

**Guide to the Oral History of  
HALL, MARY E. (1907-1980)**

**Biographical/Historical Notes**

Mary E. Hall was a community leader and local historian in Kensington, Maryland. She was born in 1907 in Kensington, Maryland, where she was raised. She attended elementary school in Kensington and Chevy Chase, Maryland and high school in Washington, D.C. In 1927, she attended school in Brooklyn, New York to become a librarian. She worked as a librarian in Brooklyn from 1929 to 1931. From 1942 to 1947, she worked as a personnel officer in the War Agency. She worked as library clerk for Montgomery County from 1956 to 1971. Hall also was a member of various civic and charitable organizations, served as the President of the Kensington Cooperative Nursery School for 1 year, and was a guest speaker on Kensington history at schools and libraries. At the time of her death, she was serving as President of the Board of Trustees of the Noyes Library.

**Interview** - Interviewed April 28, 1975 by Madelyn Royal for MCHS.

**Subject**

Capital Traction Company  
Central High School (Cardoza High School)  
Funeral train – President Harding  
Hopkins Grocery Store  
Kensington (Md.) – Churches  
Kensington (Md.) – History  
Kensington (Md.) – Schools  
Kensington trolley  
Kensington-Garrett Park (Ken-Gar) School  
McKeever's Ice Cream Store  
Montgomery County Police force – 1920s  
Noyes Library  
Old Kensington  
Street car  
World War I

**Subject Names**

Cannon, John  
Noyes Family

**Table of Contents/Index** – See also Interview Index for additional topics and subjects. Interview included a discussion of 31 photographs of Kensington, on file at the Archives. Archive file also contains an artist sketch of Hall.

Interview Index

Side I

Estimated Time on tape:

Subjects covered, in approximate order:

0-10

Old Kensington photos.

10-20

Old Kensington brochure.

20-30

Early schooling.

30-45

Early transportation, trolley.

SIDE II

45-55

" " auto.

55-65

Childhood games.

65-75

Early stores.

~~75-100~~ 75-95

Early stores and structures.

Side Ix, Cassette #2.

0-10

Changes in streets.

10-20

Churches.

20-30

People of Kensington.

30-45

School in Kensington and Washington, D. C.

Cassette #2.

Schooling.

Kensington's black neighborhood.

People and pranks.

Memories of customs, parents, and friends.