gospel singer. He lives on his family's Sesquicentennial Farm, which was founded near Alton by his great-grandfather in 1850.
11	Ruth Hambleton 	54	4/15/08	Mike Maniscalco	76 SD	Jefferson	Ruth grew up on a farm near Chicago and currently raises beef cattle with her husband near Mt. Vernon. She is the founder of Annie's Project, an educational program for farm women sponsored by the University of Illinois Extension.
12	Nate Janssen 	33	5/8/08	Mike Maniscalco	73 SD 42 WT	Lake	Nate was raised on a farm in upstate New York. He manages dairy operations at Golden Oaks Farm, a large Holstein dairy with 700 milking cows and 550 young stock.
13	Ellis Vanderpool 	75	5/15/08	Mike Maniscalco	60 SD 19 WT	Cass	Ellis is a beekeeper who lives on a small family farm in Arenzville. He raises bees for honey production and pollination services, and sells several different varieties of honey at a Farmer's Market in Springfield.
14	Jim Burrus 	58	5/17/08	Charlyn Fargo	44 SD 27 WT	Morgan	Jim operates a farm that has been in his family for several generations. He raises corn, soybeans, alfalfa, grass-fed Angus beef cattle, and organic chickens.
15	Jim Kinsella 	67	5/23/08	Mike Maniscalco	132 SD 24 WT	McLean	Jim is an innovative soil scientist who is widely regarded as the father of no-till agriculture. A retired jet pilot, he operates a family corn and soybean farm using global positioning system (GPS) technology.

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16	Irene McGuire 	76	5/27/08	Mike Maniscalco	123 SD 13 WT	Jackson (Union)	Irene and her late husband, Daniel, operated an orchard that had been in the McGuire family since the 1820s. They raised Angus cattle and grew peaches, apples, pumpkins, and strawberries, but had to sell the farm when frosts destroyed their peach crop seven years in a row.
17	Stephen Scates 	71	6/5/08	Mike Maniscalco	84 SD 34 WT	Gallatin	Stephen and his four brothers are the senior partners of a large family farm near the Ohio and Wabash rivers. They raise corn, soybeans, livestock, vegetables, and strawberries, and also sell center-pivot irrigation systems.
18	Jody Heavner 	38	6/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	75 SD 38 WT	Pike	Jody earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Science at the University of Illinois. She is a teacher and also manages elk production at the Pea Ridge Elk Ranch near Pittsfield.
19	Edward Van Drunen 	72	6/17/08	Mike Maniscalco	81 SD 64 WT	Kankakee	Ed is President of Van Drunen Farms, a large family-owned business that grows basil, chives, oregano, and other herbs for wholesale distribution. The company also processes a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, and herbs for use as ingredients in breakfast cereals, bakery mixes, and other products.
20	Cavan Sullivan 	25	6/19/08	Mike Maniscalco	103 SD 95 WT	Menard	Cavan is an innovative young farmer who directs two companies: Sullivan Pheasant Farm and Timber Valley Fresh Scent. He and his family raise ring-necked pheasant, bobwhite quail, white-tailed deer, and bison (buffalo) for restocking, sport-hunting, and food products.
21	Dianna Hatfield 	19	7/15/08	Mike Maniscalco	41 SD 66 WT	Wayne	Dianna graduated from Rend Lake College in 2008 with an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Agricultural Business. She has won many awards for her activities in 4-H and FFA, and looks forward to a career in agricultural marketing.
22	Wayne "Ren" Sirles 	66	7/23/08	Mike Maniscalco	89 SD	Union	Ren grew up on his family's Centennial Farm (Rendleman Orchards), which he operates with his wife Betty and son Wayne. The farm grows and ships peaches, apples, nectarines, and vegetables to commercial produce markets throughout the Midwest.
23	Wayne D. Sirles 	41	7/23/08	Mike Maniscalco	32 WT	Union	Wayne manages the packing shed at Rendleman Orchards, where peaches, apples, and nectarines are processed for shipment. Here workers cool, wash, dry, sort, size-grade, and package fruit for sale at the farm market or for wholesale distribution.


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24	Betty Sirles 		7/23/08	Mike Maniscalco	48 WT	Union	Betty manages the harvesting and maintenance crews at Rendleman Orchards. The orchard raises 12 kinds of peaches, three kinds of nectarines, and six kinds of apples, each of which ripens at a particular time in the summer or fall.
25	Edward Russell 	64	7/29/08	Mike Maniscalco	75 SD 60 WT	Johnson	Ed began developing the Bella Terra Winery in 2000, after working in the construction industry for 40 years. He raises six varieties of grapes in his vineyard and bottles 15 different types of red and white wines in his new winery building.
26	Dr. Debra Reid 	48	8/5/08	Mike Maniscalco	73 SD	Coles (Randolph)	Debra was raised on a small family farm in Randolph County. She is a Professor of History at Eastern Illinois University, and also teaches a class on the history of Illinois agriculture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
27	Sam Meteer 	19	8/9/08	Mike Maniscalco	19 SD 8 WT	Menard	Sam served as State Vice President of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) in 2007-2008. He enjoys raising and showing Chester White hogs, and plans to major in Agriculture at Lincoln Land Community College beginning in the fall of 2008.
28	Pam Gray 	54	8/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	29 SD 10 WT	Sangamon	Pam serves as volunteer Director of the Illinois State Fair Museum at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. She exhibits many objects and stories associated with the fair, which began in 1853 and established its permanent home in Springfield in 1894.
29	Kaitlin Weitekamp 	19	8/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	22 SD	Montgomery	Kaitlin served as State President of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) in 2007-2008. She operates a turfgrass-management business, and will major in Agribusiness Management at the University of Illinois beginning in the fall of 2008.
30	Timothy Reed 	36	8/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	22 SD	Jersey	Timothy has degrees in Agriculture from the University of Illinois and Education from Rockford College. He teaches a variety of Ag-related classes at Southwestern High School in Jerseyville, including ag-business management, pre-veterinary studies, and landscaping.
31	FFA State Officers 	18-20	8/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	59 SD	Carroll DeKalb Mercer McLean Monroe	State officers in the Illinois FFA for 2008-2009 include Treasurer Ann Larsen (DeKalb), Vice President Austin Ashby (Carroll), President Clayton Zwilling (Mercer), Secretary Andrew Heavner (Monroe), and Reporter Benjamin Arteman (McLean).

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32	Charles Ross 	61	8/12/08	Mike Maniscalco	12 WT	Morgan	Charles is a retired pipeline worker who raises Montadale sheep on his small farm. He and his son traveled to sheep shows all over the United States for 16 years, and now Charles shows sheep with his 13-year-old grand-daughter.
33	Makenna Barker 	12	8/14/08	Mike Maniscalco	8 WT	Fulton	Makenna is a 4-H member who grows vegetables in her grandparents' garden. Her horticulture project at the 2008 State Fair was a Vegetable Market Basket that contained Golden Hubbard squash, onions, carrots, tomatoes, and other goodies.
34	Mark Johnson 	42	8/14/08	Mike Maniscalco	4 WT	La Salle	Mark raises Southdown sheep, a meat breed, on his ranch in northern Illinois. He also judges sheep shows all over the United States, including the Columbia Sheep Show at the 2008 Illinois State Fair.
35	Manda Geerts-Davis 	26	8/14/08	Mike Maniscalco	6 WT	Whiteside	Manda raises Columbia sheep on her family's 17-acre farm in northwestern Illinois. She also serves as National Junior Advisor for the Columbia Sheep Breeders' Association, helping young people raise and show Columbia sheep.
36	Dr. Deanna Glosser 	58	8/22/08	Mike Maniscalco	51 SD	Sangamon	Deanna is the owner and president of an environmental planning corporation. She also directs Slow Food Springfield, a local chapter of an international movement that encourages people to buy fresh, locally grown foods.
37	Mark Johnson 	42	8/31/08	Robert Warren	10 WT	DuPage	Mark is an Agricultural Specialist for Kline Creek Farm, a living-history farm in Du Page County. The farm raises oats, corn, vegetables, fruit, honey bees, chickens, Southdown sheep, dairy cattle, beef cattle, and Percheron and Standardbred horses.
38	Keith McClow 	XX	8/31/08	Robert Warren	13 WT	DuPage	Keith is Director of Kline Creek Farm, a living-history farm that depicts the buildings, equipment, and farming practices of the 1890s. Buildings include a farmhouse, summer kitchen, ice house, smokehouse, chicken coop, sheep fold, barns, sheds, and a privy.
39	Harry Rhodes 	48	9/5/08	Mike Maniscalco	54 SD	Cook	Harry is creator and Executive Director of Growing Home, an urban-farming and community-development program in Chicago. The program provides job training and employment opportunities in agriculture for low-income people in the inner city.

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40	<p>Parris Brewer</p> 	49	9/5/08	Mike Maniscalco	42 SD 55 WT	Cook	Parris is Marketing Coordinator for the Growing Home urban-farming program in Chicago. He is responsible for the processing and sale of a bewildering variety of organically grown fruits and vegetables to restaurants, wholesale distributors, and at farmers markets.
41	<p>Roy Harrington</p> 	82	10/1/08	Mike Maniscalco	102 SD	Rock Island	Roy is a retired mechanical engineer who began working for John Deere & Company in 1950. He designed and tested many pieces of Deere equipment, including tractor seats, roll-over cages, and PTO shields.
42	<p>Brian Holst</p> 	44	10/1/08	Mike Maniscalco	42 SD 55 WT	Rock Island	Brian is Manager of the John Deere Collectors Center in Moline, which restores and displays vintage John Deere tractors and implements. He is an expert on the history of John Deere farm equipment.
43	<p>Neil Dahlstrom</p> 	32	10/1/08	Mike Maniscalco	65 SD	Rock Island	Neil is a Senior Business System Analyst for John Deere & Company in Moline. Formerly the company's Archivist, he coauthored of a biography of John and Charles Deere called <i>The John Deere Story</i> .
44	<p>Michael Johnson</p> 	59	10/8/08	Mike Maniscalco	112 SD 23 WT	Carroll	Michael is a tree farmer and a professional landscape photographer. He and his wife Patricia raise several dozen species of trees and produce high-grade lumber for makers of fine furniture.
45	<p>Patricia Johnson</p> 	63	10/8/08	Mike Maniscalco	120 SD 2 WT	Carroll	Patricia and her husband Michael were named Illinois Tree Farmers of the Year in 2003. They operate Johnson Creek Hardwoods, a sustainable tree farm and sawmill that produces furniture-grade lumber.

OHIA Interviews Completed.doc; October 27, 2008

*SD = Sit-Down Interview; WT = Walk-and-Talk Interview

ISM Interview Length

No.	Name	Interview Date	Sit-Down Interview (minutes)	Walk & Talk Interview (minutes)	Images (number)
1	Ray Ackerman	12/19/2007	111	-	51
2	John Ackerman	12/19/2007	92	-	1
3	Yvette Ackerman	12/19/2007	25	-	1
4	Leland Sweatman	1/28/2008	81	41	7
5	Oba Herschberger	2/5/2008 5/29/2008	71	114	141
6	Lorene Herschberger	2/5/2008 5/29/2008	68	5	5
7	Jacqueline Jackson	2/25/2008 3/5/2008	488	-	7443
8	Eileen Cunningham	3/26/2008	143	8	119
9	Geneva Sweet	4/3/2008	95	-	92
10	Lloyd Johnson	4/10/2008	146	-	71
11	Ruth Hambleton	4/15/2008	76	-	53
12	Nate Janssen	5/8/2008	73	42	143
13	Ellis Vanderpool	5/15/2008	60	19	4
14	Jim Burrus	5/17/2008	44	27	20
15	Jim Kinsella	5/23/2008	132	24	10
16	Irene McGuire	5/27/2008	123	13	36
17	Stephen Scates	6/5/2008	84	34	3
18	Jody Heavner	6/12/2008	75	38	214
19	Edward Van Drunen	6/17/2008	81	64	1
20	Cavan Sullivan	6/19/2008	103	95	83
21	Dianna Hatfield	7/15/2008	41	66	13
22	Wayne "Ren" Sirles	7/23/2008	89	-	8
23	Wayne D. Sirles	7/23/2008	-	32	5
24	Betty Sirles	7/23/2008	-	48	11
25	Edward Russell	7/29/2008	75	60	68
26	Debra Reid	8/5/2008	73	-	10
27	Sam Meteer	8/9/2008	19	8	4
28	Pam Gray	8/12/2008	29	10	6
29	Kaitlin Weitekamp	8/12/2008	22	-	8
30	Timothy Reed	8/12/2008	22	-	7
31	FFA State Officers	8/12/2008	59	-	10
32	Charles Ross	8/12/2008	-	12	4
33	Makenna Barker	8/14/2008	-	8	9
34	Mark Johnson	8/14/2008	-	4	6
35	Manda Geerts-Davis	8/14/2008	-	6	8
36	Deanna Glosser	8/22/2008	51	-	1
37	Mark Johnson	8/31/2008	-	10	246
38	Keith McClow	8/31/2008	-	13	6
39	Harry Rhodes	9/5/2008	54	-	32
40	Parris Brewer	9/5/2008	42	55	4
41	Roy Harrington	10/1/2008	102	-	5
42	Brian Holst	10/1/2008	42	55	8
43	Neil Dahlstrom	10/1/2008	65	-	6
44	Michael Johnson	10/8/2008	112	23	35
45	Patricia Johnson	10/8/2008	120	2	3
	Total		3188	936	9021
	Interviews		37	29	-

ALPLM Interview Length

No.	Name	Interview Date	Sit-Down Interview (minutes)	Walk & Talk Interview (minutes)	Images (number)
1	Dr. LeRoy Biehl	8/27/2007	47	-	-
2	Paul Gebhart	11/26/2007	86	-	2
3	Michael Scully	5/7/2008	114	-	23
4	Russell Jeckel	5/15/2008	51	25	-
5	Harold Steele	6/17/2008	101	67	-
6	Jay Johnson	7/1/2008	56	41	-
7	Robert Wieneke	7/16/2008	40	67	14
8	Mike Latting	7/28/2008	21	35	-
9	John Thurman	7/29/2008	40	27	-
10	Jose Martinez	7/31/2008	11	-	-
11	Martin Mauricio	7/31/2008	33	-	1
12	Chris Eckert	7/31/2008	X	X	-
13	Dr. Douglas Parrett	7/22/2008 8/7/2008	120	95	21
14	Myles Harston	9/12/2008	X	X	-
15	Dr. Marilyn Nash	9/17/2008	-	X	-
16	Dr. Linda Kull	9/17/2008	X	X	-
17	Dr. Karl Weingartner	9/17/2008	-	X	-
18	Dr. Peter Goldsmith	9/17/2008	X	X	-
19	David Siebert	9/18/2008	X	X	-
20	Paul Shuman	9/22/2008	X	-	8
21	Janet Roney	9/22/2008	X	-	-
22	Charles Hartke	9/23/2008	X	-	-
23	Matthew Hughes	10/22/2008	X	X	-
24	Dr. Edward Runge	10/24/2008	X	-	-
	Total		>720	>357	69
	Interviews		22	15	-

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