



Smithsonian

Anacostia Community Museum

Frederick Douglass Dwellings
collection, circa 1940s-1990s

Carrie Gehrer

2011

Anacostia Community Museum Archives
1901 Fort Place, SE
Washington, D.C. 20020
ACMArchives@si.edu
<http://www.anacostia.si.edu/Collections/ArchiveCollection>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	Frederick Douglass Dwellings Collection
Date:	circa 1940s-1990s
Identifier:	ACMA.06-066
Extent:	1.5 Linear feet ((3 boxes))
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection, which dates from circa 1940s to 1990s and measures 1.15 linear feet, documents the daily lives and activities of the residents of the Frederick Douglass Dwellings and other areas of Anacostia, as well as the demolition of the Frederick Douglass Dwellings. The collection is comprised of color and black-and-white photographs, studio portraits, slides, negatives, documents from community organizations, magazines and clippings.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The Frederick Douglass Dwellings collection was donated to the Anacostia Community Museum in 2009 by members of the Southeast Voices.

Preferred Citation

Frederick Douglass Dwellings collection, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of members of the Southeast Voices.

Restrictions

Use of materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist to make an appointment: ACMarchives@si.edu.

Biographical Note

Built as temporary housing for World War II workers, the Frederick Douglass Dwellings were located on land previously owned by Tobias Henson, a former slave, who, after purchasing his freedom and that of his family, purchased and developed a 24-acre tract called The Ridge. Henson added to his landholdings and by the 1870s his family was the principal landholder in the black community of Stantontown; they remained on the land until the 1940s, when the federal government condemned the community to build the Frederick Douglass Dwellings. Deemed uninhabitable in 1998 and left vacant, the Frederick Douglass Dwellings were demolished in 2000 to make way for a new mixed-income community.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- African American neighborhoods
- African Americans
- African Americans -- Social life and customs
- Public housing

Types of Materials:

- Black-and-white photographs
- Clippings
- Color photographs
- Magazines (periodicals) -- 20th century
- Photographic prints
- Slides (photographs)

Places:

- Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)
- Washington (D.C.)