Dorn C. McGrath

A Finding Aid to the Dorn C. McGrath, Jr. Slides and Other Material, circa 1969-2000, Anacostia Community Museum Archives

by Salem Tsegaye

June 2012

Updated by Kiri Griffin

August 2013

Contact Information
Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Smithsonian Institution
1901 Fort Place, SE
Washington. D.C. 20020
202.633.4853 (phone)
202.287.2422 (fax)
www.ACMarchives.si.edu
# Table of Contents

Collection Overview ........................................................................................................... 1  
Administrative Information ................................................................................................. 1  
Biographical Note.................................................................................................................. 2  
Scope and Content Note....................................................................................................... 2  
Subjects ................................................................................................................................. 3  
Related or Complementary Material ................................................................................. 3  
Series Description/Container List...................................................................................... 3  
  Series I: Slides .................................................................................................................... 3  
  Series II: Project Files ........................................................................................................ 4
Collection Overview

Repository: Anacostia Community Museum
Title: Dorn C. McGrath, Jr. slides and other material
Creator: Dorn C. McGrath, Jr.
Quantity or Extent: 5.67 linear feet (6 binders, 1 box)
Abstract: The collection, which dates from circa 1965 to 2006 and measures 5.67 linear feet, documents the built and natural environment of the Anacostia neighborhood, as well as the activities of the Anacostia Coordinating Council, which sponsored the Historic Anacostia Revitalization Project, a survey of all buildings in the Anacostia Historic District. The collection consists of slides, photographs, negatives, correspondence, newsletters, reports, printed material and ephemera.

Language(s): English

Administrative Information

Provenance
The Dorn C. McGrath, Jr. slides and other material were donated to the Anacostia Community Museum in 2007 by Dorn C. McGrath, Jr.

Processing Information
Correspondence and printed materials were processed in June 2012 by volunteer Salem Tsegaye, with the assistance of archivist Jennifer Morris. The Slides series were processed in August 2013 by intern Kiri Griffin with the assistance of archivist Jennifer Morris.

Preferred Citation
Dorn C. McGrath, Jr. slides and other material, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution, gift of Dorn C. McGrath, Jr.

Restrictions on Access
The collection is open for unrestricted research. Use requires an appointment.

Ownership and Literary Rights
The Dorn C. McGrath, Jr. slides and other material are the physical property of the Anacostia Community Museum. Literary and copyright belong to the author/creator or their legal heirs and assigns. Rights to work produced during the normal course of Museum business resides with the Anacostia Community Museum. For further information, and to obtain permission to publish or reproduce, contact the Museum Archives.
Biographical Note

Dorn C. McGrath, Jr., FAICP, is Professor Emeritus of Urban and Regional Planning and Geography. He retired from the George Washington University in 2003 after serving on its faculty for 33 years. He was founder of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Director of the Institute for Urban Development Research, Chairman of the Department of Geography and Regional Science, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, and was one of the founders of the University's Graduate Program in Historic Preservation. Prof. McGrath also served as member of the adjunct faculty at the Johns Hopkins University, School for Advanced International Studies. From 1987-1996, he served as Chairman of the Committee of 100 on the Federal City.

Professpr McGrath became involved with Anacostia as a direct consequence of his long standing friendship with Mr. John Kinard. McGrath met Mr. Kinard at George Washington University. Mr. Kinard, who was involved in an ongoing effort to revitalize the Anacostia Community as Chairman of the Anacostia Coordinating Council and first director of the Anacostia Community Museum, encouraged McGrath to apply his planning expertise to the cause. Seeing this opportunity as a valuable way to assist both the community and a means to practically apply information he taught to students at George Washington University, McGrath worked with his students to undertake a survey of the area.

Scope and Content Note

The collection documents the built and natural environment of the Anacostia neighborhood, as well as the activities of the Anacostia Coordinating Council, between 1965-2006. The collection is organized into two series: Slides and Project Files.

Series Description

1. Slides: This series contains 1889, 35mm, mounted transparencies. The oldest images depict 1940 and 1950s Anacostia scenes, reproduced in slide format during the 1990s. The earliest slide is of Cafritz Hospital, it was created in 1965, with the latest slides having been created of various Anacostia scenes in 2006. This series documents both built and natural environments in the Anacostia Neighborhood through images of buildings, streets, landmarks, neighborhoods, people and special events.

2. Project files: This series contains correspondence, memoranda, statements, maps, newsletters, administrative documents, printed ephemera, photographs and negatives. Materials housed in this series place a particular emphasis on Anacostia planning. This includes research materials collated for a survey of buildings along Good Hope Road. This survey was undertaken by Prof. McGrath and his second year George Washington Students, and sponsored by the Anacostia Coordinating Council, whose activities also feature in the series. The material dates from 1984 until 1994 and has been housed into 29 folders, categorized as donated.
Subjects

Topical
Anacostia Coordinating Council
George Washington University
Historic Anacostia Revitalization Project
Urban Development
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
City Planning

Geographical
Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)

Names
McGrath, Dorn C.

Types of Materials
Administrative Records
Awards
Clippings (Information Artifacts)
Correspondence
Printed Ephemera
Maps
Newsletters
Reports
Slides (35mm transparencies)
Photographs
Negatives

Series Description/Container List

Series I: Slides
This series contains 1,889 35mm mounted transparencies. The oldest images depict 1940 and 1950s Anacostia scenes, reproduced in slide format during the 1990s. The earliest slide is of Cafritz Hospital, it was created in 1965, with the latest slides having been created in 2006. Images depict buildings, roads, people, maps, plans and presentations. The slides were originally housed in five boxes labeled “A-E”, one box labeled “Untitled”, and nine small boxes. The slides have been re-housed from these boxes into archival binders. The slides in each binder are arranged in their original order and preserve the following categories as they appeared at the time of donation: “Streets”, “Subjects”, and “Miscellaneous”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Binder</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Box A Streets 1973 to 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Box B Subjects 1972 to 2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Binder Title

- Binder 3: Box C Subjects 1981 to 1991
- Binder 4: Box D Subjects 1972 to 2001
- Binder 5: Box E Subjects 1971 to 2001
  - Box Miscellaneous 1971 to 2006
- Binder 6: Boxes Anacostia 1975 to 1996
  - Box North Entry 1984 to 2001
  - Box North Entry and Miscellaneous, undated
  - Boxes Untitled 1965 to 2001

### Series II: Project Files

This series contains letters, memoranda, statements, maps, newsletters, administrative documents, printed ephemera, photographs and negatives. Its contents reflect research into both the built and natural environment of Anacostia, with a focus on the activities of the Anacostia Coordinating Council, which sponsored the Historic Anacostia Revitalization Project, a survey of all buildings in the Anacostia Historic District. The material dates from 1984 to 1994 and has been organized into folders categorized as donated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cover Page and Map of Proposed Metro Site, 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anacostia Coordinating Council Organizational Information, 1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter to GW Urban &amp; Regional Planning Class, 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>George Washington University Team Information, 1984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letters—Anacostia Historic District Boundaries, Popeye’s Restaurant Plan, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Memoranda—Old Anacostia Economic Profile, McDonald’s Proposed Franchise, 1984, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Notice to Community of McDonald’s Meeting Minutes, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Minutes—Anacostia Coordinating Council, 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Statements—Anacostia Coordinating Council, Union Temple Baptist Church Zoning Violations (before DC Council and DC Board of Zoning Adjustments), 1984, 1986-1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Special Services and Activities, 1985-1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Letters—J. Finley Wilson Memorial Lodge, Survey of Old Anacostia Employees and Visitors, 1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DC Zoning Commission Notice of Final Rulemaking, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Memoranda—Potential for Economic Development, 1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Summary of Key Activities, ACC Annual Meeting, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kramer Anacostia Planning Project (KAPP) Overview, 1988-1989</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ward 6 Plan
Article—"The Comeback of Anacostia," 1988
Anacostia Projects and Activities, 1987
Award—Certificate of Special Recognition, Dorn C. McGrath, 1986
Press Release—"GW Students Honored for Assistance in
Anacostia Revitalization," 1986
Articles—"U&RP Team Wins First Place Award," "Kramer JHS
Statements—Emergency and Proposed Fast Food Regulations,
Downtown Shopping Overlay Zone, 1985, 1989
Letters—Deputy Mayor of Economic Development, National
Conference of Christians and Jews, Southeast Housing, Anacostia
Economic Development Corporation, 1985-1986
Award—American Planning Association, First Place Student
Competition, 1986
Plan—"Anacostia Commercial Corridors Street Façade
Improvement Study: 1200 Block, Good Hope Road, S.E.," 1991.
Proposal—"Historic Anacostia Revitalization Project – HARP," no date
Plan—“1245 Good Hope Road, S.E. (East Elevation) – Existing
Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1245 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1243 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1243 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1241 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1241 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1239 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1239 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1231 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1231 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1227 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1227 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1225 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1225 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1223 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1223 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1217-1219 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1217-1219 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design
Recommendations,” 1991
Plan—“1213-1215 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991
Plan—“1213-1215 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 24   | Plan—“1209 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991  
Plan—“1209 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991 |
| 25   | Plan—“1205 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991  
Plan—“1205 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991 |
| 26   | Plan—“1203 Good Hope Road, S.E. – Existing Conditions,” 1991  
Plan—“1203 Good Hope Road, SE. – Design Recommendations,” 1991 |
| 27   | 1991  
Photographic prints—Good Hope Road, S.E. building facades, side walks and signage [1991]  
35mm negatives— Good Hope Road, S.E. building facades, side walks and signage [1991]  
Commercial Corridors Street Façade Improvement Study: 1200 Block, Good Hope Road, S.E. plans, 1991  
Plans— Building façade templates, no date |
| 28   | Plans— 1203, 1205, 1209, 1245, 1243, 1241, 1239, 1231, 1227, 1223, 1217-1219, 1213-1215 Good Hope Road, S.E., “Design Recommendations,” 1991  
Box category listings, undated. |