

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with David Hedrick

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

IHPA Legacy Oral History project

Interview # HP-A-L-2012-007

David Hedrick, retired Site Superintendent of Lincoln's New Salem Historic Site, was interviewed on the dates listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *IHPA Legacy* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Feb 22 & Feb 29, 2012 Location: Hedrick home, 14924 Kent St. Athens, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Julie Dirksen, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:13 + 1:03 / 1.21 + 1.05 = 2.26 hrs

Session 1: Hedrick's career with Dept. of Natural Resources & early years at New Salem

Session 2: Hedrick's career with IHPA at New Salem

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on (date).

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

David Hedrick

IHPA Legacy

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Biographical Information Overview of Interview: David Hedrick was born February 17, 1949 in Olney, Illinois. He grew up with four siblings in a southern Illinois farming community. Both parents were instrumental in providing their children with a sound education and many life experiences through camping and travel. Upon graduating from Edwards County Senior High School in 1967, he knew what career he wanted to pursue: Parks and Recreation. David graduated from SIU Carbondale in 1971 with a BS degree in Parks and Recreation.

David's post graduate career began in 1971 as Superintendent of Recreation at the Norridge Park District, Norridge, Ill. He was responsible for Adult and Children's Sports Leagues, Pre School and After School programs and overseeing 110 part time employees. He remained there until 1974. In that year, he was hired by the Illinois Department of Conservation as a Ranger for Jubilee College State Historic Site. This was during Gov. Dan Walker's tenure. Although the site is now closed, at the time David was there, he oversaw the Park's 80 acre State Recreational Park and worked with the farmers leasing the Jubilee College State Historic Site's adjacent 3,000 acre farm property. He remained there until 1979.

In 1979, David was interviewed and hired as Site Superintendent for Lincoln's New Salem. At that time, historic sites were then part of the Ill. Dept of Natural Resources. In 1985, Governor James Thompson created the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. Lincoln's New Salem was designated a state historic site under the new IHPA Agency. David worked with the initial IHPA Director David Kenney as well as subsequent Agency Directors: Dr. Michael Devine; Susan Mogerman; Maynard Crossland and Bob Coomer. David retired in 2008.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, IHPA, Govs: Dan Walker, Jim Thompson and Jim Edgar; IHPA Dirs: Kenney, Devine, Mogerman, Crossland and Coomer; Norridge Park District; Jubilee College State Park; Lincoln's New Salem and New Salem Lincoln League.

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