

**Guide to the Oral History of  
CURTIS, FRANCES VINSON (1915-1998)**

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

Frances Vinson Curtis was a civic leader and long-time resident of the Scotland community in Montgomery County. She was born about 1915 in Germantown, Maryland. She spent her childhood in the Quince Orchard, Gaithersburg, and Scotland areas of Montgomery County. Her parents were Louis Vinson and Louise Martin; her mother's family was one of the oldest families of Tobeytown. Curtis married Roger Curtis in the 1930s. They lived in the Scotland community for many years where Curtis was an active member of the AME Zion Church. Curtis served on the church's Trustee Board as well as the Missionary Society and Ministry of Kindness.

**Interview** – Interviewed February 18, 1972 by Helen Scharf for MBL.

**Subject**

African-Americans – Scotland community  
AME Zion Church  
Ministry of Kindness  
Potomac (Md.) – Scotland community  
Rural life – Montgomery County

**Subject Names**

Curtis, Roger  
Dove Family

**Table of Contents/Index** – See also Outline of Oral History Interview with Frances Vinson Curtis for additional topics and subjects.

## OUTLINE OF ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

with Frances Vinson Curtis

- I. Background
  - A. Childhood
  - B. Parents
  - C. Schooling
  - D. Marriage
  
- II. Coming to Scotland
  - A. Husband's family
  - B. First home
  - C. New home
  - D. Family
  
- III. Association with AME Zion Church
  - A. How church is organized
  - B. Present building and how funds were raised
  - C. Preacher and other officials of church
    - 1. How paid
    - 2. How chosen
  - D. Responsibilities of Stewardesses and Trustees
  - E. Fund raising activities
    - 1. Ministry of Kindness
    - 2. Sunday offerings
    - 3. Clubs
    - 4. Singing groups
    - 5. Dinners
    - 6. Sandwich sales
  - F. Use of church building