

Roger Addison

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The Long Struggle for Representation: Oral Histories of African Americans in Congress

“Make Me Proud”

Roger Addison remembers the role Representative Sonny Montgomery played in his early Hill career.
Interview recorded May 29, 2019

So I came in and I had a conversation with Sonny Montgomery, Congressman Montgomery, and he asked me a few questions. I can't remember his exact words. So, the next thing he told me he wanted me to go over to the Annex Ford Building and speak to someone over there, I believe it was John Kornacki was the, the guy who was in charge over there. I believe that probably was around April 29th or so, 1988. I believe May 1, 1988, I started working here as a laborer in the furnishing department. And Mr. Montgomery would come down to check on me every once in a while, saying, "I just want to see how you're doing. Make me proud." I'd say, "Yes sir, Congressman, don't you worry about a thing. I'm going to take care of this." And I would see him every once in a while, I would stop in his office and tell him how I'm doing. He was asking me my progress, asking me if I was happy. So he was a pretty good guy to get to know and help me to start the career of my 31 total years of working here at the House of Representatives.