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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title: Records
Identifier: Record Unit 265
Date: 1966-1975
Extent: 4.5 cu. ft. (9 document boxes)
Creator: Anacostia Neighborhood Museum. Office of the Director
Language: Language of Materials: English

Administrative Information

Prefered Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 265, Anacostia Neighborhood Museum. Office of the Director, Records

Historical Note

The beginning of the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum (ANM) can be traced to the 1966 Aspen, Colorado meeting of the American Association of Museums. At that time S. Dillon Ripley suggested to the members that museum directors try to take their museums to the people of low income areas by renting store front buildings and creating relevant exhibits to arouse curiosity and stimulate motivation for further learning.

Upon his return, Ripley outlined his idea for a satellite museum. Charles Blitz, then Director of the Smithsonian's Office of Education, chaired the committee to start the project. With the aid of his assistant Carolyn Bronheim, Benjamin Lawless, Assistant Chief of Exhibits, and Frank A. Taylor, Director General of Museums, the requirements for the satellite museum were defined.

After many meetings with community self-help groups, an advisory council was formed. This council was to function as liaison between the Smithsonian Institution and the community. On April 23, 1967, the newly formed council announced Anacostia in southeast Washington, D.C. as the community for the Smithsonian's first satellite museum. The abandoned Carver Theater was selected as the site.

In June 1967, the museum was formally named Anacostia Neighborhood Museum (ANM). John Kinard was chosen as the director and assumed his duties on July 1, 1967. ANM was officially opened September 15, 1967.
Descriptive Entry

These records consist of materials documenting the following exhibitions: "Blacks in the Westward Movement;" "Buy Now Pay Later" (consumer problems exhibition); "Country Store;" "Drug;" "Sage of Anacostia;" and "The Rat: Man's Invited Affliction." In addition, there is John Kinard's correspondence; memoranda from William Warner, Assistant Secretary for Public Services; budgetary and travel materials; drafts, articles, and printed matter pertaining to ANM history and anniversary celebrations; files on community organization meetings at ANM; and photographs of D.C. Mayor Walter Washington celebrating D.C. community leader Stanley J. Anderson Day at ANM. Related records can be found in Record Units 99 and 145.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Museums -- Administration

Types of Materials:
Black-and-white photographs
Brochures
Clippings
Manuscripts

Names:
Anacostia Museum
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum. Office of the Director
Anderson, Stanley J.
Blacks in the Westward Movement (Exhibition) (1975: Washington, D.C.)
Buy Now Pay Later (Exhibition)
Country Store (Exhibition)
Drug (Exhibition)
Kinard, John, 1936-1989
Warner, William W.
## Container Listing

**Box 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 of 9</th>
<th>A - Miscellaneous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>ANM History Background</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Image(s):</em> &quot;Intermediaries between the museum and the community&quot; by John Kinard. Reprinted from <em>The Papers of the Ninth General Conference of the International Council of Museums, Grenoble, France, 1971</em> [Image numbers SIA2016-011445 to SIA2016-011450]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Anacostia Community School Project (ACPC) (2 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Advertisements (ANM) Benefit Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Advisory Council, Program Committee, Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, 1967-1973 - Contains some early council meeting minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Afro American Script by Carroll Greene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Anderson, Stanley J. - Concerns Anderson Day in Anacostia, November 11, 1973 - Contains press releases, newspaper clippings, telegrams and brief biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>Anderson, Stanley J. - Contains recognition ceremony pictures with D.C. Mayor Walter E. Washington, 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>American Association of Museums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>American Association of Museums and International Council of Museums (ICOM), 1968-1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>American Negro Proposal Exhibit, 1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 1 of 9</td>
<td>American Negro History (Exhibit Plan for 1969)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Box 2**

| Box 2 of 9 | Anacostia Economic Development Corporation, 1972-1974 |
| Box 2 of 9 | Anacostia Economic Development Corporation, 1971-1972 |
| Box 2 of 9 | ANM Archives, 1967-1974 - Includes information pertaining to opening of ANM, information prior to opening of ANM, flyers, invitations, publicity material, philosophy of ANM and pamphlets (8 folders) |
|            | *Image(s):* Anacostia Community Museum Opening Countdown Calendar, 1967 [Image number SIA2016-011451a] |
| Box 2 of 9 | ANM Board Staff Dinner |
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Box 2 of 9  Butler, Michael - ANM consultant on exhibits
Box 2 of 9  C, 1969-1974

Box 3
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Box 3 of 9  Carnegie Proposal, Anacostia Studies
Box 3 of 9  Clay modeling class
Box 3 of 9  ANM Performing Arts Group, The Columbians
Box 3 of 9  Commission on Negro History and Culture, also Maryland Commission on Negro History and Bill #12962 sponsored by Congressman Scheuer
Box 3 of 9  Consortium of Universities Monitoring Commission
Box 3 of 9  Corcoran Art Gallery Board of Governors
Box 3 of 9  Correspondence, general, A-F, prior to 1972
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Box 3 of 9  Douglass Home Committee, "Cedar Hill"
Box 3 of 9  Ecology
Box 3 of 9  Emblem Design Contest
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Box 3 of 9  Environmental Interpretation Institute, John Kinard, panel member

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Box 4 of 9  Evolution of a Community I Script
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Box 4 of 9  Exhibit: Anacostia
Box 4 of 9  Exhibit: Barnett-Aden Art, 1973-1974
Box 4 of 9  Exhibit: Black Man in the Westward Movement (4 folders)
Box 4 of 9  Exhibit: Black Patriot

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Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Buy Now Pay Later (consumer problems exhibit)
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Country Store
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Box 5 of 9  Exhibits Lists
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Box 5 of 9  Exhibits - Memos and schedules from ANM staff and advisory council about exhibits, also copies of correspondence, 1968-1974
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Festival of the Arts, 1968
Box 5 of 9  Festival of the Arts, 1969
Box 5 of 9  Festival of the Arts, 1970-1972
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Jamaica
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Jazz
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Lorton, October 1970
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Making of a museum first anniversary exhibit - Contains one invitation to ANM activities
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Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Photo
Box 5 of 9  Exhibit: Rat, rentals and inquiries
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Box 5 of 9  "F" miscellaneous
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Box 6 of 9  International Council of Museums (ICOM), 1972
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Performing Arts, Division of (Publicity)

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