

Myles Garrigan

Life in a Boarding House

Description of rooming in a D.C. boarding house during the 1940s.

Interview recorded May 25, 2012

As I may have mentioned earlier, I was taken over to the boarding house. And it's, it's quote, "survival time," unquote, at the boarding house. It wasn't a dorm situation, with all your people, your age. I was living with everybody. I didn't know everybody, but I was there with everybody. I don't know—I forget the lady's name, but she was a southern lady. And we had breakfast and dinner there. And she always—for dinner, she always seemed to have collard greens or hominy grits. {laughter} And I'm from New Jersey! Whoa! I lived, literally, on southern biscuits and apple butter, I think they called it.