



## ORAL HISTORY OF SOUTHSIDE PLACE

When the Houston History Research Center was created in 1974, part of its scope was to capture stories and interviews of Houstonians by way of oral history. These oral histories are digitized and maintained at the Houston Public Library. The oral history of Southside was recorded on February 27, 1975, in the city council chambers and is identified as:

**Hill, L. L. and Woodard, Ripley**

**OH0075**

To listen to the oral history

1. Go to <https://digital.houstonlibrary.org/>
2. In the search tab enter OH0075

L.L. Hill volunteered extensively within Southside. At the time of the recording, he was Southside's mayor. Lew Hill street near Firetruck Park is named after him. Ripley Woodward moved into the neighborhood as a child in 1931 and was the city attorney from 1950-1960.

### *Minute*

- 1:20 early development of Southside Place
- 4:51 marketing of the neighborhood by raffling off a house
- 8:50 incorporation of Southside Place/growth thru annexation
- 13:15 –
- 18:29 boundaries of Southside/citrus orchards/cotton/Howard Johnson/ranch/farm animals/hunting
- 15:40 Toonerville Trolley
- 18:30 West U annexation efforts and aftermath
- 25:00 Police and fire department
- 29:00 incinerator
- 32:50 water/wells
- 33:40 advantages/disadvantages of living in Southside Place
- 35:00 city government
- 38:00 city politics
- 40:00 civic involvement in Southside Place
- 41:00 changing citizenry
- 45:00 buying and modernizing older homes/increasing property values
- 48:00 city government
- 52:00 original city hall building
- 53:40 the future of Southside Place