



Smithsonian

Anacostia Community Museum

Anacostia Historical Society
records, 1974-1992, bulk 1977-1980

Vuyana T. Cyrus

2009

Anacostia Community Museum Archives
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<https://anacostia.si.edu/collection/archives>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	Anacostia Historical Society records
Date:	1974-1992 (bulk 1977-1980)
Identifier:	ACMA.M04-001
Creator:	Anacostia Historical Society
Extent:	1.65 Linear feet (2 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The Anacostia Historical Society records, which date from 1974 to 1992, document the history and activities of the Anacostia Historical Society. The records are comprised of correspondence, financial records, museum catalogs, newsletters, clippings and slides.

Administrative Information

Provenance

Donated by the Anacostia Historical Society.

Processing Information

The records were processed in December 2009 by Vuyana T. Cyrus. Finding aid encoded by Jennifer Morris, 2015.

Preferred Citation

Anacostia Historical Society records, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Anacostia Historical Society.

Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist at acmarchives@si.edu.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright restrictions may exist. Please contact the archivist for further information.

Biographical Note

The Anacostia Historical Society was established in 1974 to serve as "an organization of Anacostia residents and a committee of the Board of the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum...dedicated to the collection, preservation and understanding of its community's rich history and heritage." To this end, the coalition developed programs that provided opportunities for the entire city to learn more about the area. In 1977, this collaboration produced *The Anacostia Story: 1608-1930*, an exhibit which presented an expansive chronicle of life in the Anacostia area. The same year, with funding from the Smithsonian Institution and a grant from

the D.C. Community Humanities Council, the Society established a lecture series that addressed important issues in the community. Speakers included academicians, politicians, activists and community leaders. The Society continued its work through the 1990s; however, its records show a drop in participation and program events in the early 1980s. The latest indication of organizational activity is a meeting attendance sheet dated April 8, 1922, which indicates 6 members attended.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents the activities of the Anacostia Historical Society between 1974 and 1992. It contains material related to the Society's administration, events, and membership. Included in the collection are administrative and financial records, correspondence, mailing lists, membership records, and printed materials.

Arrangement

The records are organized into six series. The Administration, Printed Materials, and Special Events series have been further arranged into subseries. The Printed Materials series is arranged chronologically; otherwise the content of each series and subseries is arranged alphabetically. The series are arranged as follows:

Series I: Administration, 1974-1992, contains materials related to the management and organization of the Anacostia Historical Society (AHS). The documents in this series include dues statements, meeting agendas and minutes, and membership lists. The meeting agendas and minutes present a comprehensive view of the scope of the Society's political and social efforts on behalf of the Anacostia community.

Series II: Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, 1975-1990, contains information on the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum's administration, events, and exhibits. The materials include administrative papers, event calendars, fliers, and membership documents. There are extensive records on the planning for the Museum's 10th Anniversary celebration and on the *Anacostia Story 1608/1930* exhibit, which was developed in collaboration with the Anacostia Historical Society.

Series III: Correspondence, 1975-1985, is comprised of the Society's correspondence with its members, political representatives, and the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum. Also included in this series is correspondence generated by Alice Bell Finlayson in her effort to prevent the demolition of Birney School, where she served as principal for fourteen years.

Series IV: Printed Materials, 1975-1992, contains newspaper clipping, newsletters, and museum materials, which provide information on Anacostia's history and culture. The materials include the Anacostia Historical Society's newsletters.

Series V: Slides, 1970-1974, contain color slides. Some of the images are from the San Francisco region and include pictures of the Market Street area of the city.

Series VI: Special Events, 1977-1987, contains materials related to enrichment events sponsored by the Society. Included are curriculum vitae and speeches from the lecture series, and general information on excursions to historical sites.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

African American neighborhoods

History -- societies, etc

Types of Materials:

Clippings
Correspondence
Exhibition catalogs
Financial records
Newsletters
Slides (photographs)

Names:

Anacostia Historical Society
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
Douglass, Frederick, 1817?-1895

Places:

Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Administration, 1974 - 1992

0.75 Linear feet (This series contains materials related to the management and organization of the Anacostia Historical Society (AHS). The documents in this series include dues statements, meeting agendas and minutes, and membership lists. The meeting agendas and minutes present a comprehensive view of the scope of the Society's political and social efforts on behalf of the Anacostia community.)

1.1: General

Box 1, Folder 1	Anacostia Historical Society officers, 1978 - 1982
Box 1, Folder 2	Brochure, 1979
Box 1, Folder 3	Financial Reports, 1977 - 1979
Box 1, Folder 4	General reports, 1978 - 1980, 1986
Box 1, Folder 5	Hadley Hospital, 1978 - 1979
Box 1, Folder 6	Miscellaneous, circa 1977-1986

1.2: Meetings

Box 1, Folder 7	Agendas, circa January 1977-October 1989
Box 1, Folder 8	Attendance, 1974 - 1992, undated
Box 1, Folder 9	Attendance, 1974 - 1992, undated
Box 1, Folder 10	Minutes, circa October 1977-January 1986

1.3: Membership

Box 1, Folder 11	Dues reports, 1978 - 1986
Box 1, Folder 12	General information, 1984, 1978
Box 1, Folder 13	Information cards, 1976 - 1978, 1984, undated
Box 1, Folder 14	Mailing lists and labels, 1986, undated
Box 1, Folder 15	Mailing lists and labels, 1986, undated

Box 1, Folder 16 Membership Committee reports, 1977 - 1983

Box 1, Folder 17 Recruitment and retention, 1977 - 1980

Box 1, Folder 18 Rosters, 1977 - 1981, 1985, undated

Box 1, Folder 19 Rosters, 1977 - 1981, 1985, undated

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Series 2: Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, 1975 - 1980

0.17 Linear feet (This series contains information on the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum's administration, events, and exhibits. The materials include administrative papers, event calendars, fliers, and membership documents. There are extensive records on the planning for the Museum's 10th Anniversary celebration and on the Anacostia Story 1608/1930 exhibit, which was developed in collaboration with the Anacostia Historical Society.)

Box 1, Folder 20	Administration, 1975 - 1980, undated
Box 1, Folder 21	Events and programs, circa 1969-1990
Box 1, Folder 22	Events and programs, circa 1969-1990
Box 1, Folder 23	General Information, 1984, 1977, undated

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Series 3: Correspondence, 1975 - 1985

0.23 Linear feet (This series is comprised of the Society's correspondence with its members, political representatives, and the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum. Also included in this series is correspondence generated by Alice Bell Finlayson in her effort to prevent the demolition of Birney School, where she served as principal for fourteen years.)

Box 1, Folder 24	Anacostia Historical Society stationary, undated
Box 1, Folder 25	Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, 1983 - 1984, 1978
Box 1, Folder 26	Birney School, 1975 - 1978
Box 1, Folder 27	D.C. Community Humanities Council, 1980
Box 2, Folder 1	General correspondence, 1976 - 1981, 1985
Box 2, Folder 2	Lecture series, 1976 - 1981

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Series 4: Printed Materials, 1975 - 1992

0.29 Linear feet (This series contains newspaper clipping, newsletters, and museum materials, which provide information on Anacostia's history and culture. The materials include the Anacostia Historical Society's newsletters.)

4.1: Exhibition catalogs and educational materials

Box 2, Folder 3 A Walk Through 'Old' Anacostia, Anacostia Story 1608/1930, 1975 - 1978

Box 2, Folder 4 A Lecture on Our National Capital by Frederick Douglass, 1978

Box 2, Folder 5 Phil Ratner's Washington, 1978

Box 2, Folder 6 DC Art association, 1978

Box 2, Folder 7 Out of Africa, 1979 - 1980

Box 2, Folder 8 Anna J. Cooper: Voices from the South, Mary McCleod Bethune and Roosevelt's Black Cabinet, 1981 - 1983

Box 2, Folder 9 An Exhibition Presented by AIA: Capital Losses, undated

4.2: Newspaper clippings, newsletters, and brochures

Box 2, Folder 10 Newspaper clippings and newsletters, 1978 - 1989

Box 2, Folder 11 Brochures and pamphlets, circa 1979-1992

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Series 5: Slides, 1970 - 1974

0.04 Linear feet (This series contains color slides. Some of the images are from the San Francisco region and include pictures of the Market Street area of the city.)

Box 2, Folder 12

Landscapes, cityscapes, and San Francisco, 1970, 1974, undated

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Series 6: Special Events, 1977 - 1987

0.17 Linear feet (This series contains materials related to enrichment events sponsored by the Society. Included are curriculum vitae and speeches from the lecture series, and general information on excursions to historical sites.)

6.1: Excursions and celebrations

Box 2, Folder 13 Historical tours, 1978 - 1980

Box 2, Folder 14 Parties, 1981, 1987, 1979

Box 2, Folder 15 Sporting events, March 1977

6.2: Lecture Series

Box 2, Folder 16 Paul Cook, 12 November 1977

Box 2, Folder 17 Almore Dale, 11 April 1981

Box 2, Folder 18 General notes, 1978 - 1981

Box 2, Folder 19 Colonel West Alexander Hamilton, December 1977

Box 2, Folder 20 Sylvia Lyons Render, undated

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