



Smithsonian

Anacostia Community Museum

The Only People in Town: Frederick Douglass Dwellings Video Project

ACMA staff

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	The Only People in Town: Frederick Douglass Dwellings Video Project
Date:	2009-2012 (bulk 2010-2010)
Identifier:	ACMA.09-010
Extent:	0.15 Linear feet (1 box) 14 Video recordings (9 miniDV video recordings; 4 DVD-R video recordings ; 1 CD-R data disk video recordings)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Related Archival Materials

See also the Frederick Douglass Dwellings collection.

Preferred Citation

The Only People in Town: Frederick Douglass Dwellings Video Project, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Some items are not accessible due to obsolete format and playback machinery restrictions. Please contact the archivist at 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.

Scope and Contents

This is a collection of original and edited video materials created through a joint project with the Anacostia Community Museum Archives and the American University Center for Community Voice. The end product of the project is a video entitled "The Only People in Town," which includes interviews with former residents of the demolished

Douglass Dwellings as well as images held in ACMA's Frederick Douglass Dwellings collection joined with stories and memories related to those images.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

African Americans

Types of Materials:

Video recordings

Names:

American University (Washington, D.C.)
Anacostia Community Museum

Places:

Washington (D.C.)