

**Multi-Generational African American Farmers of the Midwest**  
Anna-Lisa Cox  
Library of Congress AFC Archie Green Fellowship

**Date of interview:** July 24th, 2019

**Names/s of those interviewed:** Carolyn Sallee Walden (Part 2 of 2)

**Primary Interviewer:** Anna-Lisa Cox (ALC)

**Secondary Interviewers:** Photographer: Lishawna Taylor

**Interview Location:** Lyles Station Historical School Museum, Gibson County, Indiana

**Transcriber:** Mary Kamara-Hagemeyer

**Abstract:** Mrs. Carolyn Sallee Walden grew up on her parent's farm in Lawrence, County, Illinois. She is descended from the Goins – free people of color in Lawrence County. Her husband is descended from a long line of multi-racial farmers that came out and homesteaded the Indiana frontier before the Civil War. As Stephen Vincent pointed out in his book, *Southern Seed, Northern Soil*, the Waldens were long free from North Carolina before they came to Indiana, and claim an African-descended Patriot Revolutionary War soldier as an ancestor. Mrs. Walden's sister, Marva Green, is also recorded as part of this collection.

Mrs. Walden and her husband took part in an important case that went to the federal Supreme Court, over the mineral rights to their farmland. It was the first case heard by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

A quilt from Mrs. Walden's collection is now in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, and has been displayed in the exhibit on Lyles Station, Indiana.

**Index/Log (5 Minute Time Stamped)**  
**Mrs. C.S. Walden Log 2 of 2**

[0:00] Continuation of part 1 discussion.

[5:00] Discuss the fight and win at the Supreme Court to obtain mineral rights on two different pieces of property. Talked about how locally it was known that her family was people of color, but it was unknown in Washington D.C. Explains how her family has been instructed to hold onto the mineral rights. Notes the long lives of her husband, in-laws, and mother.

[10:00] The value of the history and information in the family materials Sallee is storing are discussed, and different materials she has preserved are talked about, as well as the different institutions that would be happy to receive them.

[12:00] End of part 2 audio.