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PASS THE WORD 
A PROJECT OF THE KENTUCKY ORAL HISTORY COMMISSION

CIVIL WAR TO CIVIL RIGHTS: LINCOLN INSTITUTE



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school, by the 1930s it had given up its junior college function.

Lincoln Institute offered both vocational education and standard high school classes. The students produced the school's food on the campus' 444 acres. Lincoln Institute provided high quality education for many Kentucky African Americans denied that opportunity by the Day Law, Jim Crow segregation and unequal funding of public facilities.

The rise of integrated education reduced the need for high schools like Lincoln Institute. Since its 1966 closing, the Lincoln Institute campus has housed gifted and talented programs, the Whitney Young Jr. Job Corps Center, and the Whitney Young Birthplace and Museum, a National Historic Landmark.

SHELBY COUNTY — Lincoln Institute, an all-black boarding high school in Simpsonville, in Shelby County, operated from 1912 to 1966. Trustees of Berea College created the school after the Day Law passed the Kentucky Legislature in 1904, putting an end to Berea's racially integrated education system.

Although its founders originally intended for Lincoln Institute to be a college as well as a high

The Kentucky Oral History Commission (KOHC), administered by the Kentucky Historical Society, is dedicated to supporting documentation of Kentucky's rich history along with the issues confronting its people. Pass the Word (passtheword.khs.gov) is an online database from the KOHC that facilitates discovery of more than 30,000 oral history interviews from Kentuckians in all 120 counties, located in more than 100 repositories across Kentucky.

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The Kentucky Historical Society is an agency of the
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